

HO CHI MINH NATIONAL ACADEMY OF POLITICS

BUI VAN NHU

**YOUTH MOBILIZATION IN HO CHI MINH CITY
TODAY IN ACCORDANCE WITH HO CHI MINH'S
IDEOLOGY**

SUMMARY OF THE DOCTORAL THESIS

MAJOR: HO CHI MINH STUDIES

Code: 9310204

HA NOI - 2025

**The dissertation is conducted at
Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics**

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Academy level, at the Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics**

At 08 hour 30 date 16 month 12 year 2025

**The thesis can be found at the National Library and
the Library of Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics**

INTRODUCTION

1. The urgency of the theme

Throughout the course of leading the Vietnamese revolution, President Ho Chi Minh consistently paid special attention to the role, position, and significance of the youth, and devoted constant concern to youth mobilization work. He stated: “Youth are the future masters of the nation. Indeed, whether the country prospers or declines, is strong or weak, depends to a great extent on the youth”; “To awaken the nation, it is first necessary to awaken the youth”. He emphasized: “Our youth are highly enthusiastic. If that enthusiasm is properly united and guided, the youth will become a tremendously powerful force”. For this reason, the first revolutionary organization founded by Nguyen Ai Quoc was the Vietnam Revolutionary Youth League. In his Testament, before his passing, he advised: “Fostering the revolutionary generation for the future is an extremely important and necessary task; the Party must take care to educate them in revolutionary ethics and train them to become the socialist builders and successors who are both “both virtuous and competent””. His perspectives on youth mobilization (youth mobilization) continue to retain their profound theoretical and practical value to this day.

Ho Chi Minh’s ideology on youth mobilization inherited the nation’s fine traditional values, assimilated the cultural quintessence of humankind, and, in particular, was grounded in Marxist-Leninist theory. It constitutes a comprehensive and profound system of viewpoints on the position and role of youth, the importance of youth mobilization, as well as the content and methods of mobilizing youth to unleash their role, strengths, potential, and creativity in the cause of national liberation, nation-building, and national defense. This thought not only holds theoretical significance - as a compass guiding the Party in formulating youth mobilization strategies appropriate to each revolutionary period - but also possesses profound practical value, as demonstrated through a series of exemplary revolutionary movements and activities, such as the campaigns “Eradicate Illiteracy”, “Join the Army to Save the Nation”, “Three Readinesses”, and “Five Volunteerisms” during the struggle for national liberation and resistance wars, as well as initiatives such

as “Green Summer”, “Exam Season Support”, “Spring Volunteer”, and “Summer Cultural Light” during the period of renovation. Through these movements, Vietnamese youth have consistently played the vanguard role in fulfilling key national tasks, making important contributions to the nation’s glorious victories, while affirming their special role in every stage of the revolution - from the struggle for national liberation and resistance against colonialist and imperialist aggression to the processes of nation-building and development in times of peace and international integration.

In the era of renovation, as the country has entered the stage of accelerating industrialization, modernization, and international integration, youth mobilization continues to occupy a position of strategic importance and is becoming increasingly urgent. The Communist Party of Viet Nam has identified youth as “one of the decisive factors determining the success or failure of the cause of industrialization, modernization, international integration, and the construction of socialism”, while at the same time emphasizing that “youth work is a matter of life and death for the nation”. These guiding viewpoints not only reflect the profound inheritance of Ho Chi Minh’s ideology but also demonstrate a significantly enhanced theoretical awareness of the role of youth, in accordance with the demands of national development in the new historical context. In practice, numerous resolutions and directives of the Party on youth work have been promulgated and implemented, yielding notable results and creating favorable conditions for youth to cultivate their capacities and achieve maturity.

Ho Chi Minh City is the nation’s largest economic, financial, and scientific-technological center, with more than 2.9 million young people (data from the period before the merger of Binh Duong and Ba Ria – Vung Tau provinces into Ho Chi Minh City), accounting for approximately one-third of the city’s population. This constitutes a force that plays a crucial role in the city’s socio-economic development. In recent years, youth mobilization has achieved many positive results thanks to the attention, leadership, and direction of the Municipal Party Committee, the People’s Committee, the Fatherland Front, and socio-political organizations of the city. However, the process of implementation has revealed certain limitations, such as: the

leadership and direction of youth mobilization have not always been well aligned with local conditions; the Youth Union in some areas has not fully promoted its role as the core force in organizing, orienting, and protecting the legitimate interests of young people; the cadre contingent engaged in youth mobilization remains unstable and lacks quality, especially at the grassroots level; youth propaganda and education have yet to meet the requirements and tasks posed; youth mobilization to participate in various fields has lacked attractiveness and has not achieved high effectiveness, particularly in certain areas and among specific groups; the mobilization of youth to participate in appropriate organizations, with the Youth Union as the core, has not fully met expectations; the appeal and substantive effectiveness of propaganda and youth engagement remain limited; and the review, summarization, inspection, and supervision of youth mobilization activities have not been carried out regularly or effectively.

Entering a new era of national development, in the context of deep international integration and comprehensive digital transformation, youth mobilization faces numerous challenges. Ho Chi Minh City is implementing the strategic objectives set forth in the Resolution of the 1st Party Congress for the 2025–2030 term. The goal for 2030 is to build the city into a civilized and modern urban center, a dynamic hub of innovation, and a leading locality in the national process of industrialization and modernization; a city with a distinguished position in Southeast Asia, ranked among the world's top 100 global cities, livable, and home to an internationally recognized innovation ecosystem, reaching the high-income group. With a vision toward 2045, the city aims to be among the world's top 100 best cities, worthy of its role as an international megacity of Southeast Asia, and a regional center of economy, finance, tourism, services, education, and healthcare; a globally attractive destination with distinctive, sustainable economic, cultural, and social development, a high quality of life, and deep international integration. Within these conditions, youth mobilization work holds an increasingly significant role in realizing Ho Chi Minh City's strategic objectives. It constitutes the ideological orientation, organizational impetus, and effective activation of

the pioneering force — the force that determines the pace and quality of the city's development in the new period.

From these theoretical and practical imperatives, the doctoral candidate has selected the *“Youth Mobilization in Ho Chi Minh City today in Accordance with Ho Chi Minh's Ideology”* to undertake as the subject of the Doctoral Dissertation in the field of Ho Chi Minh Studies.

2. Research Objectives and Tasks

2.1. Research Objectives

Based on a systematic study of the fundamental contents of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on youth mobilization, and through its application in assessing the current situation of youth mobilization in Ho Chi Minh City, this dissertation proposes solutions to enhance the effectiveness of youth mobilization in the city in the coming period, in accordance with Ho Chi Minh's ideology.

2.2. Research Tasks

- To provide an overview of the research situation related to the topic, summarizing the achievements attained, as well as identifying the issues that require further study.
- To clarify several key concepts related to the research topic.
- To analyze and elucidate the fundamental viewpoints in Ho Chi Minh's ideology on youth mobilization.
- To apply Ho Chi Minh's ideology in assessing the actual state of youth mobilization in Ho Chi Minh City from 2008 to 2025, and to highlight the emerging issues.
- To analyze influencing factors and propose orientations and solutions aimed at improving the effectiveness of youth mobilization in Ho Chi Minh City in the coming period, in accordance with Ho Chi Minh's ideology.

3. Research Scope and Subjects

3.1. Research Subject

Youth mobilization in Ho Chi Minh City in accordance with Ho Chi Minh's ideology.

3.2. Research Scope

- *Content:* The research focuses on the fundamental viewpoints in Ho Chi

Minh's ideology on youth mobilization as expressed in his works, speeches, and writings, in close connection with his practical activities, as well as the current implementation of youth mobilization in Ho Chi Minh City in accordance with Ho Chi Minh's ideology.

- *Space*: The empirical sociological survey of youth mobilization was conducted in several selected districts and localities, including District 1, District 6, Go Vap District, Thu Duc City, Binh Chanh District, and Cu Chi District (prior to July 1, 2025).

- *Time*: The research investigates and surveys the practice of youth mobilization in Ho Chi Minh City from 2008 to prior to July 1, 2025. The year 2008 was chosen as the starting point, as it marked the issuance of Resolution No. 25-NQ/TW (July 25, 2008) by the 10th Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam on “*Strengthening the Party's leadership over youth work in the period of accelerating industrialization and modernization*”. Prior to July 1, 2025, which was before the merger of Ho Chi Minh City with Binh Duong Province and Ba Ria – Vung Tau Province.

4. Theoretical Basis and Research Methodology

4.1. Theoretical Basis

The dissertation is grounded in the theoretical foundation of Marxism-Leninism, Ho Chi Minh's ideology, and the guidelines, policies, and viewpoints of the Communist Party of Viet Nam concerning youth mobilization.

4.2. Research Methodology

The dissertation employs the research methodology of dialectical materialism and historical materialism. In addition, the author combines and applies various methods, including the logical-historical method, analysis and synthesis, statistical methods, text analysis, comparative methods, and sociological surveys. Specifically:

Chapter 1: The author primarily applies methods of analysis and synthesis to evaluate the state of research related to the topic.

Chapter 2: The author employs systematization and generalization methods to construct conceptual tools, as well as the logical-historical method to clarify the fundamental viewpoints in Ho Chi Minh's ideology on youth mobilization.

Chapter 3: The author mainly utilizes analysis, synthesis, statistical methods, comparative methods, text analysis, and sociological surveys to elucidate the current state of youth mobilization in Ho Chi Minh City in light of Ho Chi Minh's ideology.

To conduct the sociological survey, the author designed two types of questionnaires: one for young respondents and another for cadres and Party members. A total of 1,395 questionnaires were distributed, of which 1,348 valid responses were collected (including 1,050 from young respondents and 298 from cadres and Party members). All collected data were processed using SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences) - a specialized statistical tool widely applied in scientific analysis and the social sciences.

Chapter 4: The author applies scientific forecasting, statistical methods, analysis, deduction, and induction to propose orientations and solutions for strengthening youth mobilization in Ho Chi Minh City in the coming period, in accordance with Ho Chi Minh's ideology.

5. New Contributions of the Thesis

The dissertation systematically analyzes and explicates the fundamental content of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on youth mobilization; evaluates the practice of youth mobilization in Ho Chi Minh City from 2008 to prior to July 1, 2025 in the light of Ho Chi Minh's ideology; and, on that basis, proposes solutions to improve the effectiveness of youth mobilization in Ho Chi Minh City in the coming period, consistent with Ho Chi Minh's ideology.

6. Theoretical and Practical Significance

6.1. Theoretical Significance: The research findings contribute to clarifying Ho Chi Minh's ideology on youth mobilization from the perspective of Ho Chi Minh Studies. At the same time, they provide scientific arguments and foundations for Party committees and authorities at different levels in formulating and implementing policies related to youth mobilization in Ho Chi Minh City today.

6.2. Practical Significance: The research findings of the dissertation can serve as reference materials for scientific research institutions, universities, and postgraduate training programs in the fields of political science, social sciences, and humanities. In addition, the study can also serve as a resource for

teaching and research on the subject of Ho Chi Minh's Ideology in academies, universities, and colleges.

7. Structure of the Thesis

Apart from the introduction, conclusion, list of references, and appendices, the thesis is structured into 4 chapters with a total of 9 sections.

Chapter 1

OVERVIEW OF THE RESEARCH RELATED TO THE THESIS

1.1. RESEARCH SITUATION RELATED TO THE TOPIC

1.1.1. Studies related on Youth and Youth Mobilization

With respect to research on youth and youth mobilization, the dissertation reviews 33 relevant works.

1.1.2. Studies related on Ho Chi Minh's Ideology Regarding Youth and Youth Mobilization

With respect to research on Ho Chi Minh's ideology regarding youth and youth mobilization, the dissertation reviews 12 relevant works.

1.1.3. Studies related on the Application of Ho Chi Minh's Ideology to Youth Mobilization

With respect to research on the application of Ho Chi Minh's ideology to youth mobilization, the dissertation reviews 13 relevant works.

1.2. EVALUATION OF RESEARCH FINDINGS RELATED TO THE TOPIC AND ISSUES REQUIRING FURTHER STUDY IN THE DISSERTATION

1.2.1. Evaluation of Research Findings Related to the Topic

A review of the existing research related to the topic shows that previous scholars have clarified the following issues:

First, research on youth and youth mobilization. From various disciplinary perspectives (philosophy, history, psychology, sociology, cultural studies), these works have elucidated the position and role of youth in the revolutionary cause; the importance of youth mobilization; methods and approaches to youth mobilization; the leadership role of the Party and the role of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union in youth mobilization; the current situation of youth mobilization; and solutions for youth mobilization.

Second, research on Ho Chi Minh's ideology concerning youth mobilization. These works have clarified Ho Chi Minh's views on the position

and role of youth in the revolutionary cause; the importance of mobilizing, organizing, uniting, and educating youth, particularly moral, ideological, and lifestyle education; and the content, forces, and methods of youth mobilization.

Third, research on the application of Ho Chi Minh's ideology to youth mobilization. These works have analyzed the current situation and methods of youth mobilization, organization, and unification, especially within socio-political organizations, first and foremost, the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union.

1.2.2. Issues Requiring Further Research in the Dissertation

From the collected sources, the author observes that, to date, no specialized study has been conducted on Ho Chi Minh's ideology on youth mobilization and on youth mobilization in Ho Chi Minh City in the light of Ho Chi Minh's ideology, *from the perspective of Ho Chi Minh Studies*. That is, there has not been a systematic examination of *the content of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on youth mobilization, nor its application in Ho Chi Minh City today*. This represents both *a novel approach and new research content of the chosen dissertation topic*. Accordingly, the issues that remain unaddressed in previous works will be further investigated in this dissertation.

Building upon and selectively inheriting the achievements of existing studies, the dissertation seeks to clarify the following issues:

In terms of *Ho Chi Minh's ideology on youth mobilization*:

First, the dissertation needs to clarify certain related concepts: “youth”, “youth mobilization”, “Ho Chi Minh's ideology on youth mobilization”, and “youth mobilization in Ho Chi Minh City in light of Ho Chi Minh's ideology”.

Second, the dissertation must focus on clarifying the core issues in Ho Chi Minh's ideology on youth mobilization, including the position and role of youth in the revolutionary cause; the objectives, content, forces, and methods of youth mobilization. These constitute foundational issues, providing theoretical orientation for subsequent research questions of the dissertation.

In terms of *youth mobilization in Ho Chi Minh City today, in light of Ho Chi Minh's ideology*:

First, the dissertation needs to provide an overview of the natural, economic, cultural-social conditions and historical traditions of Ho Chi Minh City; assess the current situation of youth mobilization in the city in the light of Ho Chi Minh's ideology, identifying achievements, limitations, and their causes; and determine the issues posed for youth mobilization in the city today.

Second, based on the results of theoretical research and the assessment of the current state of youth mobilization in Ho Chi Minh City, the dissertation analyzes the factors influencing youth mobilization in the city. On this basis, it proposes orientations and solutions to enhance the effectiveness of youth mobilization in Ho Chi Minh City in the coming period, in accordance with Ho Chi Minh's ideology.

Chapter 2

SOME THEORETICAL ISSUES IN APPLYING HO CHI MINH'S THOUGHT ON YOUTH MOBILIZATION WORK

2.1. KEY CONCEPTS RELATED TO THE TOPIC

2.1.1. The Concepts of “Youth” and “Youth Mobilization Work”

- The Concepts of “Youth”

The concept of “youth” is understood in various ways depending on the perspective of approach. According to *the Popular Vietnamese Dictionary*, “youth” refers to “a young person who is in the stage of adulthood”. *The Concise Dictionary of Vietnamese Youth* by Duong Tu Dam provides a broader definition, stating that youth is “a stage of human development, marking the end of childhood and the beginning of adulthood, and is considered the most beautiful period of life”. These definitions generally describe youth as “young people” or those “in the stage of adulthood”, but they do not specify a particular age range.

Article 1 of *the Law on Youth* (2020), enacted by the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, stipulates clearly that: “Youth are Vietnamese citizens from full 16 years of age to 30 years of age”. This definition explicitly sets the age range of youth, thereby delimiting the scope that previous definitions had not specified.

From these definitions, it can be understood that *Vietnamese youth are citizens aged from 16 to 30, active in all fields of social life*.

- The Concepts of “Youth Mobilization Work”

The concept of “mobilization work” is always associated with a specific social group and reflects the orientation and methods of influence employed by the Party and socio-political organizations towards different social forces. Consequently, in revolutionary practice, concepts such as peasant mobilization, worker mobilization, and women's mobilization have been

formed. Within this framework, youth mobilization (thanh van) occupies an important role, demonstrating the Party's strategic concern for the generation that succeeds and develops the revolutionary cause. Thus, clarifying the connotation of youth mobilization work is a requirement to accurately identify its role, methods, and scope of influence.

Accordingly, youth mobilization work can be understood *as the totality of activities carried out by the Party, the State, the Viet Nam Fatherland Front, and mass organizations - with the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union as the core force under the leadership of the Party - to propagate, organize, educate, and mobilize youth to participate in the formulation and effective implementation of the Party's guidelines and the State's laws and policies.*

2.1.2. The Concepts of “Ho Chi Minh’s Thought on Youth Mobilization Work” and “Youth Mobilization Work in Ho Chi Minh City Today According to Ho Chi Minh’s Thought”

- The Concept of “Ho Chi Minh’s Ideology on Youth Mobilization”

Although Ho Chi Minh did not leave behind a specialized work exclusively devoted to youth mobilization, his thought on this matter is profoundly reflected in his speeches, writings, and practical activities.

Youth mobilization work constitutes an important component of mass mobilization, reflecting the role and responsibility of the entire political system in building forces from among the people, organizing and uniting the masses to participate in fulfilling political tasks, while at the same time safeguarding their legitimate interests. In his work *Mass Mobilization* (1949), Ho Chi Minh affirmed: “Mass mobilization means mobilizing all the strength of every single citizen, without leaving anyone out, to form the strength of the entire people, to accomplish the tasks that the Government and organizations have entrusted to them”.

From the above analysis, an initial conceptualization of Ho Chi Minh’s ideology on youth mobilization may be proposed as follows: *Ho Chi Minh’s ideology on youth mobilization is a systematic set of viewpoints concerning the position and role of youth, as well as the objectives, content, forces, and methods of mobilization, with the ultimate purpose of promoting their*

vanguard and pioneering role in the cause of national liberation, construction, and defense of the Fatherland.

- The Concept of “Youth Mobilization in Ho Chi Minh City in Light of Ho Chi Minh’s Ideology”

Youth mobilization in Ho Chi Minh City in light of Ho Chi Minh’s ideology refers to the application of Ho Chi Minh’s viewpoints to a specific locality - Ho Chi Minh City - to foster a generation of young people who are dynamic, creative, courageous in thinking, speaking, acting, taking responsibility, innovating, and confronting difficulties and challenges, while being ready to act for the common good and to meet the city’s developmental requirements.

Ho Chi Minh City is a major center of economy, culture, education, and science and technology of the country, attracting a large youth population from various regions, religions, and ethnicities to live, study, and work. This has given rise to diverse groups of youth, including cadres, civil servants, public employees, students, workers, entrepreneurs, and armed forces. The diversity of youth composition requires that the application of Ho Chi Minh’s ideology be flexible, creative, and contextually appropriate, avoiding mechanical or uniform approaches.

From this reality, youth mobilization work in Ho Chi Minh City today according to Ho Chi Minh’s thought refers to the comprehensive set of activities carried out by relevant actors and forces, grounded in Ho Chi Minh’s viewpoints, with the purpose of orienting, organizing, and motivating young people to participate in revolutionary action movements, effectively implementing the Party’s guidelines and the State’s policies and laws. Through these efforts, youth are trained, nurtured, and empowered so that they may become the pioneering force in the cause of building and developing a prosperous, civilized, compassionate Ho Chi Minh City — a city for the nation and together with the nation entering a new era of development.

This concept clarifies the essential components of youth mobilization in Ho Chi Minh City in light of Ho Chi Minh’s ideology:

Purpose of youth mobilization: To raise the awareness of Ho Chi Minh City’s youth regarding their role and responsibility toward society, the city, and the nation; to promote their pioneering and exemplary role in study, work,

economic, cultural, social development, national defense, and security; to gather and unite young forces, thereby strengthening the Party and contributing to consolidating the great national unity bloc.

Content of youth mobilization: To mobilize youth to effectively implement the Party's guidelines, the State's policies and laws, and the policies of the Ho Chi Minh City Party Committee and the People's Committee; to encourage youth to actively participate in all areas of social life - politics, economy, culture, society, national defense, and security - dedicating their strength and intellect to the Party and the revolution; and to mobilize youth to join appropriate organizations to become the Party's reliable reserve force and capable assistants.

Actors, forces responsible for Youth mobilization work: The entire political system of Ho Chi Minh City under the leadership of the City Party Committee, with the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union of Ho Chi Minh City as the core force.

Methods of youth mobilization: Employing approaches suited to the characteristics of youth and the specific conditions of Ho Chi Minh City, such as methods of propaganda and youth organization; methods of education and training; and methods of inspection, evaluation, preliminary review, summarization, and commendation.

The theoretical issues of youth mobilization in light of Ho Chi Minh's ideology presented in the preceding section provide the foundation for constructing the theoretical framework to be used in surveying and analyzing the practice of youth mobilization in Ho Chi Minh City. The evaluation of the current situation focuses on three key dimensions: *First*, the teams of actors directly involved in youth mobilization; *Second*, the content of mobilization in association with the requirements of comprehensive development; and *Third*, the methods of implementation and the degree of effectiveness achieved. Based on this framework, the dissertation conducts surveys in selected districts and cities under Ho Chi Minh City, thereby assessing the extent of relevance and identifying aspects that require adjustment so that the application of Ho Chi Minh's ideology to youth mobilization yields practical results in the present context.

2.2. THE CONTENT OF HO CHI MINH'S IDEOLOGY ON YOUTH MOBILIZATION

2.2.1. The Position, Role of Youth, and the Purpose of Youth Mobilization

2.2.1.1. The Position and Role of Youth in the Revolutionary Cause

First, youth constitute an important component of the nation and are the future owners of the country.

Second, youth are the vanguard force on all fronts, taking the lead in the cause of national construction and defense.

Third, youth are the inheritors, preservers, and developers of the revolutionary cause of the preceding generations, while also guiding and nurturing the future generation of youth, children and adolescents.

2.2.1.2. The Purpose of Youth Mobilization

First, to enhance youth awareness of their role and responsibility toward society and the nation.

Second, to enable youth to inherit and promote the nation's fine traditional values.

Third, to encourage youth to maximize their intellect, talents, and strength in the cause of national construction and defense.

Fourth, to gather and unite young forces, thereby contributing to the consolidation of the great national unity bloc.

2.2.2. The Content of Youth Mobilization Work

First, to mobilize youth to firmly grasp the guidelines and policies of the Party and the laws of the State.

Second, to mobilize youth to actively participate in all spheres of social life, consistently serving as the vanguard force in the cause of national construction and defense.

Third, to mobilize youth to join appropriate organizations, with the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union as the core.

Fourth, to educate youth to become heirs of socialism who are both "red" (politically steadfast) and "expert" (professionally competent).

2.2.3. The Forces Responsible for Youth Mobilization

Ho Chi Minh affirmed that youth mobilization is not the responsibility of a single individual or organization but the responsibility of the entire people, first and foremost of the following actors:

- The Communist Party of Viet Nam which leads youth mobilization.
- The State, which formulates policies on youth mobilization.
- The Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, which directly undertakes youth mobilization work.
- Cadres in charge of youth mobilization.
- Families, schools, and society in conducting youth mobilization work

2.2.4. The Methods of Youth Mobilization

According to Ho Chi Minh, youth mobilization includes several fundamental methods:

- Propagating and gathering youth.
- Organizing youth to participate in patriotic emulation movements.
- Regularly conducting reviews, summaries, inspections, supervision, and timely commendation and rewards.
- Setting an example by cadres and Party members.
- Encouraging each youth to engage in self-mobilization with a spirit of self-discipline, initiative, and creativity.

Chapter 3

YOUTH MOBILIZATION IN HO CHI MINH CITY TODAY FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF HO CHI MINH'S IDEOLOGY - CURRENT SITUATION AND EMERGING ISSUES

3.1. GENERAL OVERVIEW OF HO CHI MINH CITY AND THE CHARACTERISTICS OF ITS YOUTH TODAY

3.1.1. General Overview of Ho Chi Minh City

A general overview of Ho Chi Minh City today may be drawn from several key features: geographical location and natural conditions; socio-economic development; and historical and cultural traditions.

3.1.2. Characteristics of Youth in Ho Chi Minh City Today

First, the youth of Ho Chi Minh City are diverse in terms of social composition.

Second, the number of young people in Ho Chi Minh City fluctuates constantly.

Third, the youth of Ho Chi Minh City inherit tradition while embodying dynamism and creativity.

Fourth, the youth of Ho Chi Minh City consistently place their trust in the leadership of the City Party Committee and the governance of local authorities.

3.2. THE CURRENT STATE OF YOUTH MOBILIZATION IN HO CHI MINH CITY FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF HO CHI MINH'S IDEOLOGY (FROM 2008 TO BEFORE JULY 1, 2025)

3.2.1. Achievements and Their Causes

3.2.1.1. Achievements

First, Regarding the forces engaged in youth mobilization:

The Ho Chi Minh City Party Committee and the People's Committee have promptly concretized the Party's guidelines and the State's policies and laws into programs and action plans suited to local realities and conditions.

The Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union of Ho Chi Minh City has launched numerous key programs, plans, and projects, thereby contributing to enhancing the effectiveness of organizing, mobilizing, and promoting the pioneering role of youth in the cause of national construction and defense.

Second, Regarding the content of youth mobilization:

The youth of Ho Chi Minh City consistently grasp and adhere to the Party's guidelines and the State's policies and laws, demonstrating their role and responsibility toward the city.

They actively participate in all spheres of social life, serving as the vanguard force in building and developing the city.

Youth education has attained remarkable results.

The youth actively join appropriate organizations, with the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union as the core.

A relatively high proportion of youth in Ho Chi Minh City have been trained, nurtured, and admitted as members of the Communist Party of Viet Nam.

Third, Regarding the methods of youth mobilization:

Propaganda and youth mobilization activities have received investment and innovation in both content and methods.

The organization of patriotic emulation movements and community-oriented action programs has been carried out in a comprehensive, flexible manner, adapted to the conditions of each period and suited to the needs and characteristics of different youth groups.

Regular reviews, evaluations, commendations, and awards have been conducted.

The youth themselves have demonstrated initiative in self-training, development, and dedication to society.

3.2.1.2. Causes of the Achievements

The above achievements in youth mobilization in Ho Chi Minh City can be attributed to both subjective and objective factors, among which several fundamental causes may be identified:

First, youth mobilization in Ho Chi Minh City has consistently received timely attention, leadership, and direction from Party committees, authorities, and socio-political organizations.

Second, the effective coordination mechanism among departments, agencies, and organizations has ensured unity and flexibility in youth mobilization work.

Third, the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union of Ho Chi Minh City, Ho Chi Minh City Youth Union Association has organized diverse and substantive activities, rich in content and varied in form, with strong emphasis at the grassroots level.

Fourth, the cadre force in charge of youth mobilization has a solid grasp of local conditions and a clear understanding of young people's aspirations, thereby proactively advising Party committees and authorities to adopt timely policies and measures suited to reality.

3.2.2. Limitations and Their Causes

3.2.2.1. Limitations

First, Regarding the forces engaged in youth mobilization:

The leadership and direction of youth mobilization remain limited in certain respects and not fully aligned with local conditions.

The Youth Union in some localities has not fully promoted its core role in organizing, guiding, and safeguarding the legitimate rights and interests of young people.

The cadre contingent responsible for youth mobilization remains unstable and has not met quality requirements, particularly at the grassroots level and in specialized agencies.

Second, Regarding the content of youth mobilization:

Propaganda and educational work for youth have not fully met the requirements posed by the rapidly changing social context.

Youth mobilization into various spheres remains limited, lacking sufficient appeal, practical relevance, and effectiveness, especially in certain areas and among specific target groups.

Youth mobilization into appropriate organizations, with the Youth Union as the core, has not fully achieved the expected results.

Third, niên Regarding the methods of youth mobilization:

The attractiveness and substantive effectiveness of propaganda and youth mobilization remain limited.

The organization of youth participation in patriotic emulation movements still encounters certain shortcomings, affecting the overall effectiveness of such movements.

The practice of reviewing, summarizing, inspecting, and supervising youth mobilization has not been carried out regularly or effectively.

3.2.2.2. Causes of the Limitations

First, the organization, leadership, and direction of youth mobilization at some grassroots units remain overly administrative, lacking initiative and flexibility.

Second, Youth Union organizations and the cadre force in charge of youth affairs have not demonstrated sufficient adaptability, remaining slow to respond to new requirements.

Third, propaganda and communication work has not been built on a scientific research basis and does not adequately correspond to the information needs of young people.

Fourth, the system of inspection and supervision has not been operated regularly and lacks professionalism.

Fifth, a segment of young people lacks value orientation and initiative in self-cultivation, making them vulnerable to negative influences from the social environment.

3.3. EMERGING ISSUES IN YOUTH MOBILIZATION IN HO CHI MINH CITY TODAY

3.3.1. The awareness and capacity of a segment of actors engaged in youth mobilization work in Ho Chi Minh City today have not yet met the new requirements

A segment of cadres responsible for youth mobilization, particularly at the grassroots level, has not met the requirements of innovation in the context of urbanization and digital transformation. An administrative mindset, lack of creativity, and limited technological skills have reduced the effectiveness of outreach to young people. The gap between the capacity of organizers and the needs of youth has become increasingly evident.

3.3.2. There is still no appropriate method for mobilizing specific youth groups, disadvantaged youth, and migrant youth

Migrant, disadvantaged, and special groups of youth have not had sufficient access to youth movements and organizations due to barriers in information and living conditions. Organizational approaches remain overly administrative and insufficiently flexible to accommodate the diversity of these groups. This poses challenges in building an inclusive and equitable environment for youth development.

3.3.3. There remain gaps between the aspirations for career establishment and entrepreneurship and the actual capacity of Ho Chi Minh City's youth to realize those aspirations

Although urban youth possess strong aspirations for career establishment and entrepreneurship, they still face difficulties in terms of capital, knowledge, and supportive ecosystems. Current programs are largely movement-oriented, lacking the long-term vision and practical solutions needed to meet the real demands of youth.

3.3.4. There are still certain gaps between the potential of the city's youth and the practical implementation of revolutionary action movements.

Certain movements remain formalistic, overly target-driven, and insufficiently aligned with the practical needs of youth, leading to reduced voluntary participation and declining enthusiasm. When content fails to match the personal development trends of young people, such movements struggle to maintain sustainable vitality within the urban youth community.

Chapter 4

FACTORS INFLUENCING, ORIENTATIONS, AND SOLUTIONS TO ENHANCE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF YOUTH MOBILIZATION IN HO CHI MINH CITY IN THE COMING PERIOD IN LIGHT OF HO CHI MINH'S IDEOLOGY

4.1. FACTORS INFLUENCING YOUTH MOBILIZATION IN HO CHI MINH CITY IN THE COMING PERIOD

Globalization and International Integration

Globalization has created numerous opportunities for young people to access knowledge, modern technologies, and employment in key economic sectors. International exchange programs and cross-border volunteer initiatives

help youth develop a global mindset and a strong sense of social responsibility. However, significant challenges also emerge: fierce competition in the labor market, the risk of cultural identity erosion under the influence of foreign values, inequality in access to opportunities, and the spread of misinformation on social media. Accordingly, youth mobilization must focus on the principle of “thinking globally, acting locally”, while simultaneously supporting disadvantaged groups to ensure that no one is left behind.

The Fourth Industrial Revolution

The advancement of artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things, cloud computing, digital transformation, and the green economy is exerting profound impacts on young people. This presents opportunities for youth to engage in entrepreneurship, innovation, global learning, and international networking. Youth organizations can leverage technology to organize movements via social networks and digital platforms. Nevertheless, disparities in technological access create new inequalities. Many simple jobs are disappearing, while new forms of employment demand advanced technological and language skills. In addition, the Internet brings with it risks of cyber insecurity and negative lifestyle influences. Therefore, youth mobilization must innovate in its methods, strengthen digital skills education, and preserve cultural identity.

Viet Nam’s Renovation Process

The renovation process has generated significant achievements in the fields of economy, politics, culture, and international integration. As the leading city, Ho Chi Minh City has created a dynamic environment for youth development. However, it has also led to socio-economic stratification, inequality in access to education and employment, and difficulties for a segment of youth, some of whom develop feelings of discontent and even engage in unlawful activities. Moreover, corruption and moral degradation in society have affected the trust of young people. This reality requires youth mobilization to focus on consolidating trust, strengthening solidarity, and reducing social inequality.

The Party and State’s Struggle Against Corruption, Wastefulness, and Negative Practices

The strict handling of major cases has strengthened young people’s trust in the Party and the State, creating favorable conditions for moral education and civic responsibility. Youth have actively participated in movements

promoting transparency and community monitoring. However, a portion of youth remain skeptical, believing that anti-corruption efforts are not yet thorough, leading to apathy. At the same time, young people increasingly demand transparency and are willing to voice criticism when inadequacies are perceived. Therefore, youth mobilization must ensure transparency, maintain regular dialogue, and encourage a lifestyle of integrity.

The Strategic “Peaceful Evolution” by Hostile Forces

Hostile forces exploit social media to spread misinformation, sow doubt, create division, and promote an individualistic and utilitarian lifestyle. Young people are particularly susceptible, risking a loss of trust and detachment from collective movements. The danger of being lured into oppositional or unlawful activities is also increasing. This constitutes a serious challenge for youth mobilization, requiring innovations in digital-based approaches, strengthening young people’s “information immunity”, and simultaneously fostering patriotism and solidarity.

Administrative Streamlining and Adjustment of Administrative Boundaries

The expansion of administrative boundaries and the streamlining of the apparatus will make the composition of youth in Ho Chi Minh City more diverse and stratified. Differences in culture, living conditions, public services, and levels of integration will pose challenges for youth mobilization. A leaner administrative structure implies that Youth Union and Youth Association organizations at the grassroots will shoulder more responsibilities, requiring flexible operational models of “fewer layers - broader connections”. The transition process may create “policy gaps”, leaving disadvantaged youth neglected. At the same time, the clash of value systems in a “mega-city” may lead to ideological fragmentation and weakened cohesion. Youth mobilization must therefore harness the potential of digital technology for connection while avoiding the creation of new “digital divides”.

4.2. ORIENTATIONS AND SOLUTIONS TO ENHANCE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF YOUTH MOBILIZATION IN HO CHI MINH CITY IN THE COMING PERIOD IN LIGHT OF HO CHI MINH’S IDEOLOGY

4.2.1. Orientations

First, youth mobilization work in Ho Chi Minh City must be carried out on the basis of thoroughly grasping and creatively applying Ho Chi Minh’s thought on youth mobilization in the new context.

Second, youth mobilization work needs to inspire patriotism, innovative entrepreneurship, and the aspiration for dedication among young people for the sustainable development of Ho Chi Minh City.

Third, youth mobilization work requires orientation toward training and developing youth comprehensively in knowledge, skills, and ethics in accordance with the principle of “both virtuous and competent”.

Fourth, youth mobilization work requires the promotion of the pioneering, voluntary, and community-oriented spirit of young people in line with the ethos of “wherever youth are needed, they are present; whatever is difficult, youth will take on”.

4.2.2. Solutions

To enhance the effectiveness of youth mobilization in Ho Chi Minh City in the coming period, in light of Ho Chi Minh’s thought, it is necessary to implement the following groups of solutions comprehensively and effectively:

4.2.2.1. The group of awareness-based solutions

First, enhance the awareness and responsibility of the City Party Committee, the People’s Committee, the Fatherland Front, socio-political organizations, and cadres and Party members regarding the importance of youth mobilization.

Second, raise the awareness of young people concerning their role and responsibility toward society and the city.

Third, innovate the content and methods of propaganda, aligning them with the actual needs of youth.

4.2.2.2. Group of Solutions for Organizing and Implementing Youth Mobilization

First, create favorable conditions for youth to proactively participate in revolutionary action movements and in their own comprehensive development.

Second, strengthen efforts to mobilize specific groups of youth and disadvantaged youth.

Third, design concrete programs for youth entrepreneurship and career establishment.

Fourth, provide training and professional development to improve the quality of the cadre force responsible for youth mobilization.

Fifth, build a strong Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union in Ho Chi Minh City, making it a true nucleus for uniting and gathering young people.

Sixth, intensify the education and training of youth to promote their comprehensive development, meeting the requirements of both character and competence in the new era.

4.2.2.3. Group of Solutions for Inspection and Supervision of Youth Mobilization

First, enhance the effectiveness of inspection and supervision over the leadership and direction of youth mobilization.

Second, emphasize the responsibility of leaders in youth mobilization.

Third, promote the role of supervision, summarization, and commendation in youth mobilization work.

CONCLUSION

Researching Ho Chi Minh's thought on youth mobilization work and applying this thought to current practice in Ho Chi Minh City is an important and urgent task in both theoretical and practical terms. The dissertation inherits the results of related studies while identifying issues that require further investigation, such as the theoretical foundations, the assessment of the current situation, and the proposal of solutions to enhance the effectiveness of youth mobilization work in Ho Chi Minh City in the coming period according to Ho Chi Minh's thought. The dissertation systematically analyzes Ho Chi Minh's fundamental viewpoints on youth mobilization work, including the position and role of youth in the revolutionary cause; the purposes, content, forces, actors, and methods of youth mobilization.

In the light of Ho Chi Minh's thought on youth mobilization work, the dissertation examines and evaluates the current state of youth mobilization in Ho Chi Minh City from 2008 to before July 1, 2025. Thanks to the leadership and attention of the Municipal Party Committee, the People's Committee, and particularly the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union of Ho Chi Minh City and the Ho Chi Minh City Youth Federation, youth mobilization work has achieved many notable accomplishments, attracting young people to actively participate in community-oriented movements and programs. These activities have inspired patriotism and social responsibility among youth, while helping them enhance political awareness and recognize their role in the development of the city and the nation. Through emulation movements, volunteer activities,

and skill-development programs, young people have been provided opportunities for self-improvement and for building stronger bonds with socio-political organizations. In particular, initiatives focused on developing knowledge and skills have created solid foundations for youth to confidently enter the workforce and become active citizens contributing to the city's sustainable development.

However, youth mobilization work still faces several limitations that require attention. Certain current movements do not adequately correspond to the diverse needs and characteristics of the city's youth, resulting in uneven and unsustainable participation, especially among vulnerable groups such as migrant youth, youth facing difficult circumstances, or those working in non-state enterprises. These groups often encounter barriers related to economic conditions, time constraints, and working environments, which hinder their access to programs and movements. This reduces the inclusiveness and outreach of youth mobilization efforts and limits the extent to which activities can effectively reach the entire youth population. Furthermore, the inspection, monitoring, and evaluation of youth mobilization programs have not been conducted regularly or rigorously enough, leading to delays in adjusting and improving movements to meet changing youth needs. Consequently, some activities may fail to achieve the expected outcomes and risk becoming formalistic, which may diminish youth motivation and engagement.

From the perspective of Ho Chi Minh's thought on youth mobilization work and the current situation in Ho Chi Minh City, the dissertation identifies influencing factors and pressing issues, thereby determining orientations and solutions to enhance the effectiveness of youth mobilization in the coming period. Influencing factors emerge at both international and domestic levels. Internationally, the deepening trend of globalization and integration, along with the strong impact of the Fourth Industrial Revolution on youth cognition, behavior, and information access mechanisms, are highly significant. Domestically, youth mobilization is influenced by the country's comprehensive renewal, the ongoing efforts to combat corruption, wastefulness, and negative practices led by the Party and the State, as well as hostile forces' "peaceful evolution" strategies targeting the younger generation. Moreover, organizational streamlining and administrative boundary adjustments pose new

requirements for organizing forces and adopting mobilization approaches suited to local conditions.

The study proposes three groups of solutions to improve the effectiveness of youth mobilization work in Ho Chi Minh City in accordance with Ho Chi Minh's thought. First, it is essential to enhance the awareness and responsibility of the Municipal Party Committee, the People's Committee, the Fatherland Front, socio-political organizations, and officials and Party members regarding the significance of youth mobilization; to strengthen youth awareness of their role and responsibility toward society and the city; and to innovate the content and methods of communication in alignment with youth needs. Proper awareness is required not only from Party committees and authorities at all levels but also from leaders and youth union cadres, which forms the prerequisite for ensuring coherence in action and effective implementation of youth-related policies tailored to the city's realities.

Second, revolutionary action movements and programs must be implemented synchronously, ensuring practical relevance, flexibility, and suitability for different youth groups. These programs should aim at fostering the intellect, ethics, and creativity of young people; promoting initiatives supporting entrepreneurship, professional development, life skills training, and volunteerism. Additionally, building strong organizations of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union and the Ho Chi Minh City Youth Federation is a central task to provide a comprehensive development environment for youth and to strengthen youth solidarity.

Third, inspection and supervision must be emphasized throughout the process of designing and implementing youth mobilization activities. Monitoring should be conducted regularly, with clear priorities and linked to multidimensional feedback mechanisms. It is particularly important to engage youth and the public in social oversight to enhance transparency and foster consensus during policy and movement implementation. Oversight in cyberspace also requires proper attention to detect deviant tendencies, orient public opinion, and safeguard the reputation of the Youth Union in the digital era.

LIST OF PUBLISHED WORKS BY THE AUTHOR RELATED TO THE THESIS

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