HO CHI MINH NATIONAL ACADEMY OF POLITICS

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THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF VIETNAM'S LEADERSHIP OF FOREIGN INFORMATION WORK IN THE CURRENT PERIOD

SUMMARY OF THE DOCTORAL THESIS

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INTRODUCTION

1. The Urgency of the Research Topic

Foreign information work is an important component of ideological work, foreign affairs, and national image-building, contributing to the promotion of Vietnam, its people, and the Party's and State's guidelines and policies to the international community. In the current period, as Vietnam accelerates the implementation of its foreign policy of independence and self-reliance, multilateralisation and diversification of international relations, and proactive and active comprehensive and extensive international integration, ensuring accurate, timely, and strategically oriented information has become an objective imperative. This requires the Party's centralised and unified leadership to maintain political orientation, ensure consistency in the Party's foreign policy and enhance the effectiveness of external communication.

In the context of increasingly profound globalisation and international integration, foreign information work has become a particularly important resource that shapes perceptions, influences public opinion and directly affects the position and reputation of each country. The Fourth Industrial Revolution, the rapid development of digital technologies and the emergence of new media platforms have made the external information environment increasingly multidimensional and complex, creating both significant opportunities and numerous challenges for Vietnam's foreign information work. Under these circumstances, the need to strengthen the Party's leadership over foreign information work has become more urgent than ever.

Recognising the important role of foreign information work, and in the context of intensifying strategic competition among major powers, the growing activities associated with "peaceful evolution", information warfare, and cyber warfare have made the international information environment increasingly complex and unpredictable. Hostile and reactionary forces have systematically exploited cyberspace to distort the Party's and State's guidelines and policies, incite and foment division, and undermine the confidence of the Vietnamese people and the international

community in Vietnam. In response, the Communist Party of Vietnam has clearly defined orientations for leading foreign information work in accordance with current practical requirements and promulgated a number of relevant documents. These include Directive No. 11-CT/TW, dated June 13, 1992, of the Secretariat of the 7th Party Central Committee on renewing and strengthening foreign information work ; the establishment of the Steering Committee for Foreign Information Work under Decision No. 16-QĐ/TW, dated December 27, 2001, of the Secretariat of the 9th Party Central Committee; Directive No. 26-CT/TW, dated September 10, 2008, of the Secretariat of the 10th Party Central Committee on continuing *to renew and strengthen* foreign information work *in the new situation*; and Conclusion No. 57-KL/TW, dated June 15, 2023, on continuing to improve the quality and effectiveness of foreign information work in the new situation. Conclusion No. 57-KL/TW clearly emphasises the viewpoint of "constantly renewing content and diversifying methods of foreign information work in accordance with the motto of 'proactiveness, synchronisation, timeliness, creativity and effectiveness". More recently, Resolution No. 59-NQ/TW of the Politburo, dated January 24, 2025, on international integration in the new situation marked an important development in the Party's thinking on foreign affairs and international integration. The Documents of the 14th National Party Congress affirmed the need to "proactively and actively implement foreign information work and international cooperation effectively in the context of increasingly profound international integration, thereby contributing to affirming and enhancing Vietnam's reputation and position in the international arena." This sets out requirements for national construction and defence in the new period, particularly the task of maintaining a peaceful and stable environment for national development, which calls for the vigorous promotion of the country's "soft power", with foreign information work playing a pivotal role.

However, practical experience in leading foreign information work in recent years has revealed that, alongside its achievements, the Party's leadership over this work still has certain limitations. Some Party committees, Party organisations and local governments have not thoroughly

or effectively disseminated and implemented foreign information work directives and policies. Consequently, the effectiveness of implementation in some localities has not been sufficiently evident or consistent. Coordination among agencies, ministries and sectors under the Party's leadership has not been sufficiently smooth or synchronised, and clear coordination mechanisms, particularly regarding the allocation of roles and responsibilities, remain lacking. There have also been difficulties in defining and refining mechanisms and sanctions for addressing issues arising from external information activities. Furthermore, capacities for analysis, forecasting, and proactively shaping public opinion have not adequately kept pace with the rapid and unpredictable changes in the international situation. Research into international media trends, issues that need to be promoted, and information that should be subject to restrictions on dissemination has not been conducted effectively. Responses to major emerging issues have also remained inadequate. Consequently, the Party's resolutions and strategic orientations have, at times, failed to keep pace with practical developments. These limitations underscore the need to continue renewing thinking, improving mechanisms and enhancing the Party's leadership capacity in foreign information work to meet the requirements of the new situation.

In the current context, the world and the region are expected to continue experiencing rapid and unpredictable changes, particularly as the Fourth Industrial Revolution generates far-reaching and multidimensional impacts. Against this backdrop, countries, regardless of their size, are strengthening foreign information work and promoting their national images to build trust, consolidate influence, and enhance their national "soft power". The Communist Party of Vietnam needs to strengthen its leadership and improve the effectiveness of foreign information work not only to build trust and garner support from the international community, but also to contribute to safeguarding national sovereignty and interests proactively and preventively, from an early stage and at a distance, through peaceful means. This further underscores the inevitability and urgency of strengthening the Party's leadership over foreign information work.

In response to these requirements, the doctoral candidate has chosen to undertake research on the topic: ***"The communist party of Vietnam's leadership of foreign information work in the current period"*** which is of both theoretical and practical significance.

2. Research Objectives and Tasks of the Thesis

2.1. Research Objectives

The thesis aims to clarify the theoretical and practical issues relating to the Communist Party of Vietnam's leadership of foreign information work. On this basis, it proposes orientations and key solutions to strengthen the Party's leadership over foreign information work in the current period.

2.2. Research Tasks

First, to review the research related to the dissertation topic, summarise the findings of relevant scientific studies, and identify the issues that the dissertation needs to focus on during its research.

Second, to clarify the theoretical issues concerning the Communist Party of Vietnam's leadership of foreign information work, including the concepts, position, role, contents, and methods of the Party's leadership in this field.

Third, to investigate and assess the current situation of the Communist Party of Vietnam's leadership of foreign information work in recent years, identify the causes of achievements and limitations, and draw lessons from practice.

Fourth, to determine orientations and propose key solutions to strengthen the Communist Party of Vietnam's leadership of foreign information work through 2035, with a vision to 2045.

3. Research Subjects and Scope of the Thesis

3.1. Research Subject

The research subject of the dissertation is the Communist Party of Vietnam's leadership of foreign information work in the current period.

3.2. Research Scope

- *Scope of content:* The dissertation focuses on the Communist Party of Vietnam's leadership of foreign information work in the following areas: disseminating information internationally about the Party's guidelines and policies and the laws and policies of the State of Vietnam; conducting

foreign information work in the struggle to shape public opinion and counter "peaceful evolution"; and implementing foreign information work in economic and cultural activities.

- *Scope of geographical coverage:* The thesis focuses on the Party's leadership of foreign information work within central-level Party committees, ministries and agencies, with empirical evidence drawn from surveys conducted in selected localities.

- *Scope of time*: The thesis examines the Party's leadership of foreign information work from 2012, when the 11th-tenure Politburo issued Conclusion No. 16-KL/TW, the Party's first strategic document on the Strategy for the Development of Foreign Information Work for the 2011-2020 period. The data and materials obtained from investigations and surveys primarily cover the period from 2012 to 2026. The proposed solutions are intended to remain relevant through 2045.

4. Theoretical and Practical Foundations and Research Methodology of the Thesis

4.1. Theoretical Foundations

The thesis is grounded in Marxism-Leninism, Ho Chi Minh Thought, and the views of the Communist Party of Vietnam on foreign affairs and foreign information work.

4.2. Practical Foundations

The thesis is based on the practical experience of the Communist Party of Vietnam's leadership of foreign information work from 2012 to the present.

4.3. Research Methodology

The thesis adopts the methodology of Marxism-Leninism and employs interdisciplinary research methods, including the historical method in conjunction with the logical method, analysis combined with synthesis, comparison, investigation and survey, practical review, and expert consultation.

In addition, throughout the research process, the author regularly employs deductive and inductive methods to analyse, interpret, conduct preliminary reviews, and draw comprehensive conclusions on issues addressed in all chapters of the thesis.

5. New Scientific Contributions of the Thesis

First, the thesis clarifies the concept of the Communist Party of Vietnam's leadership of foreign information work in the current period. *Second*, its practical analysis enables the dissertation to generalise a lesson concerning the need to lead and closely coordinate the activities of organisations and forces, thereby mobilising their combined strength in conducting foreign information work. *Third*, the dissertation proposes two distinctive and breakthrough solutions, the first of which is to lead the innovation of the contents and methods of the Party's leadership of foreign information work.

6. Theoretical and Practical Significance of the Thesis

6.1. Theoretical Significance

The thesis contributes to further clarifying the theoretical issues concerning the Party's leadership of foreign information work in the current period.

6.2. Practical Significance

The findings of the thesis may serve as reference materials for ministries, central agencies and relevant organisations in leading and implementing foreign information work in the current period. They may also be used as reference materials for research, teaching and learning at the Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics and at provincial and municipal political schools throughout the country.

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 RESEARCH WORKS RELATED TO THE THESIS TOPIC

1.1. FOREIGN RESEARCH WORKS

1.1.1. Research Works on Diplomacy and Foreign Information Work

Gerald Segal (2005), *Openness and Foreign Policy Reform in Communist States*; Richard C Vincent (2007), *Global Communication and Propaganda*; Daya Kishan Sosu (2009), *International Communication***;** William Hachten và James F.Scotton (2011), *The World News Prism - Challenges of Digital Communication***;** Manuel Adolphsen (2014), *Communication Strategies of Governments and NGOs: Engineering Global Discourse at High-Level International Summits*; Zhang Qingmin (2014), *Contemporary China's Diplomacy*; Ministry of National Defence (2015), *History of the Foreign Affairs Work of the Lao People's Army, 1945-2015*; G.R. Berridge (2015), "*Public Diplomacy*"; Ashu MG Solo (2016), *Political Campaigning in the Information Age*; Armand Mattelart & Michele Mattelart (translated by Ho Thi Hoa) (2018*): History of communication theories*; Arnaud Mercier (2020), *Political communication*; Denis McQuail, Mark Deuze (2020), *Media and Mass Communication Theory*; Pawel Surowiec & Ilan Manor (eds.) (2021), *Public Diplomacy and the Politics of Uncertainty*; Mark Deuze (2023), *Life in Media: A Global Introduction to Media Studies*; Harold D. Lasswell (2023) translated by Thao Minh, *Propaganda techniques in world war*; Yuval Noah Harari (2024) *"Nexus - A Brief History of Information Networks from the Stone Age to Artificial Intelligence"*; Atsushi Tago (2024), "*Public Diplomacy and Foreign Policy"*.

1.1.2. Research Works Related to Foreign Information Work and the Leadership of Ruling Parties over Foreign Information Work

Joseph s. Nye Jr (2008), *Public Diplomacy and Soft Power*; Chu Hieu Tin, Phung Linh Chi (2008), *Establishing a Rapid Public Opinion Feedback Mechanism and Creating an Effective Information Channel for the Decision-Making of the Party and the Government*; Junhao Hong (2011), *From the World Largest Propaganda Machine to a Multipurposed Global News Agency: Factors in and Implications of Xinhua's Transformation since 1978*; Jian Wang (2014), *"From Propaganda to Public Diplomacy: Assessing China's International Practice and Its Image, 1950-2009"*; Vu Lam (2015), "*Public Diplomacy: Why is it Rudimentary yet Relevant to Vietnam's*

Politics?"; David L. Paletz, Diana Owen và Timothy E. Cook (2017), *American Government and Politics in the Information Age*; Rogher H. Davidson và Walter J. Oleszek, (2019), *Congress and its members*; Vu Lam (2021), *"Information and Communications Technologies, Online Activism, and Implications for Vietnam's Public Diplomacy"*; Yayoi Kato (2021), *Party Ideology, Public Discourse, and Reform Governance in China: Playing the Language Game*; Peter Jakobsson, Johan Lindell & Fredrik Stiernstedt (2022), *Media policy attitudes and political attitudes: the politization of media policy and the support for the 'media welfare state'*; Paul Pillar (2023), *Beyond the Water's Edge: How Partisanship Corrupts U.S. Foreign Policy;* Thomas Graham (2023), *Getting Russia Right*; Nicole Talmacs & Altman Yuzhu Peng (eds.) (2024), *Communications in Contemporary China: Orchestrating Thinking*; Vedat Demir & Carola Richter (eds.) (2025), *The Public Diplomacy of Authoritarian Regimes***.**

1.2. DOMESTIC RESEARCH WORKS

1.2.1. Research Works on Foreign Affairs and Foreign Information Work

The Department of Propaganda, Academy of Journalism and Communication (2006), *Principles of Propaganda*; the Department of Propaganda, Academy of Journalism and Communication (2006), *External Propaganda*; Nguyen Thanh Son (2010), *A Review of Six Years of Implementing Politburo Resolution No. 36 on the Vietnamese Community Abroad and Emerging Issues*; Nguyen Van Dung (2011), *Communication Theory*; Le Thanh Binh (ed.) (2012), *General Textbook on International Communication*; Le Thanh Binh (ed.) (2012), *Journalism and Foreign Information Work*; Nguyen Hoang Giap and Nguyen Thi Que (2013), *Vietnam's Foreign Policy in the Renewal Period* ; Vu Xuan Hong (2013), *Making a Worthy Contribution to the Development of the People's Diplomacy Front*; Vu Thanh Van (2014), *International Communication;* Tran Thi Thuy Ha (2014), *People's Diplomacy in the Political Life of Vietnam and the World in the Early Years of the 21st Century*; Nguyen Huu Cat (ed.) (2015), *Renewing Foreign Information Work in Vietnam during the Period of International Integration;* Nguyen Thi Tinh (2015), *An Exploration of Ho Chi Minh's Thought on People's Diplomacy*; Vu Duong Huan (2018), *On Vietnam's Foreign Policy and Diplomacy*; Nguyen Thanh Ha (2018), *People's Diplomacy: An Important Contribution to Building a Peaceful, Friendly and Sustainably Developing Vietnam-Laos Border;* Nguyen Van Du and Ngo Chi Nguyen (2018), *People's Diplomacy in Contemporary Vietnam-Japan*

Relations; Luu Tran Toan (2019), *Promoting Vietnam's Image to the World through External Press Coverage in the Current Period*; Nguyen Thi Thuong Huyen (2019), *The Production Process of External Journalism Products in Vietnam Today* ; Bui Thi Van (2021), *State Management of External Journalism in Vietnam Today*; Nguyen Ngoc Oanh, Nguyen Thi Thuong Huyen and Nguyen Dong Anh (2021), *The Production of External Journalism Products and International Communication.*

1.2.2. Research Works Related to Foreign Information Work and the Party's Leadership of Foreign Information Work

Pham Gia Khiem (2010), *Foreign Information Work Makes an Important Contribution to the Successful Implementation of the Party Congress Resolution*; Nguyen Chi Thao (2012), *The Communist Party of Vietnam's Leadership of Foreign Information Work (1991-2010)*; Le Thanh Binh (2012), *An Overview of International Communication: For Practitioners of Foreign Information Work*; Nguyen Quoc Bao (2012), *Applying Ho Chi Minh's Diplomatic Thought to the Renewal of the Party's Foreign Policy at Present* ; Le Hong Anh (2013), *Enhancing the Combativeness and Persuasiveness of Foreign Information Products;* Nguyen Thanh Son (2014), *Effectively Mobilising the Resources of the Vietnamese Community Abroad*; Nguyen Phu Trong (2014), *Foreign Affairs Must Be Grounded in the Fundamental and Long-Term Interests of the Nation*; Pham Gia Khiem (2015), *Vietnam's Comprehensive Diplomacy in the Period of International Integration*; Pham Van Linh (2016), *Several Issues Concerning the Renewal of the Contents and Methods of Propaganda and Education Work in the New Situation*; Luong Khac Hieu (2013), *The Theoretical Foundations of the Ideological Work of the Communist Party of Vietnam*; Commission for External Relations of the Party Central Committee (2018), *Foreign Information Work: Essential Information*; Nguyen Phu Trong (2021), *Some Theoretical and Practical Issues on Socialism and the Path towards Socialism in Vietnam*; Nguyen Manh Cuong (2021), *The Relationship among Party-to-Party External Relations, State Diplomacy and People's Diplomacy in Vietnam's Comprehensive Diplomacy;* Bui Thanh Son (2022), *Vietnamese Diplomacy in the Cause of National Defence and Development in the Light of the Resolution of the 13th National Party Congress;* Nguyen Phu Trong (2023), *Building and Developing a Comprehensive, Modern Vietnamese Foreign Affairs and Diplomacy with the Distinctive Identity of "Vietnamese*

Bamboo"; Le Hai Binh (ed.) (2023), *Foreign Information Work towards the Strategic Objectives for 2030, with a Vision to 2045*; Tran Thi Thanh (2024), *"Building the 'People's Hearts and Minds' Posture in Cyberspace: A Key Task of Foreign Information Work Today"*; Nguyen Thi Truong Giang (2024), *Renewing Political Communication on Social Media in Vietnam Today*; Le Hai (2024), *"Renewing the Party's Leadership Methods in Foreign Information Work in the Digital Era*; Bui Thu Chang (2025), *Communist Party of Vietnam's Leadership of External Economic Relations: Theory and Practice* ; Vu Hoang (2025), "*Applying Big Data and Artificial Intelligence (AI) Technologies in the Management and Orientation of Foreign Information"*; Pham Minh Anh (2025), "The 'Vietnamese Bamboo' School of Diplomacy and Its Reflection in the Contemporary Foreign Information System"; To Lam (2026), *Implementing the Party's Foreign Policy in the New Period in a Manner Commensurate with the Nation's Historical and Cultural Stature and International Position, Thereby Contributing to the Realisation of the Nation's Strategic Objectives.*

1.3. OVERVIEW OF RESEARCH FINDINGS FROM SCIENTIFIC WORKS RELATED TO THE DISSERTATION TOPIC AND ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED BY THE THESIS

1.3.1. Overview of Research Findings from Scientific Works Related to the Thesis Topic

First, in terms of theory, studies by international and domestic scholars have elucidated fundamental theoretical issues concerning foreign affairs and foreign information work. *Second*, in terms of practice, numerous studies, particularly those conducted in Vietnam, have examined and assessed the current state of foreign affairs activities. *Third*, in terms of orientations and solutions, many studies have forecast favorable conditions and challenges affecting the foreign affairs work of the Party and the State in general, and foreign information work in particular.

1.3.2. Issues to Be Addressed by the Thesis

First, to clarify the theoretical issues concerning the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam over foreign information work. *Second*, to examine and accurately assess the current state of the Party's leadership over foreign information work from 2012 to the present. *Third*, to forecast favorable conditions and challenges affecting the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam over foreign information work.

Chapter 2
THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF VIETNAM'S LEADERSHIP OVER FOREIGN INFORMATION WORK: THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL ISSUES

2.1. FOREIGN INFORMATION AND FOREIGN INFORMATION WORK IN VIETNAM

2.1.1. Foreign Information in Vietnam

2.1.1.1. The Concept of Foreign Information in Vietnam

Foreign information is an important component of the ideological and foreign affairs work of the Party, the State, and the Vietnamese people. It aims to help the international community gain a clear understanding of the Party's and the State's guidelines and policies; Vietnam's achievements in national construction and defense; the country's history, culture, land, and people; and the material and spiritual values of the Vietnamese nation. It also seeks to counter distorted allegations and hostile activities directed against Vietnam, promote a proper understanding of Vietnam among the peoples of the world, and garner international support, cooperation, and assistance, as well as the consensus and contributions of overseas Vietnamese, for the cause of national construction and defense.

2.1.1.2. Contents of Foreign Information in Vietnam

First, providing information and conducting communications on the guidelines, orientations, and policies of the Communist Party and the State of Vietnam. Second, introducing and promoting Vietnam's national image, people, culture, and development potential. Third, conducting foreign information and communications activities in support of political, economic, national defense and security, and foreign affairs tasks. Fourth, countering and refuting false and distorted information. Fifth, providing information to serve the Vietnamese community overseas.

2.1.1.3. Forms of Foreign Information in Vietnam

First, direct communication and dissemination. Second, indirect communication and dissemination through multimedia products.

2.1.1.4. The Role of Foreign Information in Vietnam

First, foreign information serves as an important instrument for

communicating and promoting Vietnam's national image, people, and culture to the world. Second, foreign information contributes to strengthening public confidence, building consensus, and harnessing the strength of national unity. Third, foreign information serves as a means of safeguarding the Party's ideological foundation and countering false and hostile information. Fourth, foreign information contributes to the effective implementation of the foreign policy and international integration orientations of the Party and the State. Fifth, foreign information serves as a channel for promoting international cooperation and enhancing Vietnam's soft power, prestige, and influence in the international arena.

2.1.2. Foreign Information Work in Vietnam: Concept, Contents, Role, and Characteristics

2.1.2.1. The Concept of Foreign Information Work

Foreign information work refers to the totality of activities undertaken by the Party, the State, and relevant organizations and forces to disseminate and provide official information about Vietnam abroad, promote Vietnam's national image, and ensure that foreign countries, foreign nationals, and Vietnamese people living and working overseas develop an accurate understanding of Vietnam and hold positive attitudes toward and engage in constructive actions concerning Vietnam.

2.1.2.2. Contents of Foreign Information Work in Vietnam

First, identifying tasks and formulating objectives, orientations, programs, and plans for foreign information work. Second, organizing the implementation of foreign information activities in accordance with the established contents, forms, programs, and plans. Third, developing organizational structures and building a contingent of personnel engaged in foreign information work. Fourth, coordinating activities among organizations and forces engaged in foreign information work. Fifth, conducting inspections, preliminary reviews, final reviews, and drawing lessons from the implementation of foreign information work.

2.1.2.3. The Role of Foreign Information Work

First, foreign information work directly conveys the views and guidelines of the Party and the State to international friends and the domestic public. Second, foreign information work contributes to strengthening the

People's confidence in the Party's leadership and the path toward socialism, while promoting the strength of great national unity in the cause of national construction and defense. Third, foreign information work helps people from all walks of life at home and abroad, as well as international friends, gain a clear and accurate understanding of the Party's and the State's guidelines, policies, and the situation in the country, as well as Vietnam's views and positions on international and regional issues. Fourth, foreign information work contributes to consolidating social consensus and securing the understanding and support of the international community, while maintaining a peaceful and stable environment conducive to socio-economic development.

2.1.2.4. Characteristics of Foreign Information Work in Vietnam

First, foreign information work in Vietnam is led by the Communist Party of Vietnam and managed and directed by the Socialist Rule-of-Law State of Vietnam. Second, foreign information work in Vietnam is conducted in the context of renewal, openness, and extensive international integration, with Vietnam's international standing continuing to rise; its content and methods are constantly being renewed and developed. Third, the forces participating in foreign information work in Vietnam are extensive, closely organized, broadly mobilized, and coordinated in a unified manner.

2.2. THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF VIETNAM'S LEADERSHIP OVER FOREIGN INFORMATION WORK: CONCEPT, CONTENTS, METHODS, AND ROLE

2.2.1. The Concept of the Communist Party of Vietnam's Leadership over Foreign Information Work in the Current Period

The Communist Party of Vietnam's leadership over foreign information work refers to the totality of the Party's leadership activities through the formulation of guidelines, policies, strategies, and major orientations; and its leadership in institutionalizing these orientations, organizing implementation, conducting inspection and supervision, and undertaking preliminary and final reviews of foreign information work in practice. This leadership process aims to ensure political, ideological, and operational unity throughout the entire political system; uphold the Party's guiding role in foreign information activities; and mobilize the collective strength of all participating actors. Through these efforts, it seeks to promote the image of Vietnam, its people,

and its culture; enhance the country's international standing and prestige; firmly safeguard national interests; and contribute to the successful implementation of foreign policy and the cause of national construction and defense in the new situation.

2.2.2. Contents of the Party's Leadership over Foreign Information Work

First, the Party determines the viewpoints, guidelines, objectives, and tasks of foreign information work. Second, the Party leads and directs Party committees, Party organizations, and authorities at all levels to institutionalize the Party's guidelines and mobilize resources to implement foreign information work. Third, the Party leads the development of organizational structures and the building of a contingent of personnel engaged in foreign information work. Fourth, the Party leads and coordinates the activities of organizations engaged in foreign information work, such as the Vietnam News Agency, Vietnam Television, and the Vietnam Union of Friendship Organizations. Fifth, the Party leads the conduct of preliminary reviews, final reviews, and the drawing of lessons from the implementation of foreign information work.

2.2.3. Methods of the Party's Leadership over Foreign Information Work

First, the Party leads foreign information work through its guidelines, resolutions, and major orientations. Second, the Party leads foreign information work by promoting the role of the State in institutionalizing and organizing the implementation of the Party's platform, guidelines, and policies. Third, the Party leads foreign information work through communication, mobilization, and persuasion. Fourth, the Party leads foreign information work through organizational and personnel work. Fifth, the Party leads foreign information work through Party organizations and by promoting the pioneering and exemplary role of Party members. Sixth, the Party leads foreign information work through inspection and supervision.

2.2.4. The Role of the Party's Leadership over Foreign Information Work

First, the Party's leadership ensures the proper political orientation of foreign information work. Second, the Party's leadership ensures close coordination and promotes the collective strength of organizations and forces participating in foreign information work. Third, the Party's leadership is a decisive factor in ensuring the success of foreign information work.

Chapter 2 Summary

Based on theoretical and practical approaches, this chapter has clarified the concept of the Communist Party of Vietnam's leadership over foreign information work in the current period. It has analyzed the fundamental contents of the Party's leadership over foreign information work, including providing political and strategic orientations for foreign information activities; leading the development of organizational structures and forces engaged in foreign information work; directing the establishment of coordination mechanisms among agencies and organizations; and leading inspection, supervision, the review of practical experience, and the development of theoretical perspectives on foreign information work. In addition, the chapter has clarified the Party's principal methods of leadership, including leadership through its platform, resolutions, and directives; through the system of Party organizations and its contingent of cadres and Party members; and through communication, mobilization, inspection, and supervision during the implementation process.

Chapter 3
THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF VIETNAM'S LEADERSHIP OVER FOREIGN INFORMATION WORK: CURRENT SITUATION, CAUSES, AND LESSONS LEARNED

3.1. THE CURRENT SITUATION OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF VIETNAM'S LEADERSHIP OVER FOREIGN INFORMATION WORK

3.1.1. Achievements

3.1.1.1. Achievements in the Implementation of Leadership Contents

First, the Party's determination of viewpoints, objectives, and tasks for foreign information work has consistently been closely aligned with practical realities, relatively timely, and marked by positive and increasingly evident progress. Second, the Party has consistently paid attention to leading and directing Party committees, Party organizations, and authorities at all levels to thoroughly grasp and effectively implement foreign information work. Third, the Party has paid particular attention to leading the development and consolidation of organizational structures and the contingent of personnel

engaged in foreign information work. Fourth, the Party's leadership over the coordination of activities among organizations and forces engaged in foreign information work has achieved practical results. Fifth, the Party has regularly and promptly led and directed preliminary reviews, final reviews, and the drawing of lessons from the implementation of foreign information work.

3.1.1.2. Achievements in the Implementation of Leadership Methods

First, the Party's leadership over foreign information work through resolutions, directives, conclusions, and major orientations has achieved notable accomplishments. Second, promoting the role of the State in institutionalizing and organizing the implementation of the Party's guidelines on foreign information work has yielded significant and practical results. Third, the Party's leadership over foreign information work through communication, mobilization, and persuasion has achieved many positive results. Fourth, the Party's leadership over foreign information work through organizational and personnel work has undergone strong, positive, and substantial improvements. Fifth, the Party has effectively led efforts to promote the role of Party organizations and the pioneering and exemplary conduct of Party members working in the field of foreign information. Sixth, the Party has regularly and promptly conducted inspection and supervision of Party committees and Party organizations within foreign information agencies.

3.1.2. Limitations and Shortcomings

3.1.2.1. Limitations in the Implementation of Leadership Contents

First, the determination of viewpoints, objectives, and tasks for foreign information work has, in certain respects, failed to keep pace with practical developments. Second, some Party committees, Party organizations, and authorities have not thoroughly or seriously implemented the Party's guidelines on foreign information work, resulting in limited effectiveness. Third, organizational structures remain inadequate in certain respects and lack professionalism. The political qualities and professional capabilities of some personnel engaged in foreign information work remain limited and do not fully meet task requirements in the new situation. Fourth, coordination among forces involved in foreign information work has at times lacked close cooperation and effective synchronization. Fifth, preliminary and final

reviews of the Party's leadership over foreign information work in some localities have been largely formalistic and have not achieved high effectiveness.

3.1.2.2. Limitations in the Implementation of Leadership Methods

First, the Party's leadership over foreign information work through resolutions, directives, conclusions, and major orientations has at times failed to keep pace with developments in the situation. Second, the role of the State in institutionalizing and organizing the implementation of foreign information work has not always been fully and promptly brought into play. Third, leadership through communication, mobilization, and persuasion in the implementation of foreign information work has at times been passive and lacked flexibility in responding to emerging situations. Fourth, the Party's leadership over foreign information work through organizational and personnel work remains inadequate and does not fully meet the requirements of the new situation. Fifth, the role of Party organizations and Party members working in the field of foreign information has not been fully promoted; in some circumstances and localities, their effectiveness has remained limited. Sixth, the Party's leadership over foreign information work through inspection and supervision has, in some circumstances and localities, been formalistic and insufficiently effective.

3.2. CAUSES AND LESSONS LEARNED

3.2.1. Causes of the Current Situation

3.2.1.1. Causes of the Achievements

First, the Party's profound understanding of foreign affairs and foreign information work in the new situation. Second, the country's major achievements after 40 years of the Renewal have created favorable conditions for foreign information work. Third, the active and voluntary participation of organizations and forces within the political system, as well as the People, in foreign information work.

3.2.1.2. Causes of the Limitations

First, some Party committees have not developed a sufficiently comprehensive understanding of the role of information and foreign information work. Second, the leadership capacity and combativeness of some

Party committees and Party organizations in agencies responsible for foreign information work remain limited and inadequate, failing to fully meet the requirements for leading foreign information work. Third, the qualifications and professional capabilities of some cadres and civil servants in agencies responsible for foreign information work remain limited and inadequate in certain respects, and do not fully meet the requirements of the new period. Fourth, the rapid and profound development of international media, the Internet, and social media has posed numerous challenges to foreign information work. Fifth, resources allocated to foreign information work remain limited and do not fully meet the task requirements of foreign information work in the new period.

3.2.2. Lessons Learned

First, consistently closely follow practical realities and developments in international media to promptly institutionalize and concretize the Party's viewpoints and leadership guidelines on foreign information work. Second, regularly focus on developing and consolidating organizational structures and specialized personnel to meet the requirements and tasks of the new situation. Third, attach importance to the Party's leadership in ensuring coordinated and synchronized cooperation among participating forces, thereby mobilizing their collective strength in foreign information work. Fourth, attach importance to reviewing practical experience and conducting preliminary reviews to draw lessons, thereby continuously renewing the Party's thinking and methods of leadership.

Chapter 3 Summary

In recent years, the Communist Party of Vietnam has paid considerable attention to leading and directing foreign information work and has achieved significant and practical results in both the contents and methods of its leadership. These achievements have made important contributions to the comprehensive development of the country's economy, culture, society, national defense, security, and foreign affairs, as well as to the successful fulfillment of the two strategic tasks of building and firmly defending the socialist Vietnamese Fatherland.

Chapter 4
ORIENTATIONS AND SOLUTIONS FOR STRENGTHENING THE LEADERSHIP OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF VIETNAM OVER FOREIGN INFORMATION WORK TOWARD 2035, WITH A VISION TO 2045

4.1. FORECAST OF FACTORS AFFECTING AND ORIENTATIONS FOR STRENGTHENING THE LEADERSHIP OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF VIETNAM OVER FOREIGN INFORMATION WORK TOWARD 2035

4.1.1. Forecast of Factors Affecting the Leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam over Foreign Information Work Toward 2035

4.1.1.1. Favorable Factors

**** Global and Regional Context***

First, the trend toward globalization and deeper international integration. Second, peace, cooperation, and development remain major global trends and the common aspirations of progressive peoples worldwide, providing a foundation for expanding cooperation and promoting development. Third, the rapid development of information technology and digital communications, particularly the Internet and social media. Fourth, stable regional relations and increasingly extensive cooperation.

**** Domestic Context***

First, political and social stability and the Party's comprehensive leadership. Second, Vietnam's continued achievements in socioeconomic development and international integration. Third, the continued consolidation, strengthening, and improvement of the organizational structure and personnel engaged in foreign information work, in terms of both quantity and quality. Fourth, growing public awareness of the role of foreign information work.

4.1.1.2. Difficulties and Challenges

First, the rapidly changing, complex, and unpredictable global and regional situation, which requires innovation in the Party's leadership over foreign information work. Second, the information explosion and the risk of information overload and distortion. Third, hostile forces' continued intensification of propaganda activities aimed at distorting information and undermining the Vietnamese revolution.

**** Domestic Context***

First, limitations in scientific and technological capabilities and the availability of highly qualified human resources for the development of

foreign information work in Vietnam. Second, the lack of coherence and synchronization in the system of mechanisms and policies governing foreign information work. Third, the restructuring, consolidation, and streamlining of the organizational apparatus of the political system in the coming years will give rise to a number of issues requiring further refinement. Fourth, persistent shortcomings in the quality and capacity of personnel engaged in foreign information work. Fifth, limited and fragmented resources allocated to the implementation of foreign information work tasks.

4.1.2. Orientations for Strengthening the Party's Leadership over Foreign Information Work Toward 2035

4.1.2.1. Affirming the Party's Comprehensive Leadership in Foreign Information Work and Ensuring Correct Political and Ideological Orientation

4.1.2.2. Strengthening the Development of an Appropriate System of Policies, Laws, and Mechanisms to Effectively Support Foreign Information Work

4.1.2.3. Fundamentally Innovating the Content and Methods of Foreign Information Work to Ensure Alignment with the Trends of International Integration and the Information Needs of Different Target Audiences

4.1.2.4. Building a Corps of Personnel Engaged in Foreign Information Work with High Professional Competence and Strong Ethical Standards to Meet the Requirements of the New Era

4.1.2.5. Mobilizing All Domestic and International Resources and Promoting Close Coordination among Agencies and Organizations to Effectively Implement Foreign Information Work Tasks

4.1.2.6. Proactively Combating and Refuting False and Hostile Information, and Ensuring the Accuracy, Timeliness, and Effectiveness of Information

4.2. KEY SOLUTIONS FOR STRENGTHENING THE LEADERSHIP OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF VIETNAM OVER FOREIGN INFORMATION WORK TOWARD 2035

4.2.1. Strengthening Education and Raising the Awareness and Responsibility of Party Committees, Party Organizations, and Authorities at All Levels Regarding the Party's Leadership over Foreign Information Work

First, raising the awareness and responsibility of organizations and forces regarding the position and role of foreign information work. Second, raising the awareness and responsibility of organizations and forces

regarding the necessity of strengthening the Party's leadership over foreign information work. Third, raising the awareness and responsibility of organizations and forces regarding the content, methods, and role of the Party's leadership over foreign information work. Fourth, raising awareness and responsibility regarding the functions and duties of organizations and forces in carrying out foreign information work.

4.2.2. Innovating the Formulation and Implementation of the Party's Resolutions, Directives, and Conclusions on Foreign Information Work

First, closely aligning with practical realities in formulating resolutions and promulgating a foreign information work strategy for the new era. Second, the Party leads the State in institutionalizing the strategy and the Party's resolutions and directives into specific policies and implementation plans. Third, promulgating regulations and guidelines on the clear and consistent assignment and delegation of responsibilities, as well as coordination in the performance of functions and tasks. Fourth, conducting in-depth research and reviews and developing a digital-platform-based foreign information strategy. Fifth, promulgating directives that specify organizational and implementation responsibilities in accordance with the principles of "unity, professionalism, and synchronization". Sixth, establishing mechanisms for regular inspection and evaluation, as well as rapid-response mechanisms, in accordance with promulgated directives and strategies.

4.2.3. Leading the Innovation of the Content and Methods of Foreign Information Work, with Particular Emphasis on Effectively Communicating the Achievements of 40 Years of Renewal and Digitizing Communication Formats and Methods

4.2.3.1. Innovating and Effectively Implementing the Content of Foreign Information Work

First, focusing on developing rich, engaging, and informative content tailored to different international target audiences. Second, increasing the use of modern technological platforms, such as social media and digital communications, to disseminate messages more effectively. Third, providing leadership in developing a core body of in-depth foreign information content with strong outreach and dissemination potential.

4.2.3.2. Innovating and Effectively Implementing the Methods of Foreign Information Work

First, leading a fundamental transformation in communication methods, with priority given to the application of digital technologies and multiplatform communications. Second, leading the establishment of quality-control mechanisms and dialogue mechanisms to enhance the effectiveness of foreign information work.

4.2.4. Strengthening the Party's Leadership over Coordination among Agencies and Organizations within the Political System in the Implementation of Foreign Information Work

First, establishing close coordination mechanisms among ministries, sectors, localities, press agencies, and international organizations. Second, developing intersectoral cooperation programs to enhance the effectiveness of foreign information work. Third, refining and standardizing intersectoral coordination mechanisms and clearly defining the responsibilities of heads of agencies and organizations. Fourth, strengthening leadership through regular coordination meetings, periodic reviews, and the establishment of a dedicated intersectoral steering committee. Fifth, providing leadership in developing a corps of personnel with strong coordination capabilities and applying shared technological platforms for information exchange.

4.2.5. Focusing on the Party's Leadership in Building and Consolidating the Organizational Structure and Personnel Engaged in Foreign Information Work with the Qualities and Competencies Required in the New Era

First, establishing and consolidating foreign information work steering committees from the central to local levels. Second, improving the operational effectiveness of foreign information work steering committees toward a streamlined and effective organizational structure. Third, developing a personnel strategy for foreign information work, with emphasis on recruitment and specialized training in professional expertise, foreign languages, and digital skills. Fourth, providing training and professional development for personnel with foreign language proficiency, in-depth knowledge of politics and culture, and communication skills. Fifth, providing leadership in implementing personnel rotation mechanisms and appropriate remuneration policies, while strengthening the evaluation and assessment of the quality of personnel engaged in foreign information work.

4.2.6. Strengthening Resources for Foreign Information Work, Particularly Resources for the Digital Transformation of Agencies Engaged in Foreign Information Work and Vietnamese Representative Missions Abroad

First, investing in financial resources, modern equipment, and infrastructure to support foreign information work. Second, allocating additional funding for the foreign communication activities of Vietnamese representative missions abroad. Third, providing leadership in diversifying funding sources, mobilizing non-budgetary resources, and promoting the socialization of foreign information work. Fourth, providing leadership in increasing investment in technological equipment and digital infrastructure and creating a modern working environment for foreign information agencies.

4.2.7. Strengthening Inspection, Supervision, Interim Reviews, and Summative Reviews in the Implementation of Foreign Information Work Tasks

First, intensifying the inspection and supervision of the implementation of resolutions and programs on foreign information work. Second, promptly identifying and addressing shortcomings and making appropriate adjustments in line with practical realities. Third, providing leadership in developing and refining specialized regulations and procedures for the inspection and supervision of foreign information work. Fourth, strengthening focused and targeted inspection and supervision, combining regular inspections with ad hoc supervision through technological applications. Fifth, improving the quality of inspection and supervision conclusions and enhancing transparency and openness in handling violations.

Chapter 4 Summary

Based on forecasts of the international, regional, and domestic contexts toward 2035, Chapter 4 identifies new requirements for the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam over foreign information work amid digital transformation, global information competition, and increasingly extensive international integration. It thereby proposes a system of orientations and key solutions for strengthening the Party's leadership over foreign information work toward 2035. These solutions are designed to be comprehensive, closely interconnected, complementary, and mutually reinforcing. They focus on renewing awareness and leadership thinking; refining the Party's guidelines,

mechanisms, and policies; innovating leadership methods; consolidating the organizational structure and improving the quality of personnel; strengthening the application of science and technology and digital transformation; and promoting the combined strength of the entire political system and all forces involved in foreign information work.

CONCLUSION

Drawing on Marxism-Leninism, Ho Chi Minh Thought, and the Party's viewpoints on ideological work, foreign affairs, and foreign information work, the dissertation elucidates the theoretical foundations of the Party's leadership over foreign information work. It develops and refines the relevant concepts, clearly defines the content and methods of leadership, and analyzes the factors affecting and the criteria for evaluating the effectiveness of the Party's leadership in this field. The research findings affirm that the Party's leadership over foreign information work is an objective necessity and plays a decisive role in ensuring correct political and ideological orientation, mobilizing the combined strength of the entire political system, and closely integrating Party-to-Party diplomacy, State diplomacy, and people-to-people diplomacy to successfully implement the Party's foreign policy in the new situation.

Based on forecasts of the international and domestic contexts toward 2035, the dissertation proposes a system of orientations and solutions for further innovating the content and methods of the Party's leadership over foreign information work in a scientific, modern, and effective manner. These include improving the quality of policy formulation, refining coordination mechanisms, developing highly qualified human resources, accelerating digital transformation, applying new technologies, and mobilizing the combined strength of all stakeholders involved in foreign information work. The dissertation also provides a valuable reference for leadership and management agencies, educational and research institutions, and personnel directly engaged in foreign information work in implementing the Party's foreign policy. It contributes to building a professional and modern foreign information work system with strong international outreach, meeting the requirements of building and defending the socialist Vietnamese Fatherland in the new era of development.

LIST OF PUBLISHED WORKS BY THE AUTHOR RELATED TO THE THESIS

1. Nguyen Thi Mai Anh (2025), *"Building a Contingent of Officials Engaged in Foreign Information Work to Meet the Requirements of the New Situation"*, Communist Review Online, September 3, 2025.
2. Nguyen Thi Mai Anh (2025), *"Enhancing the Party's Leadership Role in Foreign Information Work"*, Political Theory Journal, Special Issue, October 2025, p. 65.
3. Nguyen Thi Mai Anh (2025), *"The Party's Leadership of Foreign Information Work: Influencing Factors and Lessons Learned"*, Journal of Political Theory and Communication, p.38.
4. Nguyen Thi Mai Anh (2026), *"Strengthening Coordination among Agencies and Organisations within the Political System to Ensure the Effective Implementation of Foreign Information Work in the Current Period",* The Vietnam teachers' scientific magazine, p.14.