

# The rule of law construction of grassroots public security in the new era under the guidance of the rule of law ideology

Xinran Wang<sup>1,\*</sup>, Zhongqing Wang<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>School of Law, People's Public Security University of China, Beijing, China

<sup>2</sup>People's Public Security University of China, Beijing, China

\*Corresponding author: wxr15665770992@163.com

**Abstract:** Rule of Law Thought is the guiding ideology of China's comprehensive rule of law, which has a crucial leading and guiding role in the construction of the rule of law for grassroots public security at this stage. At present, grass-roots public security organs, as the national grass-roots organs most closely connected with the people, inevitably face some problems and challenges in the course of daily law enforcement activities and case handling. Only through the in-depth implementation of Rule of Law Thought on the rule of law and under the guidance of the latest Three-Year Action Plan for Strengthening Public Security Police Stations in the New Era (2023-2025) (hereinafter referred to as the Three-Year Action Plan (2023-2025)) issued by the Ministry of Public Security, can we effectively combat crime, maintain social order, improve the internal and external supervision and management system, and Strengthen the interface between administrative law enforcement and criminal justice, and manage problems at the root, so as to minimize the generation of law enforcement problems and promote the construction of grassroots public security under the rule of law.

**Keywords:** Rule of Law Thought; Grassroots Public Security; Standardization of Law Enforcement

## 1. Presentation of the problem

With the realization of China's first 100-year goal and the breakthroughs made in the comprehensive rule of law, people's living standards have been significantly improved. At the same time, due to the improvement of material living standard, the popularization of law education has also achieved remarkable results, and the people's awareness of the rule of law and the protection of their rights has also been generally improved. Therefore, people have raised higher expectations and demands on the ability of public security organs to handle cases and enforce the law. As the national grassroots organ most closely connected with the people, grassroots police stations need to pay more attention to avoiding mistakes in case handling and law enforcement to avoid adverse effects. In the current era of rapid development of self-media, with the fermentation of public opinion on many online platforms, on the one hand, the relationship between the police and the public will become more tense, which is not conducive to the good and healthy development of the relationship between the police and the public; on the other hand, the slightest carelessness of the public security organs in law enforcement will also lead to the lack of credibility of law enforcement, which is not conducive to the construction of law enforcement standardization.

At the same time, the basic work of public security is also highly valued by the Party Central Committee with Comrade as the core. General Secretary has repeatedly given important instructions on strengthening the basic work of public security, emphasizing the importance of basic work at the grassroots level, promoting the sinking of police force, shifting the center of gravity, and decentralizing security, and strengthening the construction of grassroots organizations, basic work and basic capacity. Therefore, as the national grass-roots organ most closely connected with the people and at the forefront of the construction of public security under the rule of law - grass-roots police stations - it is necessary to promote the construction of grass-roots public security under the rule of law and strengthen the standardization of law enforcement in order to promote good and healthy relations between the police and the people and further improve the credibility of law enforcement. Therefore, it is necessary to promote the construction of the rule of law for grassroots public security under the guidance of thought on the rule of law.

The Party Committee of the Ministry of Public Security has conscientiously implemented the important instructions of General Secretary, always placed the work of police stations in a strategic and fundamental position, strengthened systematic planning and coordinated promotion, organized and implemented a three-year action plan (2020-2022), issued "Document No. 1" for three consecutive years, and made great efforts to implement it, and vigorously promoted the standardization of police stations. The standardization of work in police stations has led to great changes in the appearance of police stations, laying a solid foundation for the high-quality development of public security work. As the public security reform progresses, the positioning of the main defense function and work focus of police stations become clearer, and the direction and system mechanism of police station construction become clearer, there is an urgent need to further solidify, improve and upgrade, project and checklist the relevant tasks and measures and promote the work of police stations to achieve greater development and progress.

Therefore, as the grass-roots organ of the country that is most closely connected with the people and at the forefront of the construction of public security under the rule of law - grass-roots police stations - they must actively promote the construction of the rule of law at the grass-roots level, strengthen the standardization of law enforcement, so as to promote good and healthy development of police-community relations and further improve the credibility of law enforcement. Therefore, it is extremely necessary and important to promote the construction of rule of law for grassroots public security under the guidance of rule of law ideology.

## **2. Thought on the Rule of Law and the Rule of Public Security**

Rule of Law Thought is a major theoretical innovation born in response to the requirements of the times to achieve the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, the latest achievement of the Chineseization of Marxist theory on the rule of law, an important part of Rule of Law Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, and a fundamental guideline and action guide for the comprehensive rule of law.

Public security under the rule of law means that under the framework of the rule of law, public security organs perform their duties of safeguarding national security, protecting people's security, maintaining social stability and guaranteeing public safety in accordance with the law, and safeguarding the legitimate rights and interests of citizens and the safety of their personal property. In public security under the rule of law, public security organs administer the law, enforce the law strictly, administer justice fairly, and provide active services to protect the legitimate rights and interests of citizens and maintain social harmony and stability. At the same time, public security organs should also bear legal and social supervision, and contribute to the construction and development of a society under the rule of law. Public security under the rule of law is one of the important contents of the rule of law and one of the important indications of the effectiveness of the construction of China under the rule of law. It is of great significance to promote the construction of public security under the rule of law and continuously improve the rule of law of public security organs to enhance the rule of law of the whole society.

## **3. Problems of grassroots public security law enforcement**

### ***3.1 Waste and unreasonable use of police resources***

Take a police station in a certain county of Zhejiang Province as an example, according to the daily police record data for March 2023, the non-police police cases in this police station accounted for nearly 80% of the total number of police cases received by 110 in March. This shows that grassroots police stations face not only the necessary police-type police situations every day, but also non-police police situations occupy a significant part of the daily workload of the grassroots police. In these non-police police cases, mainly including conflict resolution and other absolute service work such as unlocking, helping with children, retrieving pets, etc.. These unrelated matters take up the vast majority of police resources, and also increase the workload of the grassroots police.

In addition, in recent years, it is not uncommon for some government agencies to assign non-police activities to public security organs for various reasons. These non-police activities cover a wide range of areas, and their contents are trivial and complicated, which brings a considerable burden to the work of the grassroots police. Some of the more typical ones are as follows: First, intercepting and evacuating the masses who petition. In some important meetings, local governments will arrange to deploy a large number of police officers on duty around the meeting to intercept the masses of petitioners and calm

down the situation, in order to prevent the masses from overreacting and maintain social order; secondly, in land acquisition and demolition, old house renovation and other conflicts and disputes easily arising from compensation issues, the government needs to maintain order at the scene with the help of police coercive force, etc.; thirdly, to participate in joint law enforcement and other non-Police activities. Therefore, there are many places where police force is inevitably abused. In addition, in order to build a good and harmonious relationship between the police and the public, some grassroots police stations will take up the task of escorting elementary school and kindergartens to and from school in their jurisdictions, in addition to the necessary daily work. Although grassroots police stations are state organs providing public security services, non-police policing not only consumes a lot of physical strength and energy of grassroots police workers, but also makes a lot of police resources wasted and unreasonable use, and reduces the efficiency of social public resources services.

### ***3.2 The level of professionalism of law enforcement subjects in grassroots police stations varies***

As the main force of law enforcement in grassroots public security organs, public security police officers with official establishment are currently recruited and employed in three ways: first, students graduated from public security colleges and universities enter police stations by taking the joint public security examination. These law enforcement officers have four years of police management and professional and systematic knowledge training, a strong sense of obedience, strong physical fitness and a certain reserve of public security expertise. However, due to the curriculum and other reasons, students from public security colleges lack long professional internship experience and experience, and short-term professional internship does not allow them to quickly become familiar with various cases and other practical law enforcement, so these law enforcement subjects are not able to undertake law enforcement work independently soon after graduation. When they initially join the work, it will affect the overall case handling efficiency to a certain extent. The second is the military transfer cadres, refers to the officers and civilian cadres who quit active service for transfer placement. Since military transfer cadres have military experience, they often have a strong sense of mission and responsibility and treat the task will, but because they know less about public security work before transferring, they do not have a rich reserve of public security expertise and lack professional and systematic law enforcement induction training experience. Finally, there are the civilian police recruited through open recruitment. Most of the socially recruited civilian police are students from local general colleges and universities, who have broader knowledge, although they do not learn public security expertise systematically and professionally, but have a strong reserve of legal expertise and relatively strong learning ability, with the disadvantage of poor physical ability and lack of obedience awareness.

In addition, due to the rapid development of big data artificial intelligence and computer software, in some relatively developed regions, differences in learning background and education will indirectly lead to differences in the use of case-handling tools and software among civilian police, which will also affect the efficiency of case-handling to a certain extent. In addition, inadequate knowledge of relevant laws will also be detrimental to the overall standardization of law enforcement and the construction of the rule of law in grassroots public security.

### ***3.3 The law enforcement body's legal awareness is weak***

Everyone is equal before the law in our country, and any citizen must abide by the Constitution and the law. China's criminal law is clear that the punishment of crime and the protection of human rights are unified. However, in the actual law enforcement process, due to the large volume of work undertaken by the grassroots police station, so in the actual work process often pay more attention to the handling of cases and the arrest and interrogation of criminal suspects, between substantive justice and procedural justice does not achieve a balance.

Due to the different levels of development, the legal awareness of grassroots police stations and law enforcement standardization awareness varies. Some police officers in grassroots police stations are unable to fully comply with the relevant systems and regulations for handling cases in their daily work, which can lead to a lack of credibility of the public security organs in law enforcement, destroy the harmonious and good relations between the police and the public, and cause new social conflicts.

### ***3.4 Imperfect law enforcement supervision mechanism***

The law enforcement supervision mechanism is not perfect. The existing supervision and control mechanism is not closely integrated with the law enforcement work, often in the law enforcement aspects

of the problem before carrying out supervision and inspection, can not be done to prevent problems before they occur. In terms of accountability, it still follows the practice of after-the-fact investigation and responsibility reversal, with insufficient supervision before and during the case, making it difficult for every aspect of law enforcement to be carried out under a supervised environment.

The imperfect supervision mechanism for law enforcement of grass-roots public security organs refers to the lack of effective supervision mechanism in the process of law enforcement of grass-roots public security organs, which leads to frequent problems of improper, unjust and illegal law enforcement, and brings serious hidden dangers to social security and public safety.

First of all, there are deficiencies and loopholes in the law enforcement supervision mechanism of grassroots public security organs. The supervisory power is mainly exercised by discipline inspection and supervision organs at the same level and public security organs at higher levels, which may lead to the situation that the supervisory power and law enforcement power are in the hands of the same institution, resulting in insufficient supervisory power and ineffective supervision. The lack of regular and detailed law enforcement supervision mechanism makes it easy to have ineffective supervision and loopholes.

Secondly, the transparency and openness of the law enforcement supervision mechanism of grassroots public security organs are insufficient. The law enforcement supervision mechanism of grassroots public security organs lacks an open and transparent system, and some organs do not even disclose the basic information of law enforcement supervision, making it difficult to accept the supervision of the public and public opinion, which easily triggers distrust and complaints. At the same time, due to the close relationship between the supervisory agencies and law enforcement organs, the results of supervision are often not disclosed or not fully disclosed, making it difficult to achieve effective supervision of law enforcement organs by the supervisory agencies and to guarantee the fairness, transparency and predictability of law enforcement.

Finally, the law enforcement supervision mechanism of grass-roots public security organs lacks scientific and professional supervision. The law enforcement supervision mechanism of grass-roots public security organs lacks scientific and standardized supervision standards and methods, and the supervision results often depend on the subjective judgment and experience of the supervisory bodies, lacking objective and scientific data support, and are easily influenced by emotional factors. At the same time, due to the lack of professionalism of the supervisory bodies, it is difficult to effectively supervise the professional skills of law enforcement officers and the standardization of law enforcement procedures, which easily leads to the problems of improper, unfair and illegal law enforcement.

To sum up, the imperfection of law enforcement supervision mechanism of grassroots public security needs to be paid great attention, and the independence, openness and transparency of supervision agencies and scientificity of supervision need to be strengthened in system design and practical operation, so as to establish a scientific and standardized law enforcement supervision mechanism, realize the fairness, transparency and predictability of law enforcement and improve the law enforcement ability and credibility of public security organs.

#### **4. Combining the Three-Year Action Plan (2023-2025) under the guidance of Rule of Law Thought to provide a path for the construction of rule of law for grassroots public security**

##### ***4.1 Optimize the allocation of police resources to provide complete basic security***

First of all, by analyzing the data related to the high crime rate and the actual security situation, we can coordinate the establishment of institutions and set up "localized" institutions according to the different security situations in different jurisdictions. At the same time the implementation of the "three-year action plan (2023-2025)" to further optimize the layout of the police force as a traction, to promote "a village (grid) a police" full coverage, active urban and rural community policing teams, the development and growth of group defense forces, adjusting and enriching the police force in police stations. Around the implementation of the accountability system, deepen the reform of "two teams and one room", pilot the promotion of city and county public security organs, improve the effectiveness of police coordination and disposal, consolidate and improve the quality and efficiency of grassroots police operations. Drawing on the Maple Bridge experience of the new era, the Party is leading the way in maintaining social security and carrying out social governance, adhering to the people's main body, adhering to the "three governance fusion", adhering to the "four preventions" and adhering to the common construction and sharing. Further clarify the responsibilities of each institution, improve the quality of daily work in police stations, and integrate functional configuration. The community police

department, public security patrol department, criminal investigation department and comprehensive police department will divide their duties according to their respective functions, cooperate with each other and assist each other, so as to stimulate the vitality of grass-roots public security organs to the maximum extent.

Second, to realize the transformation from "looking for the police in difficulty" to "looking for the police in distress". The original intention of the concept of "looking for the police when in trouble" is to strongly combat crimes and solve the difficulties of the public. Some of the non-police police situations, such as handling disputes and purely service work, do not fall within the scope of duties of the people's police, but in accordance with the requirements of the "police must receive", the people's police have to deal with routine police situations while freeing up time to deal with these non-police situations, thus making the law enforcement case inefficient. There are many reasons for non-police police situations, all of which cause a great deal of occupancy and waste of the limited police resources available. Non-police police situations not only cause a considerable burden to the work of the police, but also damage the credibility of the public security organs if the non-police work is not completed, and are not conducive to the development of good and harmonious relations between the police and the public. Therefore, the boundaries of police-type police cases can be clearly defined in legislation, and non-police police cases such as requests for help or disputes can be handed over to other social service organizations.

In the provision of basic security, the implementation of the three-year action plan highlights and initiatives to strengthen the standardization of police station security, improve the implementation of funding, equipment, infrastructure security standards, and promote the implementation of measures to love police warm police, and actively create a tethering environment. In terms of welfare benefits, you can improve the welfare of grassroots police by implementing duty post allowances, overtime allowances outside the legal workday, etc.; in terms of equipment and facilities, for the old, repair many times and a high risk factor of police vehicles for timely replacement, through the purchase of better police vehicles, equipped with more efficient communication equipment, police equipment, protective equipment, police vehicles and other equipment to strengthen the grassroots police stations Finally, establish a perfect incentive mechanism to reward and commend the grassroots police to stimulate their enthusiasm for work.

#### ***4.2 Improve the pre-service training system for different recruitment subjects***

Implement different practical training contents for different recruitment subjects. Because of the different professional backgrounds and functional positions, the demand for police skills and expertise of new grassroots police officers is also different. The purpose of the current stage of the entry training system is to cultivate better police professional awareness and basic literacy for new police officers at the grassroots level, but it is still far from enough for new police officers to be able to quickly perform their jobs after joining the force. Therefore, the training of new police officers is associated with professional background and functional positions, which can improve the practicality and job matching of new police officer training.

#### ***4.3 Strengthen the legal awareness of law enforcement subjects and establish a proper law enforcement concept***

Through effective education and rectification within public security and regular education and training, the correct law enforcement concept of law enforcement police is constantly cultivated, and the authority of law enforcement police is safeguarded, and the "people-centered" law enforcement ideology is firmly established. The law enforcement of grassroots public security is both hot and warm, and reflects the authority of the law, creating a kind of mass satisfaction that reflects the value of the masses, based on their needs and full of government care. To learn and implement thought on the rule of law, the correct law enforcement behavior needs to be spawned by the correct concept of the rule of law in order to be nurtured. This requires continuous learning and education, to adopt a variety of effective and innovative ways to strengthen the education of police groups on the concept of socialist rule of law, firmly establish the concept of "strict, standardized, fair and civilized" law enforcement, and truly the concept of law enforcement for the people, strict adherence to law and order, fairness and justice, people-oriented, etc. rooted in the souls of all civilian police and police officers, The police will be able to ensure that they do not deviate from the direction.

#### ***4.4 Strengthen the construction of grass-roots public security law enforcement supervision and management system***

With the continuous development of China's public security work, the importance of law enforcement supervision and management of grassroots public security has become more and more prominent.

Supervision and management of grassroots public security law enforcement refers to the supervision, management and guidance of law enforcement behavior of grassroots public security organs to ensure lawful, fair and standardized law enforcement behavior and guarantee social stability and public security. In order to strengthen law enforcement supervision and management of grassroots public security organs, we can start from the following aspects: First, to strengthen the awareness of policies and regulations, the law enforcement behavior of grassroots public security organs must follow the national laws and regulations and the instructions of higher leaders. Therefore, strengthening the publicity, education and training on law enforcement policies and regulations of grass-roots public security organs and improving the awareness of policies and regulations and law enforcement ability of police officers are the keys to strengthening the supervision and management of law enforcement of grass-roots public security organs. Second, improve the law enforcement supervision mechanism. To establish and improve the supervision mechanism for law enforcement of grass-roots public security organs, it is necessary to pay attention to both internal and external supervision. Internal supervision includes daily inspection, examination and evaluation of law enforcement behavior of grass-roots public security organs by superior organs, organs at the same level and internal discipline inspection institutions; external supervision includes social supervision and judicial supervision, etc. Through public supervision and public opinion supervision, the supervision and control of law enforcement behavior of grass-roots public security organs can be strengthened. Third, strengthen the information construction. The law enforcement work of grass-roots public security organs needs a lot of data support, and information construction can effectively improve the level of law enforcement informatization and supervision and management efficiency. By establishing an informatization platform for law enforcement, the sharing and exchange of law enforcement information can be realized, which facilitates timely supervision and management of law enforcement behaviors of grassroots public security organs by higher authorities, authorities at the same level and social supervision agencies. Fourth, strengthening assessment and evaluation. Assessment and evaluation is an important means to strengthen the supervision and management of law enforcement of grass-roots public security organs. For the law enforcement behavior and management of grass-roots public security organs, scientific assessment and evaluation standards and indexes should be formulated, regular evaluation and performance assessment should be conducted, and the assessment results should be used as the basis for the promotion, rewards and punishments of police officers, so as to promote the standardization and scientificization of law enforcement behavior of grass-roots public security organs. In conclusion, strengthening law enforcement supervision and management of grass-roots public security organs is an important guarantee for social stability and public security, and requires the joint efforts of the whole society. Only through improving mechanisms, strengthening awareness, enhancing information construction and strengthening assessment and evaluation can the law enforcement level and efficiency of grassroots public security organs be further improved, and greater contributions be made to social harmony and stability.

## **5. The significance of rule of law construction for grassroots public security in the new era**

### ***5.1 It is conducive to promoting the process of building China under the rule of law***

With the advent of the new era, the construction of rule of law has become one of the important strategies for national development. Grassroots public security is an important part of rule of law construction, and the effectiveness of its rule of law construction is directly related to the process of national rule of law construction. The grassroots public security organs are the law enforcement organs most directly contacted by the people. Building the rule of law awareness and capability of grassroots public security organs has, in practice, promoted the process of deepening the rule of law construction in all aspects and made positive contributions to building China under the rule of law.

### ***5.2 Favorable to promote the standardization of law enforcement***

As a law enforcement organ, the construction of standardized law enforcement at the grassroots level is an important part of promoting the construction of the rule of law. Building standardized law enforcement grassroots public security organs can not only effectively regulate law enforcement behavior and improve law enforcement efficiency, but also strengthen the management and supervision of law enforcement officers while better maintaining social justice and stability.

### ***5.3 Beneficial to improve social governance***

The rule of law construction of grassroots public security can further improve social governance. As the main force of social governance, the effectiveness of the rule of law construction of grass-roots public security organs directly affects the quality and effectiveness of social governance. Building grassroots

public security organs under the rule of law can better maintain social stability and justice and improve social governance.

#### 5.4 Contribute to the overall deepening of public security reform

Grassroots public security organs are an important part of public security reform, and their rule of law construction, as one of the important elements of public security reform, can further deepen public security reform. Building grass-roots public security organs under the rule of law can not only provide a more standardized, fair and efficient law enforcement environment for public security organs, but also provide stronger support for the reform and innovation of public security organs.

In conclusion, the significance of building the rule of law for grass-roots public security organs in the new era is very significant, which is related to the process of national rule of law construction and the quality and effectiveness of the comprehensive deepening of public security reform. We should strengthen the rule of law construction of grassroots public security, promote the standardization of law enforcement, improve the level of social governance, better serve the people and create a safer, more stable and harmonious social environment.

#### References

- [1] Chang-Shan M A , Law S O .*The Expansion of the Times of the Path of the Development of the Rule of Law in China*[J].*Inner Mongolia Social Sciences*, 2018.
- [2] Chen Ao, Wang Xin, Yang Lufei. *Analysis of the path of standardized construction of law enforcement in public security police stations under the new situation*[J]. *Journal of Hebei Public Security Police Vocational College*, 2022, 22(04):9-12+17.
- [3] Dang Wenjun. *Empirical analysis on the standardized construction of law enforcement in China's grassroots public security organs* [J]. *Southern Agricultural Machinery*, 2018, 49(19):154-155.
- [4] Hu Jin. *The construction of rule of law public security under the orientation of trial centrism-A perspective on the adjustment of the center of gravity of public security investigation work* [J]. *Tianjin Jurisprudence*, 2017(4):98.
- [5] Chen Yongfeng, Cai Yuanzhe. *Study on the construction of public security under the rule of law led by rule of law thought from the perspective of strict law enforcement* [J]. *Journal of the Chinese People's Police University*, 2022, 38(11):67-72.
- [6] Sun Maoli. *Adhering to the comprehensive rule of law to enhance the level of rule of law in public security work* [N]. *People's Public Security Daily*, 2017-11-18(3).
- [7] Wang L, Yu Changjiang. *A new path for the construction of rule of law public security under the guidance of thought on rule of law - taking the implementation of the Civil Code as an opportunity* [J]. *Public Security Research*, 2022, No. 333(07):5-10.
- [8] Zhao Zhan. *Exploration of the path of rule of law public security construction under the new normal of police service*[J]. *Journal of Guangxi Police Academy*, 2017(4):47.
- [9] Wen Qi. *Analysis of the obstacles on the road of rule of law in China* [J]. *Jiangxi Social Science*, 2002(3):137.
- [10] Chen J. *Research on public security in the new era under the leadership of thought of rule of law* [J]. *Journal of Zhejiang Police Academy*, 2022, No. 192(04):65-83.
- [11] Liu Bingxu, Wei Keqiang. *Assessment of the current law enforcement environment of China's public security organs and coping strategies* [J]. *Jing Yue Journal*, 2017(2):116.
- [12] Chen YF. *The key meaning of public security rule of law in thought on rule of law* [J]. *Journal of Jiangxi Police Academy*, 2022, No. 234(02):5-12.
- [13] Tang Sanhong. *On the choice of path for the construction of public security under the rule of law* [J]. *Jing Yue Journal*, 2015(3):11.
- [14] Wu Yang. *Study and implement thought on rule of law and deepen the standardized construction of public security law enforcement* [J]. *Public Security Research*, 2022, No. 333(07):11-19.
- [15] Lin Wei, Wang Zhanzhou. *Interpretation of the connotation of rule of law thought from the perspective of the construction of lawful public security* [J]. *Journal of Guizhou Police Academy*, 2022, 34(01): 3-8. DOI:10.13310/j.cnki.gzjy.2022.01.001.
- [16] Qi Baozhong, Hu Aihua, Yang Jing. *Exploring the optimal "composition" of grassroots police stations: the reform of "two teams and one room" in police stations of Haidian Branch of Beijing Municipal Public Security Bureau*[J]. *Work in police stations*, 2020, No. 91(07):19-24.