

# Study on the Path of Arming College Student Party Members with the Party's Innovative Theories in the New Era

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**Abstract:** The Chairman of the CCP pointed out in the report of the 20th Party Congress that “arming the whole party with the party’s innovative theories is the fundamental task of the party’s ideological construction”, and emphasized “improving the system of arming the whole party with the party’s innovative theories, educating the people, and guiding the practice of the work.” College student party members are the youngest group and the freshest blood in the party members’ team, the most energetic and vibrant group in the party members’ team in colleges and universities, and an important force to ensure the successors of the party and the country’s cause and to promote the realization of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. Based on the questionnaire survey, this paper analyzes the influencing factors of arming college student members with the party’s innovative theories in the new era by combining the related knowledge of pedagogy, psychology, communication, sociology, etc., and advances the construction of the path of arming college student members with the party’s innovative theories in the new era.

**Keywords:** New era of the party’s innovative theory; Theory arming; College student party members

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## 1. Introduction

In the long-term practice of leading China’s revolution, construction, and reform, the party has always attached importance to theoretical guidance and the courage to carry out theoretical innovation. Arming the whole party with the party’s innovative theories in the new era means arming the whole party with the Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era. The thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era is contemporary Chinese Marxism, twenty-first century Marxism, the essence of the times of Chinese culture and the Chinese spirit, the crystallization of the party’s and the people’s practical experience and collective wisdom, and the guide to action for the whole Party and the whole nation in their struggle to

realize the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation <sup>[1-2]</sup>. How to use the Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era as the main content of the new era of the party's innovative theories to arm college student party members, to build their strong spiritual pillars, to guide them to enhance the "four consciousnesses", firm "four self-confidence", and to achieve the "two safeguards"? It is an important issue for the party's ideological and theoretical work to guide them to strengthen the "four consciousnesses", firm up the "four confidence", achieve the "two safeguards", and consciously strive for the realization of the Chinese dream of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

At present, arming college student party members with the party's innovative theories in the new era is facing a new situation and new challenges. Firstly, under the background of diversification of social value concepts and values, how to ensure that college student party members are not affected by undesirable ideas. Secondly, how to arm college student party members with the party's innovative theories of the new era accurately, brilliantly, systematically, comprehensively, extensively, and continuously, and solve the problem of college student party members' world outlook, outlook on life, and values of the "general switch", and further consolidate the "general switch" of the party's ideological and theoretical work. To solve the problem of worldview, outlook on life, and values of college student party members as the "general switch", to further strengthen the foundation of faith, replenish the calcium of the spirit, and stabilize the rudder of thought.

This study tries to understand the status quo of college student party members' identification with the party's innovative theories in the new era through a questionnaire survey, analyze the influencing factors of arming college student party members with the party's innovative theories in the new era through a multidisciplinary perspective, and construct the path of arming college student party members with the party's innovative theories in the new era through targeted problem-solving.

## **2. Analysis of current situation**

Through questionnaire survey to understand the college student party members on the new era of the party's innovative theory of the status quo, based on the data from the "knowing", "faith", and "action" three aspects of the generalization and analysis.

### **2.1. "Knowing" has a high degree of knowledge but weak systematicity**

"Knowing" is the foundation, without theoretical firmness, it is impossible to have political and party firmness.

In the question "Do you know what questions are systematically answered by the party's innovative theories in the new era in terms of the combination of theory and practice?", the survey results show that 87.5% of the college student party members can accurately choose the answer to this question, which to a certain extent shows that college student party members can recognize the theoretical innovation and contemporary value of the party's innovation in the new era.

In the question "Do you know what the content of the party's innovative theory in the new era mainly includes?", the survey results show that 83.33%, 95.83%, and 91.67% of the college student party members know that "ten clear", "fourteen persistence" and "thirteen achievements" are the main aspects of the party's innovation theory in the new era, which reflects that the current college student party members have a better knowledge of the main contents of the party's innovation theory in the new era. However, at the same time, some college student party members do not have a clear idea of what the Party's innovation theory in the new

era consists of, which indicates that the depth and systematicness of the college student party members' learning of the party's innovation theory in the new era need to be strengthened.

In the question, "How many of the specific concepts such as 'Chinese Dream', 'the main contradiction in society', 'the Five-in-One', 'the Four Comprehensives', 'the Four Confidence', 'the Two Hundred-Year Struggle Goal', 'the Party's initial heart and mission', 'the Great Project', 'the New Development Idea', 'the Community of Human Destinies', 'the One Belt and One Road', 'the Socialist Core Value System', 'the Socialist Core Values', and 'the comprehensively governing the Party strictly' do you know?", the survey results show that 45.83% of the college student party members know 9 or more, 29.17% of the college student party members know 6–8, and 25% of the college student party members know 5 or less. This reflects that although most college student party members have a certain degree of understanding of the relevant terms, their knowledge of the party's innovation theory in the new era is not systematic and in-depth. Some college student party members' knowledge of the party's innovation theory in the new era stays relatively fragmented.

To summarize, the current situation of college student party members' cognition of the party's innovation theory in the new era shows that: the degree of knowledge is high, but the systematic learning of the theory and the understanding of the specific connotations still need to be strengthened.

## **2.2. "Faith" is good in general but insufficient in depth**

"Faith" is the bridge of unity of "knowing" and "action", which determines the strength of party spirit and the strength of unity of "knowing" and "action".

In the question "How difficult do you think about the content of the party's innovative theories in the new era?", the survey results show that 4.17% of college student party members think that the creative theory of the party in the new era is relatively simple, 41.66% of college student party members think that the degree of difficulty of this theoretical content is "general", and 54.17% of college student party members think that the theoretical content of this theory is relatively difficult to understand. This reflects that college student party members have some difficulties in learning the party's innovative theories in the new era.

In the question "Do you think it is necessary to realize the party's innovative theory of the new era 'flying into common people's homes' and 'taking root on the ground'?", the survey results show that 91.67% of the college student party members think it is very necessary and 8.33% of the college student party members think it is more necessary, which indicates that the practical value and theoretical significance of the party's innovation theory in the new era are recognized by the college student party members, and their beliefs are generally good, and they think it is necessary to disseminate the theory to the public and realize the popularization of the party's innovation theory in the new era.

In the question "What kind of recognition level do you think the party's innovative theory in the new era should reach as a college student party member?", the survey results show that 20.83% of the college student party members think that they should have a strong psychological sense of belonging to the party's innovation theory in the new era, 54.17% of the college student party members think that they should have a firm ideal belief in the party's innovation theory in the new era, and 25% of the college student party members think that they should apply the theory to their daily life. It can be seen that most of the college student party members have certain standards and requirements for their identification with the party's innovation theory in the new era, and they think that the study of the party's innovation theory in the new era can not only stay in the simple knowledge or intellectual understanding but also must be cognitively studied at a deeper level to realize the

identification with the party's innovation theory in the new era in terms of beliefs and behaviors.

To summarize, the current situation of college student party members' theoretical belief in the party's innovation theory in the new era shows that it is generally good, but it is still necessary to solve the difficulties in learning and increase the depth of their belief through diversified education.

### **2.3. "Action" involves various ways but not enough implementation**

"Action" is the purpose of "knowing" and the result of "faith", and it is also the way to further strengthen "knowing" and "faith."

In the question "Which of the following practical activities have been organized by your school to learn and practice the party's innovative theories in the new era?", the survey results show that the activities organized by colleges and universities for college student party members to learn and practice the party's innovative theories in the new era are mainly in the form of practical activities, such as thematic class meetings (83.33%), theoretical lectures (100%), thematic essays (75%), knowledge contests (62.5%), watching videos of conferences (75%), visiting theoretical bases (75%), book clubs (50%), and so on.

In the question "How active is your participation in the above practical activities organized by the university to learn and practice the party's innovative theories in the new era?", the survey results show the majority of them participated frequently, but 4.17% of the college student party members participated generally (depending on the situation).

To summarize, the current situation of college student party members' practice of the party's innovation theory in the new era shows that there are various forms but not enough implementation, and there is still room for college student party members to improve their practice of the party's innovation theory in the new era.

## **3. The analysis of influencing factors**

Based on the actual investigation, combining pedagogy, psychology, communication, sociology, and other related knowledge, the study analyzes the factors affecting the party's innovative theories in the new era, such as the quality of the teaching team, the characteristics of the student's development, the organizational life of the party, the multicultural environment and other factors that affect the party's innovative theories in the new era to arm the college students' party members.

### **3.1. Quality of the teaching team**

In terms of theoretical literacy, teachers of ideology and politics have different degrees of understanding and mastery of the party's innovative theories in the new era due to their different specialties.

In terms of educational philosophy, some teachers of professional courses, due to the limitations of their own ideological and political qualities, believe that their courses do not need "course political thinking", which occupies the time of students' learning of professional knowledge, making it difficult to implement the task of "course political thinking" in an all-round way. This makes it difficult to implement the task of "curriculum politics" in a comprehensive way. Some college counselors, because of the division of labor, pay more attention to students' performance and employment and put the new era of the party's innovative theories to arm college students in a secondary position.

### **3.2. Characteristics of student development**

In terms of ideology, the age of college student party members is mostly concentrated between 20–25 years old, and students in this age group gradually ask for independence in their thinking, and they can have their unique ideas and insights when looking at some problems, and have a strong spirit of exploration. However, as both mind and body are still in the development stage, their cognitive ability is still not perfect, their thoughts are still not mature enough, and their comprehension of macroscopic and abstract theoretical knowledge is not high.

In terms of practice, a small number of college student party members are not self-conscious enough to practice the innovative theories of the party in the new era.

### **3.3. Organizational life of the party**

In terms of the way of carrying out, some organizers adopt the traditional “indoctrination” in the process of carrying out the organizational life, ignoring the development and subjective initiative of college student party members, affecting the participation and enthusiasm of college student party members.

In terms of system implementation, some student party branches have a lax implementation of the system in the process of carrying out organizational life, and some college student party members are absent from the activities of the branch for some reasons, which affects the effectiveness of the activities of the branch.

As for the supervision mechanism, because the time of organizational life is not fixed and the class time of college student members has to be taken into consideration, the assessment work in reality is often based on the records of the organizational life of the party branch, and a real-time examination with full coverage has not been carried out.

### **3.4. Multicultural environment**

In terms of family peers, the influence of family education environment on family members is imperceptibly, and to a certain extent determines the character traits and moral conduct of family members, and the family environment plays a fundamental role in the identification of college student party members with the innovative theories of the party in the new era. College student party members and their peers meet together because of family background, age, hobbies, and other factors, and form the corresponding “circle culture” in their groups. “Circle culture”, with the values within the circle, the values promoted within the peer group, and the resulting behavioral habits will become their default standards.

In terms of the cultural environment of colleges and universities, campus facilities such as libraries and school history centers, as well as campus culture media such as official websites, official microblogs, and campus broadcasts can carry certain theoretical content but are not systematic enough, and some of the facilities are not updated promptly, and their relevance is poor.

In terms of cyberspace, the network environment is complicated and there are various kinds of uneven information, college student party members who are still immature are easily interfered with by complicated information. The construction of network nurturing positions is not strong, although websites and platforms about the party’s innovative theories in the new era have been gradually enriched, the contents of some websites do not match the needs of college student party members, and it is difficult to attract the attention of college student party members.

## **4. Path construction**

### **4.1. Enhancing teachers' orientation**

First, strictly control the theoretical quality of the teachers of ideology and politics, so that they can really learn, really understand, and believe in the innovative theories of the party in the new era, so that people with faith can speak about faith. Second, enhance the importance of the teachers of the professional courses on the “course political thinking”, and constantly enrich the theoretical knowledge of the teachers of the professional courses, so that they can incorporate the latest theoretical achievements of the party into their professional course knowledge to educate the students, and build a team of teachers who have good theoretical literacy, high political awareness, and strong teaching skills<sup>[3]</sup>. Third, strengthen the assessment of the tutor team's ideological education, so that they can strengthen the education of college student party members on the party's innovative theories in the new era.

### **4.2. Stimulating students' internal drive**

First, guide college student party members to set up correct theoretical cognitive motives, use the time after class to read more original works and understand the principles, and communicate with classmates and teachers. Second, improve college student party members' self-education awareness and ability, constantly carry out self-education and self-reflection, and take the initiative to turn the requirements and norms of the party's innovative theories in the new era into internal ideal beliefs and value norms. Third, promote college student party members to consciously practice the party's innovative theories, always adhere to the principle of linking theory to practice, analyze and solve problems with the party's innovative theories of the new era, externalize them into their daily behavioral practices, and test the truthfulness of the party's innovative theories of the new era in practice.

### **4.3. Optimizing the leading power of organization**

First, improve the system construction, the party branch in the completion of the requirements of the higher level, give full play to democratic centralism, encourage college student party members to refine the formulation of the rules of the branch to abide by, to form a complete set of systems and working mechanisms. Second, rich content settings, through the creation of the branch's brand activities to highlight the characteristics of party building, enhance the ability and quality of college student party members, and enhance the party spirit and consciousness of student party members. Third, implement inspection and supervision, and fully implement the observation and exchange system based on random sampling to ensure the effectiveness of organizational life supervision.

### **4.4. Strengthening the influence of the environment**

First, strengthen communication between home and school, promote synergy between home and school, enhance peer guidance, play the leading role of college student party members, and strengthen college student party members' group's love for and recognition of the party's innovative theories. Second, create a good campus cultural environment, make full use of the school's publicity positions such as notice boards, bulletin boards, and broadcast stations, and integrate the theory publicity into the living areas of the students' apartments, canteens, supermarkets, and so on, with unified planning, regular updating, and active publicity. Third, construct an all-round and multi-level network propaganda platform, to form a network position to arm college student party members with the party's innovative theories in the new era, especially to give full play to

the influence of public opinion of the authority of the network, make full use of the campus network resources to educate college student party members about the party's innovative theories in the new era and give full play to the advantages of the network platform.

## 5. Conclusion

“Why the Communist Party of China can, why socialism with Chinese characteristics is good, in the final analysis, it is Marxism line, it is the Chineseization and modernization of Marxism line”<sup>[1]</sup>. The report of the 20th Party Congress states, “Strengthen the ideological construction of the party comprehensively, adhere to use the Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era to unify thought, will, and action, organize the implementation of the party's innovative theory learning and education program, and build a Marxist learning political party”<sup>[1]</sup>. Being sober theoretically, people can be firm politically and conscious in their actions. People should be based on the status quo of college student party members' identification with the party's innovative theories in the new era, analyze the influencing factors of the party's innovative theories arm college student party members in the new era in a targeted manner, constantly explore the path of the party's innovative theories arming college student party members in the new era, arm the minds of college student party members with the party's innovative theories, and ensure that there are beliefs in their hearts and strengths in their feet.

## Disclosure statement

The questionnaire data comes from some student party members in a college.

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