

## Study on the Scope of Government's Responsibility in the Internet Era

Jiawei Chen

School of Public Administration and Political Science and Law, Southwest Jiaotong University, Chengdu 610031, P. R. China

\*Corresponding Author

Jiawei Chen

Email: [1301027392@qq.com](mailto:1301027392@qq.com)

**Abstract:** The power of government derives from the people and at the same time when government gets the power, as a kind of institutional arrangement and rational tool, must bear corresponding responsibility in terms of the significance of social function. The Internet era, government's responsibility scope in the market and in the society has taken great changes, The Internet, which is as a tool, by giving market and society more independent platform, brings great help to market management and social management. In this new era, traditional government control has no longer been suitable, our government must be based on its national conditions, constantly adjust and improve his responsibility content, realize reconsidering on his responsibility scope.

**Keywords:** Internet; government's responsibility; scope

### INTRODUCTION

In 1994, China formally joined the Internet. Since then, the Internet with its open, shared, interactive features developed in China, and continuously penetrated into our political, economic, cultural and social aspects. The Internet era, the actor of public management has been transformed from the government to the Internet, research center has been transformed from management to government, polycentric government and network management are also increasingly used in public management process, and the Internet is constantly pushing our government towards a deeper reform. First, E-government system represented by the electronic government affairs has promoted government information publicity and electronic services, brought convenience to governance, given the public a place to enjoy a new experience and efficient of government services, promoted the growth of government service consciousness [1] and provided an effective channel for public participation [2]; Second, micro-Bo, blog and etc. as the representative of the second generation of the world wide web has broken the monopoly of traditional information, presented the information directly in front of the public, Submitted the right of speak to public, increased the awareness of our citizens in politics and literacy, adjusted the structure of discourse between government and the public and promoted the government's change. Finally, finance, commerce, business represented by the e-commerce expanded the capacity of the market, effectively promoted the government's transition to a market economy. The Internet is a tool, which challenges the government's ability to let go, promotes

our government to reconsider on his responsibility scope. This article, as the background of the Internet era, is trying to explore the scope of government's responsibility by understanding what has occurred in our government during the Internet era.

### GOVERNMENT REFORM IN THE INTERNET ERA

#### Establish awareness of information publicity

The way of possessing and exchanging information determines the direction of the organization in the future, and information asymmetry and specialization of production let to the production of bureaucracy. Although our traditional structure of bureaucracy plays a large role in the administrative areas ,because of its insufficient information publicity, non-transparent system, communication block between the upper and lower and so on, there are serious information asymmetry problems between government and the public [3], government has always mastered a large number of information resources, while the public have been passive recipients of the government's orders, and don't play the protagonist consciousness to participate in public affairs and government decision-making processes, due to the lack of information, the public supervision on the government becomes weakened and dimmed, and results in the breeding of corruption and other acts within the government, forms the discontent of the public and directly lets to a decline in the government's credibility. The Internet as a technical means, although doesn't directly promote government information publicity, its openness, equality and other features achieve sharing of

information, providing a feasible way for citizens' participation and government information publicity. With the development of Internet thinking, our government's thinking changes from passive thinking "the public want me to open" to active "I want to open".

### **Establish consciousness of service**

With the development of the society, the consciousness of civil rights is awakening, and the public play more and more attention on the individual's legitimate rights and interests [2]. However, our national condition decides that it is quite difficult for our citizens to act completely according to their own wishes. So, people begin to turn to the Internet, try to achieve self-expression and obtain democracy demands through the network. The Internet, unlike the centralized management bureaucracy, operates according to the preset program, completely frees from objective factors, and doesn't have any political position, naturally, will not be controlled or hindered by any power. Thereby, it's able to ensure fairness and justice of the progress [4]. Meanwhile, with the acquisition of citizens' network skills, it is apparently that governmental management behavior relying on identity constraints, speech restrictions, communication control is no longer applicable for citizens. And obviously traditional authoritarian control is also no longer applicable for citizens in this new period. The arrival of the Internet brings chances for citizens to express themselves who are in the "aphasia" state for a long time in the realistic society of our country. With the characteristics of the internet, such as virtuality, openness, and equality and so on, citizens can free entry and exit the discussion of public affairs and social management through the website, forums, micro-Bo and so on regardless of their identity, status, time and space. By commenting on social public affairs, reflecting the social phenomenon and supervising public power form a thrust from bottom to top. By putting pressure on the government through social opinions, so as to promote public management reform and realize the innovation in government management mode [5]. Government is no longer a separate policy maker, it's a provider of services and products to participate in the progress of public management, and the functions of the government is to service the society rather than control the development of it.

### **Awareness of the market consciousness**

Since the reform and opening up, market economy has been greatly developed in our country, especially with the arrival of the Internet, which providing an unprecedented impact on this development. In 2015, someone proposed the "Internet plus" action plan in The National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), the country's third political advisory body.

The "Internet plus" namely promotes combination between the Internet and modern industry, achieves miraculous power through innovation. Under the new era, it's impossible for the public management to develop alone without the Internet. The form of market economy in the Internet era makes our government re-establish confidence in the market economy, and by creating a new public management pattern to meet the needs of market economy. Such as taobao mall, which effectively restricts the intervention behavior of the government, banks and etc., breaks the monopoly of the government, banks and etc. [5], and gives more power back to the market and the society, greatly reduces the power-for-money deal, corruption and other actions. Inspired by taobao electric business, our government realized that it will bring more Industry development and employment opportunities by free market competition than government control, and solving the employment problem is just one of the many advantages of market economy. Thus, the government renewed confidence in the market economy, for example, with the development of small and micro businesses, our government no longer takes the form of suppression, but reduces threshold to entry by providing more assistances and subsidy approach for them. Encouraging citizens to solve the problems of employment and livelihood relying on its own strength, thus greatly reduce the workload of the government.

## **THE SCOPE OF GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY IN THE INTERNET ERA**

### **The macroscopic field of government regulation**

Government regulation, as indispensable social governance, has played a huge function in many fields. Proper government regulation is beneficial to the development of human society's safe, civilized and harmonious, but not all fields of government regulation are necessary. For a long time, our government takes a lot of social affairs, and bears more and more responsibilities. The government functions are expanding, and cause a lot of social problems. Our government must redefine the scope of self-responsibility, judge which one the government should let go, which one the government should manage well, thereby, effectively define the scope of government functions and restrict government power [6]. Especially with the development of Internet technology, many functions of government can be realized through the network platform, we found that too much government control is not a good government or is not satisfied by citizens. The World Bank believes that the government should do five main things: first, providing laws; second, providing undistorted policies; third, helping the social vulnerable groups, four, providing infrastructure; five, environmental protection. It is visible that government responsibility mainly has two aspects: one is to provide stable orders, which is to

create a good environment system and safety for the society, markets and citizens by means of the macro-control. The other is to make up for the lack of social, market and others and provide part of public goods and services, that is, by means of direct intervention of government or assistance, support the social and the market or other means to achieve helping vulnerable groups, environment and other fields.

### **The microscopic field of government decentralization**

Since the reform and opening up, with the breadth and depth development of market economy, our government must aware that their own power and management functions are limited, and must establish the concept of "limited government" and realize the differences of the market function, social function and the government function, make clear that the subject should bear different responsibilities. The basic duty of government is to correct "market failure" and "social failure" [7], by creating a favorable institution and development environment, give market, social a larger, more standardized autonomy, so that to achieve separating government functions from enterprise, separating public service units from government, and separating government administration from commune management. On the economic management functions, government should serve for market players and create a good development environment, through government regulating the market and the market guiding the enterprises to reduce direct government intervention in the affairs of micro-enterprises. Meanwhile introducing some enterprise management methods to government management, and making some public service that government should bear market-oriented, due to the lack of local government financial limitations in the public services, such as local education, health care and etc., private capital could participate in the construction of local public services by introducing market mechanisms [8]. On the social management functions, our government should serve the social organizations, by means of appropriately cultivating and helping social forces to devolve power to the society and give rights back to the citizen. It can not only reduce the burden on the government, but also cultivate the sense of responsibility of the public to achieve social autonomy though social organizations managing members of society.

### **Build a service-oriented government**

With the construction of e-government and e-governance, citizens' requirements to government are growing higher and higher. The government must establish citizen-based, community-based concepts, guarantee that the government's behaviors are setting out from the interests of the public and innovate its service mode, realize the construction of the service-

oriented government [9]. The report at 18th Party Congress also pointed out to construct a service-oriented government featuring functions scientific, structure optimized, honesty and high efficiency, and people satisfied. We should recognize that the construction of service-oriented government is not only the need of development of market economic, but also the inevitable result of the development of market economy [10], and it not only conforms to the development trend of the times, but also meets the urgent desire of citizens. In order to construct the service-oriented government, firstly, we should make clear the responsibilities of different subjects, it is required that our government should constantly strengthen the service function of the government, continue to meet the needs of citizens, safeguard social fairness and justice and serve the people better from the perspective of benefiting to the public and the masses work [11].

### **CONCLUSION**

The Internet, which is as a tool, improves the transparency of government work, effectively guarantees the citizens' right to know, to participate and to express, and implements citizens' supervision over the government, and has brought a great help in market management, social management. Dealing with the background of the new era, traditional government regulation is no longer applicable, our government must stand on our national conditions, understand the scope of responsibilities of each subjects. Achieving mastering the society at macro level, our government should appropriately delegate power to the society, and while using the Internet and other related technologies, actively explore operating modes that the government and enterprise cooperate to provide public services, government and social cooperate in social management, to achieve co-governance of society, market and the government.

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