Study on the Responsibility Value Goal of the Risk Society under the Perspective of Economic Law

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Keywords: Economic law, The risk society, Responsibility value.

Abstract. The rapid development of the society and economy leads to ubiquitous risks, and the risk society has become a feature of our times. Facing various risks in today's society, roles played by all kinds of main bodies in the society also change gradually. Under the perspective of economic law, analyze each main body in the risk society, define their responsibilities so as to actively prevent and respond when risks occur and to share their respective responsibilities, strengthen the risk consciousness of the citizens, define leadership responsibilities of the government and enterprises, which is of important practical significance.

In the process of social development, risks are ubiquitous all the time, especially in this day with highly developed economy, risks are everywhere. At present, big risks are climate warming, air pollution, terrorism and so on, while small risks are transport, food, financing and investment and so on. In the environment where risks take place frequently, people's values also profoundly change subsequently. Today's society has already been a risk society, and social responsibility value needs to change accordingly with the condition of current era and the development of economy. It is necessary to study the responsibility value in the risk society under the perspective of economic law [1].

Definition of the Risk Society

Different scholars differ in the definitions of the risk society, for example, Baker regards the characteristics of modernity as those of the risk society, while Giddens analyzes modernity to introduce the time-space characteristic. In his view, compared with former modernity, the modernity has the most obvious difference that it will gradually have faster pace and wider scope along with the social development, and will have an unprecedented profoundness. These are two common interpretations. In addition, there are some other ways of understanding, and the first one is to understand from realism whose representative is the "new risk" theory from Lau. The theory holds that the emerging of the risk society is due to the appearance of some new risks, such as racial discrimination and polarization between the rich and the poor, as well as some social disasters caused by other emergencies. The second is to understand from cultural meaning, which believes that the emergence of the risk society represents people have a more profound understanding of risks, for example, Van Preetweitz puts forward "disaster paradox" and Rush proposes "risk culture". Besides, there is one theory which is to comprehend from the perspective of institutionalism. This theory thinks that the early modernity is mainly to solve some risks generated in the traditional society, and there are some new risks when solving these risks, so it is the mutual accumulation of these risks that leads to the so-called risk society at present.

In general, the risk society means that in the developing process of globalization nowadays, human activities bring some global risks to the society, and at this stage of development, these risks will bring serious threats to human survival and development.

Value Connotation of Economic Law in the Risk Society

Under the condition of the risk society, the value connotation of economic law changes along with the change of the condition.
Rational Control Order of Economic Risk with Standard of Society

Under the condition of the risk society, the key of the order value of economic law is still in the development of social economy, and the society is regarded as the standard. Economic law is mainly to make overall planning and regulation for the economic field, and focuses more on the control of the economic order in the risk society. The economic order carries out macro-control for the economy and the planning of the massive structure, that is to say, it maintains the overall economic structure of the society from the perspective of standard of society. The risk control order can correctly deal with the relation between the individual and the social economic risk, so as to create an open, interactive order of risk control.

The rational control order of economic risk pays proper attention to the economic risk undertaken by individuals, argues that the individual has the right to avoid the risk, gives a certain degree of freedom to individual economy, stipulates that powers of others and the public are not allowed to be damaged, and forbids to harm the overall economic order of the society and to transfer one’s own risks [2].

Enhancement of the Efficiency of Social Economy Can Control the Risk of Market and Government Failure

In the process of national macroeconomic regulation and control, some measures put into force by the state always cannot directly promote the enhancement of enterprise production efficiency and the optimized allocation of the market. In fact, the appropriate market competition is the effective measure to improve efficiency. Economic law controls the risk of market failure through macroeconomic regulation and control, and punishes unjustifiable competitive means in the market to ensure the normal operation of the market.

After the implementation of economic law, the state effectively reduces the risk of market economy brought by market failure through the institutional improvement for the function of economic adjustment. But after effectively controlling the economic risk brought by market failure, the state faces the economic risk brought by government failure again, which increases the uncertainty of the market economy risk. The emergence of government failure is caused by wrong guidance and decision-making of some people under the condition of national economic intervention. The risk of government failure doesn't mean less state control for the market. Actually, these risks are often caused by the vision for market regulation and control. After the financial tsunami, the types of knowledge are relatively complex, and people tend to become confused about what to do in the face of new knowledge and information, so they cannot find information which is beneficial for them in the great deal of information [3]. Therefore, people must strengthen the cognitive ability for risks, increase the alertness of market failure and government failure, so they can effectively control the economic risk to realize the improvement of social economic efficiency.

Fair Value Gradually Transforming to Risk in the Risk Society

One of the main characteristics of the industrial age is goods distribution. Nowadays, the fair value represented by economic law transforms from the interest aspect to the risk aspect in the risk society. In the risk society, economies in every country in the world mutually fuse and develop into an organic whole. As long as one of the countries goes wrong, the global economy will be affected. In the risk society, economic risk has crossed the border and the race. In front of the financial storm, any country and any enterprise cannot be self-dependent. Billionaires and poor wage earners all face the same risk. Therefore, on the arrival of the economic risk, fair value is no longer of interest distribution, but to bear the risk and assign the corresponding obligations.

Analysis on the Undertaking Problem of Responsibility Value in the Risk Society under the Perspective of Economic Law

Under the perspective of economic law, the advent of the risk society makes the society faced with the undertaking problem of the social risk. So, how to allocate the risk and how much
Every organization has responsibilities it should undertake, which is the key problem to be considered by the risk society.

The Government Organization Plans to Reform the Responsibility Mode of Bureaucracy

At all times, the government is always the international and social focus and also the most authoritative institution. Therefore, in the risk society, the government should play a leading role and fully assume corresponding responsibilities and obligations to set an example to other organizations and units.

For a long time, the bureaucracy is the main formation of the government organization. It refers to a management mode established on the basis of law and reason with subordinates supervised by superiors, and it is to manage and allocate things according to the strict regulations. It has some features such as hierarchy, regularization, professionalization, and centralization. First, hierarchy is the hierarchical division between government agencies carried out in accordance with the power level. In each level, rights and obligations are different. Second, regularization means staff in the government agency will not be affected by personal feelings when handling related issues but in strict accordance with rules and regulations. Third, professionalization is different government departments have different rights and handle different issues, so different positions require different professional talents. These workers obtain the corresponding jobs by virtue of professional abilities [4]. Fourth, centralization means in the bureaucracy system, government departments carry out division of labor and use their power to command and coordinate. The responsibility mode of this kind of bureaucracy gradually shows some inadaptation in the risk society and lacks flexibility. Therefore, there are all sorts of difficulties when dealing with issues, which often makes things become more and more complex for civil servants. Therefore, the government plans to reform the responsibility mode of the bureaucracy.

Strengthening Citizens’ Consciousness of Risk Responsibilities

In today's society, risks are everywhere. But when risks occur, people often cannot put them at the right place. When risks arrive, people often become anxious and disoriented. Especially in modern society, people face all kinds of pressures some of which come from work and others come from family. The dual effects of these pressures often make people lack sense of security, which will increase the risks faced by the whole society to a certain extent. Besides, citizens often lack risk consciousness and the ease of life often makes people lack awareness of unexpected development so they can't make prevention for risks. It’s quite adverse to the risk prevention for the whole society, so the whole society should conduct active participation and citizens’ consciousness of risk responsibility should be strengthened.

Actively Sharing Social Responsibilities by Enterprises

Enterprises are the main part equipped with rational decision-making. For them, profit is the foundation depended on by enterprises for survival and development, and only when they achieve profit can they have long-term development. But in the actual situation, in order to achieve their own development, enterprises often violate moral rule and ignore the health of consumers to make some unqualified products and be adulterate, for example, the leakage of pesticide storage tank and the issue of Sanlu toxic milk powder in India. After these incidents take place, the first thought of enterprise leaders is not to compensate the victims but to shirk responsibility. After the happening of risk events, to shirk the undertaken responsibilities and to be unwilling to take the initiative to assume them will greatly damage the image of the enterprise. Therefore, in the risk society, enterprises must strengthen the training of risk awareness, and each department should assume corresponding responsibilities and share together after the occurrence of risk events, rather than only punishing the inessential people in charge of the event.

Risks are uncertain, but their occurrence is closely related to people's choices. In the risk society, responsibilities to be undertaken by each organization and each institution should be clear and the corresponding responsibilities should be divided, and they should share responsibilities together after the occurrence of risks and define the responsibility system.
The government is the organ of authority and the decision-making organ in the country, so it should take the lead and guide actively, take the initiative to assume the corresponding risk liability, and take precautions to actively prevent and control the possible risks. Then, the main parts of the society include individuals and enterprises apart from the government. Therefore, all kinds of corresponding social forces should be cultivated to assume social responsibilities. Enterprises play an important role in the market and are the main force to promote economic development. Enterprises should strengthen risk prevention awareness, carry out systematic training for workers, positively respond and take the initiative to assume corresponding responsibilities when risk events occur. Individuals are the important part of the society and citizens’ consciousness of risk responsibility should be strengthened. Under the condition of ease, they should guard against risks, and make active response calmly [5].

Under the perspective of economic law, define the main bodies of responsibilities in the risk society, divide responsibilities among each main body, and share responsibilities together to prevent and control risks.

References