

**HO CHI MINH NATIONAL ACADEMY OF POLITICS**

**BUI THI PHUONG MAI**

**QUALITY OF PARTY MEMBERSHIP ADMISSION  
AMONG ETHNIC MINORITY PEOPLE IN THE  
NORTHERN BORDER PROVINCES AT PRESENT ERA**

**SUMMARY OF THE DOCTORAL THESIS  
MAJOR: PARTY BUILDING AND STATE GOVERNANCE**

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## INTRODUCTION

### **1. The urgency of the theme**

During his lifetime, President Ho Chi Minh affirmed: “The Party does not merely need a large number of members; while a greater number is desirable, what is essential is the quality of Party members”. Party members constitute the fundamental elements of party organizations, and the quality of the Party membership plays a decisive role in the success or failure of the Party’s ideals, lines, and policies. Building a contingent of Party members is a crucial and urgent task that contributes to the comprehensive strengthening of the Party and the successful fulfillment of its revolutionary objectives. The effective implementation of Party membership admission serves to supplement the Party’s resources in terms of quantity, structure, and quality, thereby enhancing the leadership capacity and combativeness of Party organizations. The 5th Plenum of the 13th Party Central Committee emphasized: “Priority must be given to the quality of Party member development, with due attention paid to admitting members from among youth union members, trade union members, outstanding association members, and exemplary masses, particularly in disadvantaged areas, mountainous regions, border and island areas, the non-state economic sector, and ethnic minority regions”.

After 40 years of implementing the Renovation policy, the Party has consistently affirmed its leadership role through numerous significant achievements. In order to meet the requirements of industrialization, modernization, and international integration, the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals plays a crucial role in the implementation of the Party’s and the State’s ethnic policies. Following the administrative consolidation, the Northern border region of Vietnam comprises eight provinces - Tuyen Quang, Cao Bang, Dien Bien, Lai Chau, Lao Cai, Lang Son, Son La, and Quang Ninh - which occupy a strategically important position as the “protective shield” of the Fatherland. Fully aware of the importance of border areas, party committees and authorities have adopted various policies and measures aimed at comprehensive development to enhance public awareness, including improving educational attainment, raising people’s vigilance against hostile forces’ schemes, and promoting the roles of party committees, authorities, the Vietnam Fatherland Front, and

socio-political organizations in fulfilling the tasks of socio-economic development and firmly safeguarding the Fatherland.

Thoroughly grasping and implementing the guidelines and resolutions of the Party Central Committee - particularly Resolution No. 21-NQ/TW dated October 25, 2021 of the 13th Central Committee on “strengthening Party building and rectification and the political system” - party committees in the Northern border provinces have attached importance to renewing leadership methods, thereby gradually improving the contingent of ethnic minority Party members in both quantity and quality to meet the requirements of political awareness, ethics, ideals, and practical capacity. Many ethnic minority Party members, after being admitted to the Party, have effectively promoted their role as core leaders and as a bridge between the Party and the people, actively participating in socio-economic development, maintaining security and social order, safeguarding national border sovereignty, and contributing to new rural development in their localities.

However, the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces still reveals several limitations and shortcomings: low educational levels, difficult socio-economic conditions, backward customs and practices, the influence of ethnic and religious extremism, together with a shortage of qualified admission sources, constitute significant barriers to the identification, training, and development of prospective Party members. There remains a tendency to prioritize quantity; in some cases, admission procedures are conducted in a perfunctory manner or, conversely, with excessive caution and rigidity, leading to difficulties in implementation. Party committees in certain localities have encountered challenges in concretizing guidelines, lacking appropriate and synchronized solutions tailored to the specific characteristics of each ethnic group and locality, thereby resulting in limited effectiveness. A portion of ethnic minority Party members, after admission, have yet to fully demonstrate their vanguard role, showing signs of dependence on organizational structures, insufficient self-motivation in learning and self-improvement, and limited capacity to exert influence within their communities. Notably, the implementation of the two-tier local government model has posed additional challenges for Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces. The vast geographical areas, dispersed populations, and difficult

transportation conditions constrain the capacity to monitor, train, and manage admission sources. Moreover, the educational attainment and political awareness of a segment of ethnic minority populations remain limited; local sources for Party admission are scarce, particularly in remote, isolated, and especially disadvantaged areas.

In this context, conducting research to refine both the theoretical and practical foundations and to propose orientations and solutions to improve the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces constitutes an urgent and topical political task. This effort is essential for promoting the vanguard role of Party members and for realizing the objective of enhancing awareness and improving living standards across regions nationwide. Therefore, the doctoral candidate has selected the topic: *“Quality of Party Membership Admission among Ethnic Minority People in the Northern Border Provinces at Present era”* as the subject of the doctoral dissertation in Building up the Party and State Government.

## **2. Research Objectives and Tasks**

### **2.1. Research Objectives**

The dissertation aims to clarify the theoretical and practical issues concerning the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces from 2015 to June 2025. On that basis, it proposes orientations and principal solutions to improve the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces toward 2035, with a vision to 2045.

### **2.2. Research Tasks**

*First*, to review existing studies related to the dissertation topic; to synthesize their theoretical and practical contributions; and to identify the key issues that the dissertation will focus on.

*Second*, to provide a systematic elaboration of the concept of the quality of Party membership admission, and to specify the criteria for assessing the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces.

*Third*, to examine, analyze, and accurately assess the current situation; to identify the causes of achievements and limitations; and to determine the issues arising from the practice of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces from 2015 to June 2025.

*Fourth*, to forecast the factors affecting the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals; to define orientations; and to propose principal solutions to improve the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces toward 2035, with a vision to 2045.

### **3. Research Subjects and Scope**

#### ***3.1. Research Subject***

The dissertation focuses on examining the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces from 2015 to June 2025.

#### ***3.2. Research Scope***

*In terms of spatial scope*, the study is conducted in eight Northern border provinces.

*In terms of temporal scope*, the dissertation analyzes and evaluates the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals from 2015 to June 2025, and proposes orientations and principal solutions with validity toward 2035, with a vision to 2045.

### **4. Theoretical and Practical Foundations and Research Methodology**

#### ***4.1. Theoretical Foundations***

The dissertation is grounded in the theoretical perspectives of Marxism-Leninism, Ho Chi Minh's ideology, and the viewpoints and guidelines of the Communist Party of Vietnam on Party building and rectification, Party members, and the development of the contingent of Party members.

#### ***4.2. Practical Foundations***

The practical basis of the dissertation consists of the realities of Party membership admission and the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces; relevant empirical research works, preliminary and final review reports; and materials collected by the author concerning Party building and the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in these provinces.

#### ***4.3. Research Methodology***

##### ***\* Methodological Approach***

The dissertation is grounded in the methodologies of historical materialism and dialectical materialism, as well as the methodological

framework of Marxism-Leninism, Ho Chi Minh's ideology, and the viewpoints, guidelines, and policies of the Communist Party of Vietnam concerning Party building, the political system, Party membership admission, and the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces.

*\* Specific Methods*

The dissertation employs a combination of interdisciplinary and specialized research methods, with particular emphasis on integrating the following approaches: analysis and synthesis; historical and logical methods; deduction and induction; empirical research and practical review; statistical and comparative methods; sociological surveys; and expert consultation methods.

The historical and logical methods are primarily applied in Chapter 2, which examines the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces.

The methods of synthesis, analysis, and comparison are utilized in Chapter 1 to compile data and review existing literature, synthesizing the findings of research conducted by scholars and research groups, thereby identifying the key issues that the dissertation seeks to address.

The method of practical review is employed in Chapter 3 through the examination of assessments, preliminary and final review reports, and relevant publications concerning ethnic minority Party members and the quality of Party membership admission in the Northern border provinces.

Survey and investigation methods are mainly applied in Chapters 3 and 4 to evaluate achievements, limitations, and their underlying causes in the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces. On this basis, the dissertation proposes principal solutions aimed at improving the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces toward 2035, with a vision to 2045.

## **5. New Contributions of the Dissertation**

The dissertation makes several new contributions as follows:

First, it clarifies a number of key concepts, including: Party membership admission for ethnic minority individuals; Party membership admission work for ethnic minority individuals; and the quality of Party

membership admission for ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces.

Second, the dissertation identifies and elaborates the criteria for assessing the quality of Party membership admission for ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces, including:

*Firstly*, the awareness and responsibility of Party committees, Party organizations, Party members, and the masses toward Party membership admission;

*Secondly*, the evaluation of the implementation process of Party membership admission for ethnic minority individuals;

*Thirdly*, the results of Party membership admission in relation to the leadership capacity and combativeness of Party organizations, as well as local socio-economic development.

Third, the dissertation proposes major solutions aimed at improving the quality of Party membership admission for ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces.

## **6. Theoretical and Practical Significance**

### ***6.1. Theoretical Significance***

The dissertation contributes to clarifying theoretical issues concerning the quality of Party membership admission work among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces.

### ***6.2. Practical Significance***

The dissertation provides additional scientific arguments for party committees at all levels in the Northern border provinces in their leadership and direction of party organizations, with a view to improving the quality of Party membership admission work, particularly the admission of ethnic minority individuals, in the coming period. The research findings may serve the purposes of research, teaching, and learning within the system of provincial-level political schools, centrally governed municipal political schools, and commune-level political training centers. Furthermore, the findings of the dissertation may be used as reference materials for further studies in the field of Building up the Party and State Government.

## **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. Foreign Studies Related to the Dissertation Topic

##### 1.1.1. Studies Related to Party Building

Zhang Weibing (2001), *Encyclopedia of Party Affairs of the Communist Party of China*; Zhu Fuqi (2004), Theoretical Seminar between the Communist Party of Vietnam and the Communist Party of China on “*Building the Ruling Party: Vietnam’s Experience and China’s Experience*”; Shen Vinh Hoa and Wu Guo Dieu (2008), (translated by Nguyen Nhu Diem), “*Respecting Knowledge, Valuing Talent: A Centenary Strategy for National Revitalization*”; Som Nuek - Som Vi Chit (2008), *Renewing the Party’s Leadership Methods over the State in the Lao People’s Democratic Republic at Present*; Liu Zhenhua (2010), *On Strengthening the Party’s Governing Capacity Building*; Lian Xiangdong (2010), *China’s Social Reform and Innovations in Grassroots Party Building*; Yao Yongming (2019), “*Reflections on Strengthening Party Building among Returning Youth*”; Li Liangdong (2020), *Research on Reforming and Improving the Leadership and Governing Methods of the Communist Party of China*; Jiang Hui (2022), *Adherence to and Development of Scientific Socialism in Socialism with Chinese Characteristics*; Tran Anh Tuyet (2023), “*Party Building Work of the Communist Party of China and Implications for Vietnam*”; Nguyen Si Dung (2024), “*Experiences in Enhancing the Governing Capacity of the Communist Party of China: Lessons for Vietnam*”; Tran Tuan (2025), “*Laos’ Sustainable Development under the Leadership of the Lao People’s Revolutionary Party*”.

##### 1.1.2. Studies Related to Party Members and Party Membership Development

*Party membership development in rural lowland areas of the central provinces of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic in the current period* Lit Thi Det Xay Nha Chak (2009); “*The Great Life and Career of President Kaysone Phomvihane, a Great Figure of Laos*” (2010); “*On the Functions, Roles, and Tasks of Grassroots Party Organizations*” (2015); Central Theoretical Council (2015), “*The Role of the Party in Updating the Socio-*

*Economic Model in Cuba and Renewal in Vietnam*"; "Documents of the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China" (2018); Nguyen Xuan Thang (2021), "100 Years of the Communist Party of China: Exchanges of Experience in Party Building and National Development Leadership between the Communist Party of Vietnam and the Communist Party of China"; Khamchan Vongsenbun (2021), "The Objective Necessity of Cultivating Revolutionary Ethics among Cadres and Party Members"; Vansay Saynhavong (2022), "Enhancing Revolutionary Ethics among Cadres and Party Members in the Lao People's Democratic Republic"; Thavisit Vannahuong (2022), "Improving the Qualities and Revolutionary Ethics of Cadres and Party Members as an Objective Necessity"; Thoong-Xa-Lit Mang-No-Mek (2025), "Building a Pure and Strong Lao People's Revolutionary Party"; "The Theoretical System of Governance of the Communist Party of China", Shanghai Publishing House, 2006; "The Hyper-Managed State: Singapore, by Den Son Keiko (Japan), 1993; "The Governance Path of Singapore, by Zheng Weichuan, China Social Sciences Press, 1996; "Politics" by Michiel Parkin (USA), Huaxia Publishing House, 2020; "An Overview of Foreign Political Parties" by Duy Thuy, Jiangsu People's Publishing House, 2001; "How Western Political Parties Govern" by Lin Xunjian, Central Party School Press of the Communist Party of China, 2001; Wolfgang Merkel, Alexander Petring, Christian HanKes and Christoph Egle: Social Democracy in Power: The Capacity to Reform, New York, Routledge; Klaus von Beyme: Parteien im Wandel (Political Parties in Transformation), Darmstadt, 2000; K.Schortheimer & W.Bleek: Foundations of the German Political System, Muenchen, 1999; Socialdemokraterna: Var ideologi (The Swedish Social Democratic Party: Our Ideology), 2007,...

## **1.2. Domestic Studies Related to the Dissertation Topic**

### **1.2.1. Studies Related to Party Building**

Nguyen Ngoc Thinh (2007), "Enhancing the Leadership Capacity and Combativeness of Grassroots Party Organizations and the Quality of Party Members"; Nguyen Viet Phuong (2011), "The Leadership Capacity and Combativeness of Commune-Level Grassroots Party Organizations in the Northwestern Mountainous Provinces of Vietnam: Current Situation and Solutions", "Building a Pure and Strong Communist Party of Vietnam in the

*New Context: Practices and Lessons Learned*” (2013); Tran Van Minh (2014), “*Enhancing the Leadership Capacity and Combativeness of the Party under Conditions of a Ruling Party*”; Cao Anh Do (2016), *Theoretical and Practical Issues on Policies for Training and Fostering Ethnic Minority Cadres for Sustainable Development in the Northwestern Region*; Bui Dinh Phong (2017) with a book “*Some Urgent Issues in Party Building Today in the Light of Ho Chi Minh’s Ideology*”; Nguyen Van Tuan and Duong Quang Dien (co-editors) (2018), *Some Theoretical and Practical Issues on the Leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam*; Vu Thanh Son and Nguyen Van Tuan (co-editors) (2023), *Renewing the Leadership Methods of the Communist Party of Vietnam: Practices and Policy Recommendations*; Nguyen Van Tuan and Phan Van Thanh (co-editors) (2025), *Party Building within the People’s Public Security Forces to Meet the Requirements of National Development in the New Era*.

### ***1.2.2. Studies Related to Party Members and Party Membership Development***

Mach Quang Thang (editor) (2006), *Party Members and Party Membership Development in the Socialist-Oriented Market Economy*; Nguyen Xuan Phuong (2008), *Party Membership Development in the Northern Mountainous Provinces of Vietnam: Current Situation and Solutions*; Duong Trung Y (2012), “*Enhancing the Quality of Commune-Level Party Organizations in the Period of Accelerated Industrialization and Modernization of Agriculture and Rural Areas*”; Quang Tuan (2019), “*Creating Sources for Party Membership Development in Ethnic Minority Areas*”; Nguyen Xuan Thang (2020), “*Promoting the Exemplary Responsibility of Cadres and Party Members and Strengthening Party Building in Terms of Ethics in the New Context*”; Lam Quoc Tuan (2020), “*Building the Party in Terms of Ethics: A Vital Requirement for a Ruling Party*”; Thanh Thuy and Khac Kien (2022), “*Igniting the Flame*” in *Remote Areas: Developing Ethnic Minority Party Members in Especially Difficult Areas*; Le Thu Huong (2023), “*Promoting the Development of Female Ethnic Minority Party Members*”; Thai Nam (2023), “*Addressing Difficulties in Party Membership Development in Remote Areas of Ha Giang Province*”;

Ngo Van Hung (2024), “*Party Membership Development among Ethnic Minority Communities in Nho Quan District, 2020-2025*”; Phan Thi Le Ha (2024), “*Binh Lieu’s Focus on Developing Ethnic Minority Party Members*”; Nguyen Phu Trong (2024), “*Pride and Confidence under the Glorious Flag of the Party, Resolute in Building an Increasingly Prosperous, Civilized, Cultured, and Heroic Vietnam*”.

### **1.3. Overview of Research Findings from Relevant Studies and Issues to be Addressed by the Dissertation**

#### ***1.3.1. Overview of Research Findings from Relevant Studies***

*First*, in terms of theory, the most significant contribution of existing studies lies in providing a theoretical foundation for improving the quality of Party membership admission.

*Second*, in terms of practice, these studies are closely associated with Party members, Party membership admission, and the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces.

*Third*, the reviewed works have effectively applied general theoretical perspectives on Party membership admission to the analysis and resolution of specific issues, in close connection with the characteristics of each locality and region.

#### ***1.3.2. Issues to be Addressed by the Dissertation***

*First*, to conduct research and establish a theoretical foundation for the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces.

*Second*, to examine the current situation of the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces, in close alignment with the theoretical issues clarified in the dissertation and the established evaluation criteria.

*Third*, to forecast influencing factors, determine orientations, and propose a comprehensive, synchronized, and feasible system of solutions to improve the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces from now to 2035, with a vision to 2045.

## **Summary of chapter 1**

The dissertation employs interdisciplinary and general disciplinary research methods to clarify its theoretical foundations, while also synthesizing domestic and foreign studies relevant to the research scope of the topic. On that basis, the dissertation identifies issues that can be inherited or further developed, as well as key focal points requiring in-depth and specific investigation. From various research perspectives and within different specific contexts, both domestic and international scholars have examined, interpreted, analyzed, and elucidated a wide range of issues - from fundamental theoretical questions to practical matters concerning Party members, Party membership admission, and the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces. These studies have provided analyses and evaluations of strengths and limitations, drawn valuable lessons, and proposed systems of feasible solutions aimed at improving the quality of work in this field. Many of these solutions are systematic, practicable, and highly applicable in practice.

At the same time, the dissertation identifies existing research gaps, particularly regarding Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces, as well as the quality of such admission and the role of ethnic minority Party members in this region. A review of both international and domestic studies indicates that no prior research has comprehensively addressed these issues or directly examined the specific scope and content of the present dissertation. Therefore, the dissertation represents a novel research endeavor with significant theoretical and practical value for Party building. It contributes to opening new directions for addressing the enhancement of the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces - localities characterized by a high proportion of ethnic minority populations.

## Chapter 2

# THE QUALITY OF PARTY MEMBERSHIP ADMISSION AMONG ETHNIC MINORITY INDIVIDUALS IN THE NORTHERN BORDER PROVINCES - THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL ISSUES

## 2.1. The Northern Border Provinces and Party Membership Admission among Ethnic Minority Individuals in the Northern Border Provinces

### *2.1.1. The Northern Border Provinces and Their Provincial Party in the Northern Border Provinces*

#### *2.1.1.1. An Overview of the Northern Border Provinces*

The Northern border provinces - following administrative consolidation - including Dien Bien, Son La, Lai Chau, Lao Cai, Tuyen Quang, Cao Bang, Lang Son, and Quang Ninh, occupy a position of particular strategic importance for the country. They serve both as a “protective shield” safeguarding national territorial sovereignty and as a bridge for economic, cultural, and external exchanges between Vietnam and the region and the world.

#### *2.1.1.2. An Overview of the Provincial Party Organizations in the Northern Border Provinces*

The functions, tasks, and organizational structures of the provincial Party organizations in the Northern border provinces are stipulated in the Party Charter and implemented in accordance with *Regulation No. 305-QĐ/TW dated June 13, 2025, of the Politburo on the functions, tasks, and organizational structures of provincial and municipal Party committees under the Central Committee*. Accordingly, the provincial Party organizations in the Northern border provinces perform four main functions and three principal tasks.

#### *2.1.1.3. The System of Grassroots Party Organizations in the Northern Border Provinces*

##### *\* Organizational Structure of Grassroots Party Organizations*

Grassroots Party organizations are those directly subordinate to higher-level Party committees at the grassroots level. They include grassroots Party

cells and grassroots Party committees, operating under commune, ward, and special zone Party committees, as well as higher-level Party committees.

*\* Functions and Tasks of Grassroots Party Organizations*

According to the Charter of the Communist Party of Vietnam (adopted at the 11th National Congress), grassroots Party organizations perform *two main functions and five principal tasks*.

*\* Role of Grassroots Party Organizations in the Northern Border Provinces*

They constitute the foundational base of the Party.

They serve as the political nucleus at the grassroots level.

**2.1.2. Party Membership Admission among Ethnic Minority Individuals in the Northern Border Provinces**

*2.1.2.1. The Concept of Ethnic Minority Individuals in the Border Provinces*

*\* Ethnic Minority Individuals*

*Ethnic minority* individuals are defined in Clause 2, Article 4 of Decree No. 05/2011/NĐ-CP on ethnic affairs as follows: ethnic minorities are those ethnic groups whose population is smaller than that of the majority ethnic group within the territory of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam; very small ethnic groups are those with a population of fewer than 10,000 people.

*\* Ethnic Minority Individuals in the Northern Border Provinces*

*Ethnic minority individuals in the border provinces* are understood as communities belonging to ethnic groups other than the Kinh (the majority ethnic group), primarily residing in the Northern border provinces of Vietnam, which share borders with China and Laos. They possess distinctive characteristics in terms of language, culture, customs, and practices, and typically inhabit remote and mountainous areas with harsh natural conditions.

*2.1.2.2. Concepts, Contents, and Principles of Party Membership Admission among Ethnic Minority Individuals*

- *Concept: Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces encompasses the entirety of activities undertaken by Party committees, Party organizations, and Party members - primarily competent Party organizations - from stages of*

*propaganda, education, and mobilization, to the creation of sources, training, testing, and selection, to identify and cultivate outstanding ethnic minority individuals for admission into the Party in accordance with established procedures and regulations. This process aims to enhance both the quantity and quality of Party members, thereby strengthening and improving the leadership capacity and combativeness of the Party, in response to the political tasks of the period of accelerated industrialization, modernization, and international integration in the Northern border provinces.*

*- Contents of Party Membership Admission among Ethnic Minority Individuals*

*First*, determining guidelines, viewpoints, orientations, and leadership measures for Party membership admission, with particular emphasis on ethnic minority individuals; *Second*, thoroughly grasping, formulating programs and plans, and organizing the implementation of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals; *Third*, strictly complying with regulations on procedures and processes in Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals; *Fourth*, strengthening inspection, supervision, preliminary reviews, final reviews, and experience-drawing in the implementation process of Party membership admission.

*\* Principles and Requirements Principles*

*- Nguyên tắc:* Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces must be placed under the direct leadership of Party committees, ensuring strict adherence to the fundamental principles of the Party: voluntariness and self-consciousness; rigor, compliance with standards, and procedural correctness; a harmonious combination between quantitative development and qualitative improvement; and close linkage with the consolidation of Party cells and the strengthening of grassroots Party organizations. The foremost requirement is to enhance the awareness and responsibility of Party committees and Party cells regarding the political, ideological, and strategic significance of admitting Party membership to ethnic minority individuals.

## **2.2. Concepts, Influencing Factors, and Criteria for Assessing the Quality of Party Membership Admission among Ethnic Minority Individuals in the Northern Border Provinces**

### ***2.2.1. The Concept of the Quality of Party Membership Admission***

*The quality of Party membership admission* among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces is understood as the aggregate of factors constituting the value of Party membership admission work. It reflects the proactiveness and creativity of relevant actors and forces in implementing the contents and procedures of Party membership admission, and is manifested in the quantity, structure, qualities, capacities, and working style of ethnic minority Party members, as well as in the leadership capacity and combativeness of Party organizations within the provincial Party organizations of the Northern border provinces.

### ***2.2.2. Factors Affecting the Quality of Party Membership Admission among Ethnic Minority Individuals in the Northern Border Provinces***

*First*, the attention to leadership and direction, as well as the awareness and responsibility of Party committees and organizations at all levels, constitute decisive factors in the quality and effectiveness of Party membership admission. *Second*, the correctness and scientific soundness of programs and plans formulated by Party committees serve as determining factors directly affecting the quality and effectiveness of Party membership admission. *Third*, the exemplary role of cadres and Party members, especially ethnic minority cadres and Party members, plays a determinative role in ensuring the quality of Party membership admission. *Fourth*, the voluntariness and self-consciousness of outstanding ethnic minority individuals have a direct and decisive impact on the quality of Party membership admission in the Northern border provinces. *Fifth*, the socio-economic conditions of the population in the Northern border provinces represent an objective factor that directly conditions the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in these localities.

### ***2.2.3. Criteria for Assessing the Quality of Party Membership Admission among Ethnic Minority Individuals in the Northern Border Provinces***

*First, the awareness and responsibility of Party committees, Party organizations, Party members, and the masses toward Party membership admission.*

*Second, the evaluation of the implementation process of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals.*

*Firstly, assessing the determination of guidelines, viewpoints, orientations, and leadership measures for Party membership admission.*

*Secondly, assessing the dissemination, formulation of programs and plans, and organization of implementation of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals.*

*Thirdly, assessing the strict compliance with regulations on procedures and processes in Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals. This includes: (1) conditions for applicants seeking Party membership; (2) admission procedures (including re-admission); (3) inspection and supervision during the implementation process; and (4) preliminary and final reviews, as well as experience-drawing in the course of implementation.*

*Third, the results of Party membership admission in relation to the leadership capacity and combativeness of Party organizations, as well as local socio-economic development.*

### **Summary of chapter 2**

The quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals stems from objective and comprehensive requirements in both theoretical and practical dimensions of Party building. The specification of criteria for assessing the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals represents a profound manifestation of the Party's policy of great national unity, ensuring the Party's comprehensive leadership in ethnic minority areas - regions that require political cores with sufficient capacity, credibility, and political steadfastness to concretize the Party's lines and policies in the life of the people.

From a practical perspective, improving the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals is not only a requirement of Party development work but also a prerequisite for consolidating the grassroots political system and strengthening the people's trust in the Party and the State. In the context of accelerating industrialization, modernization, and international integration, ethnic minority areas remain strategically important in terms of politics, economy, national defense, and security. Therefore, the admission of ethnic minority Party members who possess sound qualities, capabilities, political steadfastness, and social prestige constitutes a strategic requirement, contributing to ensuring unity in will and action throughout the political system.

The quality of the contingent of ethnic minority Party members serves as a key indicator reflecting the leadership capacity and combativeness of grassroots Party organizations in mountainous and border areas. Accordingly, improving the quality of this work must be regarded as a regular, long-term, and systematic task, closely associated with the strategy for human resource development in ethnic minority regions, with a view to building a truly pure and strong Party from the grassroots level, capable of meeting the requirements for Vietnam's advancement into a new era.

### **Chapter 3**

## **THE QUALITY OF PARTY MEMBERSHIP ADMISSION AMONG ETHNIC MINORITY INDIVIDUALS IN THE NORTHERN BORDER PROVINCES AT PRESENT - CURRENT SITUATION AND EMERGING ISSUES**

### **3.1. The Current Situation of the Quality of Party Membership Admission among Ethnic Minority Individuals in the Northern Border Provinces**

#### ***3.1.1. Achievements***

*First, the awareness and responsibility of Party committees, Party organizations, Party members, and outstanding masses regarding Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals have been gradually improved.*

*Second, the outcomes of the implementation process of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces have shown steady improvement.*

*Third, the results of Party membership admission have been increasingly associated with the enhancement of leadership capacity and combativeness of Party organizations, as well as with local socio-economic development.*

### **3.1.2. Limitations**

*First, the awareness and responsibility of Party committees, Party organizations, Party members, and outstanding masses regarding Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals remain incomplete and insufficient.*

*Second, the implementation process of Party membership admission still reveals shortcomings and deficiencies.*

*Third, the outcomes of Party membership admission have not yet been commensurate with the requirements of enhancing the leadership capacity and combativeness of Party committees and Party organizations.*

## **3.2. Causes and Emerging Issues**

### **3.2.1. Causes of Achievements**

*First, the contingent of ethnic minority Party members admitted from 2015 to June 2025 in the Northern border provinces has witnessed notable improvements in structure, quality, and operational effectiveness, reflecting an innovation trend in Party building work in alignment with the characteristics of ethnic minority regions and the requirements of international integration.*

*Second, in terms of political awareness and theoretical understanding, the current contingent of ethnic minority Party members demonstrates clear maturation.*

*Third, the capacity to perform assigned tasks among ethnic minority Party members has also achieved significant progress.*

*Fourth, regarding political qualities, morality, and lifestyle, ethnic minority Party members continue to uphold traditions of close ties with the people, exemplary conduct, consistency between words and actions,*

preservation of their ethnic cultural values, and serve as exemplary models within their communities.

*Fifth*, the positive transformation of the ethnic minority Party membership is not merely superficial but substantively reflects the depth of a process of “restructuring” grassroots political resources, in which Party organizations serve as the nucleus of unity and action.

*Sixth*, the quality of ethnic minority Party members is not solely reflected in their number or positions held, but also in their capacity to inspire and enhance the political awareness of their fellow ethnic communities - an attribute bearing profound humanistic value.

### ***3.2.2. Causes of Limitations***

*First*, difficult socio-economic conditions and inadequate essential infrastructure constitute the fundamental cause, as they compel all requirements of Party membership admission to be “lowered” compared to general standards. *Second*, the influence of outdated customs and practices, along with political hesitation, makes the Party membership admission process more circuitous and resource-intensive. *Third*, the lack of coordination and linkage among socio-political organizations, local authorities, and Party organizations results in what should be a multi-actor process of source development becoming a burden borne primarily by individual Party cells. *Fourth*, the lack of synchrony in policies supporting Party membership admission and Party organization building in ethnic minority areas places grassroots levels in a situation of constant improvisation and self-reliance. *Fifth*, the limited capacity of cadres directly responsible for Party membership admission at the grassroots level hinders the effective translation of Party guidelines into practices appropriate to local cultural contexts.

### ***3.2.3. Emerging Issues***

*First*, the specific difficulties and challenges characteristic of the Northern border regions are directly impacting the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals.

*Second*, the phenomenon of “weak engagement with the Youth Union and diminished commitment to the Party” among a segment of ethnic minority masses is reducing the pool for Party membership development.

*Third*, existing mechanisms, policies, and inspection and supervision practices concerning Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals still exhibit shortcomings, affecting both the quality and sustainability of achieved outcomes.

*In sum*, improving the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces requires a comprehensive identification of specific difficulties and challenges; the mitigation of the phenomenon of declining engagement with mass organizations and the Party among the population; and the continued refinement of institutional frameworks, policies, and modes of implementation. Only through the synchronous resolution of these issues can Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals effectively contribute to consolidating a strong grassroots political system, meeting the requirements of sustainable development and the firm protection of national border sovereignty.

### **Summary of chapter 3**

The work of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern mountainous and border provinces during the period 2015-2025 has witnessed notable progress in terms of awareness, policy orientation, modes of implementation, and achieved outcomes. Party committees at all levels have paid due attention to leadership and direction, formulated specific plans, and focused on identifying, nurturing, and creating sources of outstanding masses, thereby contributing to the consolidation of grassroots Party organizations, strengthening the combativeness of the grassroots political system, and forming a contingent of successor cadres from ethnic minority groups. However, the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces still exhibits certain limitations. In some localities, Party committees have not thoroughly grasped directives, with implementation at times being formalistic and target-driven; the processes of nurturing and testing prospective members occasionally take on a campaign-like character; inspection and supervision remain irregular; and preliminary and final reviews lack coherence and substantive depth. A segment of Party committees, cadres, and Party members has yet to fully recognize the

strategic significance of admitting ethnic minority individuals into the Party. Moreover, the limited capacity of grassroots cadres, along with socio-economic conditions and the level of public awareness in disadvantaged areas, continues to affect the quality of the admission pool.

The work of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals requires Party committees to further renew their awareness, refine institutional mechanisms and policies, and innovate organizational methods. It is necessary to ensure a harmonious balance between quantity and quality, and between the Party's general standards and the specific characteristics of ethnic minority regions, thereby providing a foundation for proposing orientations and solutions in the subsequent chapter.

## **Chapter 4**

### **ORIENTATIONS AND SOLUTIONS FOR IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF PARTY MEMBERSHIP ADMISSION AMONG ETHNIC MINORITY INDIVIDUALS IN THE NORTHERN BORDER PROVINCES TOWARD 2035, WITH A VISION TO 2045**

#### **4.1. Forecasting Influencing Factors and Orientations for Improving the Quality of Party Membership Admission among Ethnic Minority Individuals in the Northern Border Provinces toward 2035, with a Vision to 2045**

##### ***4.1.1. Forecasting Influencing Factors***

###### ***4.1.1.1. Favorable Factors***

*First*, favorable conditions from both external and internal environments will continue to provide a strong impetus for Party building and Party membership admission in ethnic minority areas, thereby contributing to the consolidation of the grassroots political system, strengthening the great national unity bloc, and safeguarding national border sovereignty. *Second*, at the international level, the trend of globalization and deep integration will remain dominant, compelling countries, including Vietnam, to adjust their development strategies toward comprehensiveness and sustainability. *Third*, entering a new development era - the era of Industry 4.0 - the process of national digital transformation is creating

breakthroughs in modes of information access, political education, and governance methods. *Fourth*, improvements in infrastructure, including electricity, transportation, schools, and healthcare facilities, along with the synchronous development of cultural and educational institutions, have contributed to narrowing regional disparities. *Fifth*, from international environmental factors to domestic conditions and realities in the border provinces, Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals is facing significant opportunities for qualitative transformation.

#### *4.1.1.2. Challenging Factors*

*First*, the unpredictable fluctuations of the global geopolitical, economic, and security environment. *Second*, within the Asia-Pacific region, there is increasing competition for resources and labor markets. *Third*, the challenges posed by the new development era, Industry 4.0, and comprehensive digital transformation. *Fourth*, challenges arising from internal factors within ethnic minority communities in the Northern border provinces.

#### *4.1.2. Orientations*

*First*, to develop and create sources of Party members in close association with strategies for improving educational attainment and training young ethnic minority human resources. *Second*, to enhance political awareness and motivation for Party membership through digital political communication and context-appropriate models of political education. *Third*, to integrate Party membership development with socio-economic development programs, poverty reduction, and the preservation of ethnic cultural identity. *Fourth*, to strengthen the role of core ethnic minority Party members in identifying, nurturing, and introducing prospective candidates for Party admission. *Fifth*, to proactively develop flexible Party organizational models adaptable to the specific conditions of border, remote, and isolated areas.

### **4.2. Solutions for Improving the Quality of Party Membership Admission among Ethnic Minority Individuals in the Northern Border Provinces toward 2035, with a Vision to 2045**

*First*, to create a strong transformation in awareness and responsibility among organizations and relevant forces regarding the improvement of the

quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces by 2035. *Second*, to strengthen propaganda and mobilization efforts to help ethnic minority masses develop correct motivations for joining the Party. *Third*, to effectively carry out the work of creating sources for Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals. *Fourth*, for Party committees to enhance training and capacity-building for Party cell secretaries and committee members in Party membership affairs. *Fifth*, to promote emulation movements within socio-political organizations at the grassroots level to identify and cultivate sources for Party admission. *Sixth*, to ensure the strict and full implementation of procedures and processes in Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals. *Seventh*, to strengthen the inspection and supervision of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces.

#### **Summary of chapter 4**

Chapter 4 focuses on forecasting influencing factors, encompassing both positive and negative impacts. All the aforementioned factors will directly or indirectly affect the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces in the coming period. On the basis of these forecasts, identifying appropriate objectives and orientations for improving the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces is of paramount importance. Accordingly, the study proposes groups of solutions aimed at enhancing the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals, thereby contributing to the building and consolidation of strong grassroots Party organizations and political systems, ensuring stability and sustainable development in the Northern border provinces in the new period.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Through a systematic study of both theoretical and practical dimensions, the dissertation affirms that the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces is a matter of long-term strategic significance for consolidating the grassroots political system, strengthening the leadership capacity and

combativeness of Party organizations, and closely linking with the tasks of socio-economic development, national defense, security, and the safeguarding of national border sovereignty.

The dissertation has clarified the theoretical foundations of the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals, identifying evaluation criteria that go beyond mere quantitative indicators or procedural compliance, emphasizing the core elements of motivation, instead of striving, political steadfastness, practical competence, and the role of Party members as political nuclei after admission. On that basis, the dissertation provides an in-depth analysis of the characteristics, context, and specific factors affecting Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals in the Northern border provinces—an area characterized by difficult socio-economic conditions, cultural, ethnic, and religious diversity, and strong exposure to non-traditional security challenges. The dissertation also identifies limitations and shortcomings, including uneven awareness among some Party committees; a tendency to prioritize quantity over quality; an unsustainable pool of candidates for Party development; methods of mobilization and training that are not fully aligned with ethnic minority characteristics; and insufficient depth in coordination, inspection, and supervision mechanisms. If not promptly addressed, these limitations will directly affect the Party's leadership role at the grassroots level in border areas.

The dissertation proposes seven comprehensive groups of solutions to improve the quality of Party membership admission among ethnic minority individuals. In the context of globalization, international integration, the rapid development of the market economy, and ongoing digital transformation, building a contingent of ethnic minority Party members with firm political steadfastness, sound moral qualities, strong capacity for mass mobilization, and deep understanding of ethnic customs and cultures constitutes a long-term strategic task. This is not only a requirement of Party building but also a key factor in ensuring political stability, strengthening national unity, safeguarding border sovereignty, and reinforcing the people's trust in the Party and the regime. It contributes to building the Party as truly “moral and civilized,” ensuring that it remains worthy of its comprehensive leadership role in the revolutionary cause of the Vietnamese nation in the new era.

## **LIST OF PUBLISHED WORKS BY THE AUTHOR RELATED TO THE THESIS**

1. Bui Thi Phuong Mai (2023), “Promoting the Development of Candidate Sources for the Admission of Ethnic Minority Party Members in Lao Cai Province”, *Political Theory Journal*, Special Issue, November.
2. Bui Thi Phuong Mai (2024), “Several Factors Affecting the Admission of Ethnic Minority Party Members in Border Commune Party Organizations of Bat Xat District, Lao Cai Province”, *Political Theory Journal*, Special Issue.
3. Bui Thi Phuong Mai (2025), “Promoting the Role of Party Members in the New Period”, *Political Theory Journal*, Special Issue.