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Certain aspects of the legal regulation of the digital economy in China

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The digital economy has become the core and key force driving the high-quality development of China's economy. In recent years, digitalization has embraced various spheres of life and its processes have rapidly spread across the country, due to which the legal regulation of the digital economy has also been developed.

In the Report on the Development of China's Digital Economy (2022) [1] issued by the China Academy of Information and Communications Technology, the value of the digital economy was predicted to reach 45.5 trillion yuan in 2021, accounting for 39.8% of China's GDP. According to the information of the latest report released by the Chinese Academy of Cyberspace Studies, these plans have been successfully implemented [2].

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China emphasizes the importance of data protection. For this purpose, in 2021, the Data Security Law of

the People's Republic of China [3] and the Personal Information Protection Law of the People's Republic of China [4] were adopted and entered into force. They envisage the regulation of relations regarding data processing and define the basics of legal regulation in the field of security.

Under the guidance of national policies, local governments have issued local regulations for the digital economy. On December 24, 2020 was adopted the country's first local regulation on promotion and the development of the digital economy – the “Regulations on the Promotion of the Digital Economy of Zhejiang Province” – and on March 1, 2021 these regulations came into force [5]. On September 1, 2021, the “Guangdong Province Digital Economy Promotion Regulations” entered into force [6] and on March 1, 2022, the “Regulations on the Promotion of Digital Economy in Henan Province” entered into force [7]. Nearly 20 provinces and cities across the country have issued such regulations.

China's “14th Five-Year Plan” for the Development of the Digital Economy (2021–2025) [8] clarifies that digital economy is the main economic form after agricultural economy and industrial economy. The mass integration of digital technology in all spheres of life has accelerated the promotion of new ways of production and life, but the problems of unbalanced, inadequate and non-standard development have become prominent. Alongside with the development of the digital economy, the legal regulation of the digital economy must be constantly improved, led by the principle of security.

At present, China's digital economy legislation is in a stage of rapid development. Many pieces of legislation related to the digital economy have been officially implemented, but there are still problems such as uneven regional development and incomplete legal coverage. With the continuous efforts of the government, these problems are expected to be overcome in the near future.

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Economic and legal aspects of cross-border e-commerce in China and the USA

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At present, in the era of rapid development of digital economy, e-commerce, as an important part of digital economy, is driving global and national economic growth. Therefore, the need to create new and improve existing rules for digital trade as one of the components of e-commerce is recognized by all states. However, the problem of global digital trade divide is gradually exposed, and the tendency of digital trade rules classification is obvious.

The People's Republic of China plays an increasing role in international e-commerce, both domestically and in international transactions. China's retail e-commerce sales value amounted to around 2.64 trillion U.S. dollars in 2021, representing a 14 percent year-on-year growth. Forecasts show that online retail sales in China will approach four trillion U.S. dollars by 2026 [1]. The need for more detailed regulation of e-commerce in China is driven by a significant increase in the volume of trade on e-commerce platforms. In 2019 E-Commerce Law of the People's Republic of China [2] entered into force. Article 23 provides the personal information protection obligations of e-commerce operators, bridging the relevant legal provisions of e-commerce law and personal information protection.

Although E-Commerce Law of the People's Republic of China provides cross-border e-commerce, its main purpose is to achieve convergence within the legal system rather than to provide systematic legal rules for cross-border e-commerce. Therefore, research on the protection of personal information in cross-border e-commerce still needs to focus on China's existing legal system for personal information protection, especially the rules related to the cross-border flow of