

HO CHI MINH NATIONAL ACADEMY OF POLITICS

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**PROTECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF
VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING IN VIETNAM**

**ABSTRACT OF DOCTORAL
DISSERTATION IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN
RIGHTS LAW
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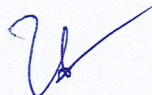
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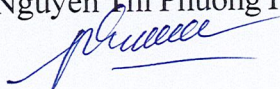
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INTRODUCTION

1. The Urgency of the Topic

Human trafficking is a serious violation of human rights and human dignity; it is a transnational phenomenon that is becoming increasingly complex under the influence of globalization, migration, and the development of the digital space. Victims are not only deprived of their freedom and personal safety but also suffer profound physical and psychological harm, as well as damage to their dignity, and face the risk of revictimization.

In this context, Vietnam is one of the hotspots for human trafficking in Southeast Asia. Based on judicial proceedings from 2011 to 2020, People's Courts at all levels have adjudicated 1,106 human trafficking cases, including 403 cases of child trafficking involving 2,919 defendants; according to statistics from the Ministry of Public Security from 2010 to June 2021, nearly 7,500 victims were trafficked to Cambodia, Laos, and China. Victims of human trafficking are individuals whose human rights have been severely violated; therefore, they need to receive substantive protection of their human rights.

Vietnam has established a multi-tiered legal framework for preventing and combating human trafficking and protecting victims, most recently through the 2024 Law on Preventing and Combating Human Trafficking, as well as by acceding to numerous international treaties. However, there remains a gap between regulations and their implementation in practice; domestic research has primarily focused on the criminal justice perspective, lacking a systematic study from a human rights perspective. Therefore, the doctoral candidate has chosen the topic "Protecting the Human Rights of Victims of Trafficking in Vietnam."

2. Research Objectives and Tasks

2.1 Research Objectives

This dissertation aims to develop a theoretical framework and provide an analysis and systematization of the current practices regarding the protection of human rights for victims of human trafficking in Vietnam, clarifying the

gaps in understanding and legislation regarding this issue in Vietnam. Through this, the dissertation proposes solutions to enhance the effectiveness of protecting the human rights of victims of human trafficking in Vietnam.

2.2 Research Objectives

This dissertation systematizes and develops a theoretical framework regarding the human rights of victims of human trafficking; analyzes and evaluates current legal provisions, identifying limitations and shortcomings; assesses the practical application of the law; and proposes perspectives and solutions to improve the law and enhance the effectiveness of protecting the human rights of victims of human trafficking.

3. Research Subjects and Scope

3.1 Research Subjects

Issues related to theory, law, practice, perspectives, and solutions regarding the protection of the human rights of victims of human trafficking in Vietnam.

3.2 Scope of the Study

Content: theoretical, legal, practical, and policy perspectives and solutions regarding the protection of the human rights of victims of human trafficking. Timeframe: from 2012 to 2025. Geographic scope of the study on the practical application of the law: nationwide.

4. Methodology and Research Methods

4.1 Methodology

The dissertation is based on the Marxist-Leninist methodology and Ho Chi Minh's thoughts on human rights, combining three theories as its methodological foundation: Kant's theory of human dignity in moral philosophy, the intersectional feminist theory pioneered by Kimberlé Crenshaw, and legal positivism.

4.2 Research Methods

The dissertation combines legal theory, comparative analysis, case study, and

semi-structured in-depth interviews. Primary data from in-depth interviews with stakeholders is used to address the limitations of statistical data and to deepen the analysis of practical realities.

4.3 Limitations of the Study

The main limitation relates to statistical data sources that have not been fully systematized or made publicly available; the dissertation addresses this by using primary data from in-depth interviews combined with specific case studies drawn from court rulings.

5. New Contributions of the Dissertation

First, the dissertation establishes a theoretical framework for a consistent approach to protecting the human rights of victims of human trafficking, grounded in human rights principles and centered on the victim.

Second, the dissertation proposes and elaborates on the concept of protecting the human rights of victims of human trafficking in a manner suited to the Vietnamese context, identifying victims as rights-holders with corresponding obligations on the part of the State, and clarifying the interdisciplinary relationship between laws on preventing and combating human trafficking and related areas of law.

Third, the dissertation develops an analytical framework to assess the compatibility of Vietnamese law with international standards, best practices, and implementation realities, thereby promoting a shift in mindset from a criminal justice approach to a rights-based approach.

Fourth, the dissertation analyzes and evaluates the current state of laws and practices regarding the protection of human rights for victims of domestic violence in Vietnam.

Fifth, the dissertation proposes solutions to improve the law and enhance the effectiveness of protecting the human rights of victims of domestic violence from the perspective of human rights law.

6. Theoretical and Practical Significance of the Dissertation Topic

6.1 Theoretical Significance

The dissertation contributes to enriching the theoretical framework on the protection of human rights for victims of human trafficking, overcoming the traditional approach that views victims solely as “victims” in criminal proceedings, and shaping an interdisciplinary perspective on the legal framework for victim protection.

6.2 Practical Significance

The dissertation places the individual at the center of the protection process, provides an analytical framework for assessing the compatibility of Vietnamese law with international standards, serves as a scientific basis for improving policies and laws, and promotes a shared understanding of human rights, justice, and humanity.

7. Structure of the Dissertation

In addition to the introduction, conclusion, appendices, and list of published works, the dissertation consists of 4 chapters (15 sections).

Chapter 1. OVERVIEW OF RELATED RESEARCH ON THE THESIS TOPIC

1.1 Research on Topics Related to the Dissertation

The literature is reviewed under four themes (victims’ human rights; protection of the human rights of victims of human trafficking; legislation and legal reform; and practical protection measures), distinguishing between domestic and international sources.

1.1.1 Status of Domestic Research

1.1.1.1 Group of theoretical studies on the rights of victims of human trafficking

In Vietnam, the *human* rights of victims are typically approached from a criminal justice perspective, as exemplified by: the monograph **Protecting Children’s Human Rights through Criminal Law** by Vu Thi Phuong (2024); and the monograph **Victimology: Some Theoretical and Practical Issues**

by Trần Quang Tiệp (2024); the article “*Victims of Crime*” by Nguyễn Khắc Hải (2018); the doctoral dissertation **The Rights of Victims in Vietnamese Criminal Proceedings** by Đinh Thị Mai (2014); the article **Human Rights in the Criminal Justice System** by Nguyễn Khắc Hải (2021); and the monograph **Ensuring the Rights of Victims and Certain Vulnerable Groups in the Criminal Justice System** by Lê Lan Chi (2022).

1.1.1.2 Group of theoretical research materials on the protection of the rights of victims of human trafficking

This group includes: the publication **Human Rights and the Protection and Guarantee of Human Rights under the 2013 Constitution** by Nguyễn Đăng Dung (2015); the article **Protecting Human Rights in Fair and Rigorous Criminal Proceedings** by Lê Huỳnh Tấn Duy (2024); studies on the protection of human rights through criminal law by Nguyen Thi Binh (2021) and Vu Thi Phuong (2019); the article “*Mechanisms for Protecting and Promoting Human Rights and Some Recommendations*” by Nguyen Linh Giang (2016); a study on the rights of crime victims by Trần Hữu Tráng (2011); the article “*Laws on Victim Protection: Lessons for Vietnam*” by Bùi Ngọc Lan (2024).

1.1.1.3 A group of research materials on the law and the improvement of laws regarding the protection of human rights

Notable works include: Le Thi Diem Hang (2022), “*Protection of Human Rights for Certain Vulnerable Groups—International Standards and Domestic Implementation in the Vietnamese Criminal Code*”; Le Hong Hai (2020), “*Improving Laws on Ensuring Human Rights and Citizens’ Rights*”; the article “*Protection of Victims of Crime: A Comparative Study of Vietnamese Law and International Legal Standards*” by Tran Thi Hong Le and Pham Quynh Quyen (2021); Article “*Ensuring the Rights of Crime Victims in Vietnam: The Case of Victims of Trafficking*” by Nguyễn Hoàng Tuệ Phương (2017);

article “*Ensuring the Rights of Child Victims in Human Trafficking Cases*” by Trần Hữu Tráng (2021); article “*Ensuring Justice for Child Victims in Human Trafficking Cases: A Perspective from the United Kingdom*” by Hoàng Thị Bích Ngọc (2021).

1.1.1.4 A collection of research papers on the practical protection of the rights of victims of human trafficking

This group includes: the article “*Protecting Victims During the Trial of Human Trafficking Cases (Parts 1 and 2)*” by Phạm Minh Tuyen (2020); the article “*Victims’ Rights in Human Trafficking Cases*” by Phùng Ngọc Minh (2019), which surveyed 72 cases; the article “*The Right of Victims in Vietnam*” by Đinh Thị Mai (2016); the study “*Current Legal Mechanisms for Preventing and Combating Human Trafficking in Vietnam*” by Đỗ Thị Lý Quỳnh (2020) and “*Indonesian and Malaysian Laws on Protecting the Rights of Victims of Human Trafficking —Lessons for Vietnam*” by Bui Ngọc Lan (2024); the research project “*Ensuring the Rights of Victims of Human Trafficking under ASEAN Law and Implementation Practices in Vietnam,*” led by Vu Ngọc Dương.

1.1.2 Status of Foreign Research

1.1.2.1 A collection of theoretical research materials on the rights of victims of human trafficking

Overseas research approaches are diverse, notably including: the book **The Right to Have Rights: Citizenship, Humanity, and International Law** by Alison Kesby (2012); the work **Victims: Needs, Rights** by Sandra Walklate (2015); the work **A Human Rights-Based Approach to Trafficking in Human Beings in Theory and Practice** by Conny Rijken and

Dagmar Koster (2008); **Rights for Victims of Crime: Rebalancing Justice** by Irvin Waller (2011); the article “*Victims’ Rights Are Human Rights: The Importance of Recognizing Victims as Persons*” by Jo-Anne Wemmers (2012); the book **Trafficking in Human Beings for Criminal Exploitation from the Perspective of Victims and Professionals** by Carolina Villacampa (2019), the book chapter **Dignity and Human Trafficking Policy in Vietnam: Deconstructing Gender** by Duong Kim Anh and Rachel Simon-Kumar (2017).

1.1.2.2 A collection of theoretical research on the protection of the rights of trafficking victims

This group includes: the UNODC (1999) **Handbook on Justice for Victims**; the volume **Human Trafficking: Interdisciplinary Perspectives**, edited by Mary C. Burke (2022); the article **Empowering Victims of Human Trafficking: the Role of Assistance, Protection, and Re-Integration Programs** by Alline Pedra Jorge-Birol (2011); the article **Human Trafficking and Modern-Day Slavery: An Affront to Human Dignity** by Fiona McLeod (2014); the article “*Global Human Trafficking Unmasked: A Feminist Rights-Based Approach*

by Navid Pourmokhtari (2015)...

1.1.2.3 A collection of research materials on the law and the improvement of legal frameworks for protecting the human rights of victims of trafficking

Notable works include those by: Trinh Tien Viet and Tran Thi Hong Le (2018) in the article “*Protection of Constitutional Rights to Liberty and Security of Person in the 2015 Penal Code of Vietnam*”; Naparat Kranrattanasuit (2014) in the book **Challenges of National Responses of ASEAN Member States to Human Trafficking: Case Studies of Cambodia, Thailand, and Vietnam**; Le Thi Nga (2016) in the article “*Rights of Child Victims and Child Witnesses in Criminal Justice in Vietnam*”...

1.1.2.4 A collection of research papers on practices for protecting the rights of victims of human trafficking

This group includes: Lorna McGregor (2017), **The Right to a Remedy and Reparation for Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings**; The quantitative study **Human Trafficking in Southeast Asia: Results from a Household Survey in Vietnam** by Ngan Dinh, Conor Hughes, James Hughes, and Margaret Maurer-Fazio (2019); Oanh Nguyen, Toan Quang Le, and Hai Thanh Luong (2020) in the article “*Police Failure in Identifying Victims of Human*

trafficking for sexual exploitation: An empirical study in Vietnam...

1.2 Review of the research landscape related to the dissertation

1.2.1 Issues that have been studied and limitations

These studies have provided a knowledge base on concepts, victim-centered approaches, and certain shortcomings in the law and practice. However, research in Vietnam has primarily focused on the criminal justice system; it has not thoroughly analyzed the relationship between human dignity and the substance of each right, nor has it comprehensively assessed the compatibility of Vietnamese law with international standards in relation to the actual needs of victims.

1.2.2 Issues requiring further research within the scope of this

The dissertation identifies the need to develop a systematic theoretical framework based on a human rights-based approach; to comprehensively assess the current state of the law and practice; and to propose integrated, victim-centered solutions.

1.3 Issues requiring further research, hypotheses, and research questions

1.3.1 Issues requiring further research

The human rights of victims of trafficking in Vietnam, viewed from a human rights perspective, have not yet become a major trend in research, legislative thinking, and the application of the law.

1.3.2 Research Hypotheses

Although the protection of the human rights of victims of trafficking has been established within the legal framework, shortcomings still exist in regulations and practice, with the root cause stemming from a criminal justice approach rather than a rights-based approach.

1.3.3 Research Questions

How has Vietnam's legal system and enforcement practice protected the human rights of victims of human trafficking, and in what ways should it be improved to ensure a human rights-based approach?

Chapter 2. THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS, INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS, AND THE LAWS OF SELECT COUNTRIES ON THE PROTECTION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING

2.1 Conceptual Framework for the Protection of the Human Rights of Victims of Trafficking

2.1.1 The Concept of Human Trafficking

This dissertation defines human trafficking as *an act that violates another person's dignity by treating them as a commodity to be bought, sold, or exchanged for illicit gain.*

2.1.2 The Concept of Victims of Human Trafficking

This dissertation defines a victim of human trafficking as *an individual whose human dignity and human rights have been violated because they have been placed in a position akin to that of a commodity to be bought, sold, or exchanged for illicit gain.*

2.1.3 The Concept of Human Rights of Victims of Human Trafficking The human rights of victims of human trafficking constitute *a system of legal safeguards arising from human dignity, inherent natural needs, and interests, which are recognized to protect and restore the dignity of individuals harmed by human trafficking.*

2.1.4 The concept of protecting the human rights of victims of human trafficking

Based on a rights-based approach, when empowering a subject, a corresponding obligation to protect arises—first and foremost on the part of the State. This dissertation defines the protection of human rights for victims of human trafficking as

the process of enacting and enforcing legal provisions to address human trafficking, supporting victims in preventing and combating violations or threats to their human rights, thereby ensuring the integrity of the dignity and human rights of victims of human trafficking.

2.2 Characteristics and Significance of Human Rights and the Protection of Human Rights for Victims of Trafficking

2.2.1 Characteristics and Significance of the Human Rights of Victims of Trafficking

The human rights of victims are universal, tied to their dignity and specific vulnerabilities, and are not contingent upon their obligation to cooperate in legal proceedings or their immigration status.

2.2.2 Characteristics and Significance of the Protection of Human Rights for Victims of Trafficking

Protection efforts have legal, social, and humanitarian significance, aimed at restoring the victims' dignity and autonomy rather than merely providing humanitarian relief.

2.3 The scope of human rights protection for victims of human trafficking

2.3.1 Human rights of victims of human trafficking

2.3.1.1 Substantive Rights

These include the right to life, the right to liberty and personal security, and the right not to be subjected to slavery or servitude. These are the rights directly violated by the act of human trafficking.

2.3.1.2 Procedural rights

These include the right to be identified as a victim, the right to protection, the right to information, the right not to be punished, the right to compensation, the right to support, the right to residence, and the right to return home. These rights ensure the mechanisms for enforcing and remedying the substantive rights.

2.3.2 Methods of Protecting the Human Rights of Victims of Trafficking

2.3.2.1 The Concept of Protection Mechanisms

Protection mechanisms are a system of organized, purposeful, and clearly defined methods implemented by specific entities; they are not merely individual measures.

2.3.2.2 Content of Protection Mechanisms

The content of protection mechanisms includes methods for prevention, deterrence, addressing violations, and providing support and redress to victims, linked to the responsibilities of each entity.

2.4 Entities Responsible for Protecting the Human Rights of Victims of Trafficking

According to a rights-based approach, protecting the human rights of victims is first and foremost the obligation of the State, and simultaneously the obligation of organizations and individuals in society, forming a network of interdisciplinary entities.

2.5 International standards on the protection of the rights of victims of trafficking

International standards are organized along two axes: standards regarding the content of rights and standards regarding the State's obligations to implement them. The Palermo Protocol (Article 6) establishes flexible obligations linked to the responsibility for ongoing assessment, with core values centered on human dignity and the principles of equality and non-discrimination. According to international standards, the protection of the human rights of victims of trafficking must be "*appropriate*," "*effective*," and "*comprehensive*," and must take into account the specific characteristics of the victims, such as gender and age.

2.6 Laws in Some Countries Regarding the Protection of the Rights of Victims of Trafficking

2.6.1 United States

The United States leads the way with the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA, 2000), which established the “3P” framework (prosecution, protection, prevention) and has become a model framework for preventing and combating human trafficking and protecting victims.

2.6.2 Philippines

The Philippines has a relatively comprehensive legal system against human trafficking, featuring mechanisms for identifying, supporting, and protecting victims, along with interagency coordination and the involvement of civil society organizations.

2.6.3 United Kingdom

The United Kingdom emphasizes the national referral system, the principle of non-blaming of victims, and measures to protect and support recovery.

2.6.4 Legislative and Enforcement Experiences for Vietnam

Drawing on the experiences of the United States, the United Kingdom, and the Philippines, this dissertation identifies lessons regarding the unification of the legal framework, mechanisms for identifying and referring victims, the principle of non-punishment, mechanisms for compensation and recovery, and the coordinating role of a unified agency in protecting the human rights of victims of human trafficking

Chapter 3. PRACTICES IN PROTECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING IN VIETNAM

3.1 Overview of the Current Situation of Human Trafficking and Victims of Trafficking in Vietnam

3.1.1 Overview of the Current Situation of Human Trafficking in Vietnam

The dissertation provides an overview of the evolution of human trafficking in Vietnam, emphasizing the profound changes in this type of crime following the COVID-19 pandemic and the rise of online trafficking activities.

3.1.2 Overview of the Current Situation of Victims of Human Trafficking in Vietnam

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The thesis analyzes the characteristics of trafficking victims, noting that

women, children, and groups at the intersections of vulnerability account for a significant proportion. The overall situation of victims of human trafficking in Vietnam is complex, influenced by many factors and deeply gendered. Consequently, the composition of victims has shifted from traditionally female victims to male victims, often for the purpose of labor exploitation or forced criminal activity.

3.2 The Current State of Vietnamese Law on the Protection of Human Rights for Victims of Trafficking

3.2.1 Legal Provisions on the Human Rights of Victims of Trafficking

3.2.1.1 Provisions on Substantive Rights

This dissertation analyzes the provisions guaranteeing victims' rights to life, liberty, personal security, and freedom from enslavement within the current legal system. The analytical framework proceeds from the Constitution down to laws and subordinate legal documents.

3.2.1.2 Provisions on Procedural Rights

The dissertation analyzes provisions regarding the identification of victims, protection, information, immunity from punishment, compensation, support, shelter, and repatriation, while also pointing out certain provisions that are incomplete or scattered across various laws.

3.2.2 Legal Provisions on Entities Responsible for Protecting the Human Rights of Victims of Trafficking

The dissertation analyzes the roles and responsibilities of four groups of entities: the legislative branch, the executive branch, the judicial branch, and political-social organizations as well as non-governmental organizations. Vietnam's current legal framework regarding entities responsible for protecting human rights is relatively well-developed but lacks a unified coordinating body for the protection of the human rights of victims of human trafficking.

3.3 Practices in Protecting the Rights of Victims of Human Trafficking in Vietnam Through the Activities of Rights Protection Entities

3.3.1 Protection Practices of State Agencies

The dissertation analyzes the practices of state agencies in protecting substantive and procedural rights through secondary data, case studies, and in-depth interviews, identifying several shortcomings in these practices regarding coordination mechanisms, lack of resources, administrative procedural barriers, and social stigma faced by victims.

3.3.2 Practices of Political and Social Organizations in Protecting Rights

Political and social organizations participate in advocacy, support, and coordination to protect victims; however, they face resource constraints, and their coordination mechanisms with state agencies lack connectivity and flexibility. Because they play a supporting role, the activities of these organizations still have many shortcomings.

3.3.3 Practical Protection Activities of Non-Governmental Organizations

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Non-governmental organizations serve as a trusted bridge in information, assisting victims in gathering evidence and accessing services, while also helping to mitigate the impact of social stigma on victims, particularly those subjected to sexual exploitation.

3.4 Overall assessment of practices to protect the rights of victims of human trafficking

3.4.1 Strengths

Vietnam has established a relatively comprehensive, multi-tiered legal framework that recognizes victims' rights and establishes an interagency system; judicial and support practices have yielded many positive results.

3.4.2 Limitations and Causes

There remains a significant gap between regulations and implementation; many rights are not substantively guaranteed due to an enforcement mechanism heavily reliant on "favoritism," complex procedures, limited resources, and the lack of a consistent, victim-centered approach. Social stigma toward victims also poses a significant barrier.

Chapter 4. PERSPECTIVES AND SOLUTIONS FOR PROTECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING IN VIETNAM

4.1 Perspectives on the Protection of the Human Rights of Victims of Trafficking Under Vietnamese Law

The dissertation establishes six perspectives: (1) The State is the primary and most important entity responsible for protection; (2) victims of human trafficking are victims of violations of their dignity; (3) implementing the "victim-centered" principle in strategies to prevent and combat human trafficking; (4) shifting from a criminal justice approach to a rights-based approach; (5) ensuring the consistency and feasibility of the legal framework; (6) ensuring compliance with international standards and incorporating lessons learned from other countries.

4.2 Solutions to Protect the Human Rights of Victims of Trafficking in Vietnam

4.2.1 Measures to Improve the Legal Framework

4.2.1.1 Standardizing the term “trafficking in persons” to meet international standards

The dissertation proposes reviewing and standardizing terminology to ensure compatibility with the Palermo Protocol and international standards.

4.2.1.2 Improving Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure

The dissertation proposes refining the elements of criminal offenses and procedural rules to be victim-friendly and sensitive, minimizing the need for repeated testimony that causes secondary trauma, while also adding the right not to be held criminally, administratively, or civilly liable for acts that are a direct consequence of being trafficked.

4.2.1.3 Improving Civil Law and Civil Procedure

The dissertation proposes improving the mechanisms for compensation and redress, taking into account victims’ limited capacity to provide evidence and their limited understanding of the law.

4.2.1.4 Improving laws on the prevention and combating of human trafficking and related regulations

The dissertation proposes supplementing and clarifying victims’ rights, ensuring consistency between the Law on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Persons and related areas of law, based on Article 6 of the Palermo Protocol and the commentary by the OHCHR.

4.2.2 Measures for Law Enforcement

4.2.2.1 Solutions regarding criminal investigation and prosecution

Establishing victim-centered investigative and prosecutorial procedures that ensure respect for victims’ dignity and establish their clear legal status.

4.2.2.2 Measures to Protect Privacy and Prevent Psychological Trauma

Implement measures to protect personal information and limit repeated testimony and direct confrontations to prevent secondary trauma.

4.2.2.3 Solutions for Long-Term, Sustainable Support

Ensure that medical, psychological, and social support meets the actual needs of victims and addresses limitations on coverage under current regulations.

4.2.2.4 Solutions for Sustainable Economic Support and Long-Term Accompaniment

Provide livelihood support, vocational training, and long-term accompaniment to prevent, re-victimization.

4.2.2.5 Solutions for international cooperation and digital technology

Strengthen international cooperation linked to the application of digital technology in detection, tracing, and victim protection, in line with the evolving nature of MBN crimes post-pandemic.

4.2.2.6 Establish a Unified Agency for Victim Rights Protection

Establish a unified steering and coordinating body based on international experience, ensuring seamless coordination from the central to the local levels.

4.2.3 Set of Solutions Regarding Implementation Conditions

4.2.3.1 Raise and Strengthen Awareness

Strengthen outreach and education efforts to change perceptions and reduce social stigma toward victims.

4.2.3.2 Strengthen coordination

Strengthen coordination among government agencies, political and social organizations, and nongovernmental organizations in protecting victims.

4.2.3.3 Staff Capacity and Financial Resources

Provide in-depth training for frontline staff on skills for working with victims based on an understanding of trauma and gender sensitivity, while ensuring financial resources, including a victim support fund.

CONCLUSION

Protecting the human rights of victims of human trafficking is a crucial measure for evaluating the humanity and effectiveness of Vietnam's legal system. This dissertation has developed a distinct theoretical framework based on a combination of human dignity theory, intersectional feminism, and legal positivism, distinguishing between substantive rights and procedural rights; it provides a comprehensive assessment of the current state of the law and practice, acknowledging the achievements of the multi-tiered legal framework while identifying gaps between regulations and implementation. By comparing international standards and the experiences of other countries, the dissertation affirms the need to shift from a purely criminal justice approach to a human rights-based, victim-centered approach.

Based on this, the dissertation proposes a comprehensive set of solutions regarding the improvement of legislation, the enforcement of laws, and the assurance of conditions for implementation. The shift from a "request-grant" mindset to one of the State's active obligations and responsibilities, and from a punitive approach to a restorative approach aimed at restoring victims' dignity, requires both specific amendments to individual laws and a fundamental change in the mindset of obligated parties and society as a whole. If implemented in a coordinated manner, the proposed recommendations will help bring Vietnamese law in line with international standards and ensure that every victim is protected, supported, and rehabilitated as a rights-holder.

LIST OF RELATED PUBLICATIONS RELATED TO THE THESIS TOPIC

1. Nguyen Duy Dzung (2025), "Victim-Centered Protection in Vietnam's Anti-Trafficking Law: A Human Rights-Based Assessment," *International Research Journal of Multidisciplinary Scope*, Vol. 6, Issue 4, ISSN (Online): 2582-631X, (Scopus – Q4);
2. Nguyen Duy Dzung (2026), "Legal Protections for Human Trafficking Victims: A Systematic Review," *Multidisciplinary Reviews*, Vol. 9, No. 10, ISSN (Online): 2595-3982, (Scopus – Q3);
3. Nguyen Duy Dzung, Nguyen Hai Yen (2025), "Protection of Human Dignity and Honor under the 2015 Vietnamese Criminal Code: Provisions and Policy Recommendations," *Journal of Science and Technology*, Vol. 8, No. 6 (2025), e-ISSN: 2615-9015.
4. Nguyen Duy Dung (2026), "New Developments Regarding the Rights of Victims of Trafficking Under the 2024 Law on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Persons: Opportunities and Challenges in Implementation," *Journal of Law and Practice*, No. 6/2026, ISSN: 2525-2666
5. Nguyen Duy Dzung (2026), "Ensuring Justice for Vietnamese Child Victims of Human Trafficking: Lessons from the United Kingdom," *Laws*, 15(4), 88, e-ISSN: 2076-0760, (Scopus Q2/ESCI);
6. Nguyen Duy Dzung (2026), "Combating Human Trafficking in Vietnam: How Does the 3P+P Framework Influence Policies and Laws?," *Multidisciplinary Science Journal*, Vol. 9, No. 3, ISSN (Online): 2675-1240, (Scopus – Q3);
7. Nguyen Duy Dzung (2026), "Human Trafficking in Vietnam: A Systematic Review of Scopus and Web of Science Literature," *Multidisciplinary Reviews*, Accepted Articles, ISSN (Online): 2595-3982, (Scopus – Q3).

