



Applying Ho Chi Minh's ideology to continue developing foreign policy in Vietnam today

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Abstract

During the nation's struggle to build and defend the country, from the practice of our Party's revolutionary struggle, President Ho Chi Minh concluded a profound philosophy: "Unity, solidarity, great solidarity. Success, success, great success". President Ho Chi Minh's ideology of solidarity is expressed in both theoretical thinking and practical activities; not only within the Party, within the government apparatus, within the Vietnamese people, but also expressed on a broader scale, that is, international solidarity and cooperation. In the legacy that President Ho Chi Minh left for the Vietnamese people and humanity, international solidarity and cooperation are one of his core ideas. It is an important guideline and orientation in the process of planning and implementing the foreign policy of our Party and State in the past and present.

Keywords: Ho Chi Minh, solidarity, cooperation, Vietnam

1. Introduction

Ho Chi Minh's thoughts on diplomacy are an integral part of his revolutionary ideological system, including his system of views on international affairs and the forms, measures, and art of dealing with relations internationally to serve the revolutionary cause in each period. Ho Chi Minh's ideology in foreign affairs is very broad and profound, and can be exploited from many different angles. His thoughts have always been a guideline for the Vietnamese revolution in general and the development of diplomacy in particular, gradually enhancing Vietnam's position in the international arena. Reality has proven that Ho Chi Minh's diplomatic ideology is an invaluable heritage, the foundation of strength and the key to successfully and effectively deploying the Party's foreign policy through revolutionary periods. Thanks to his creative application of diplomatic ideology in the new situation, Vietnam's foreign policy has achieved many important achievements, contributing to maintaining a peaceful environment, attracting resources for development, and protecting the environment firmly maintain sovereignty, territorial integrity and enhance Vietnam's position in the international arena.

2. Research content and results

2.1. Content of Ho Chi Minh's ideology on foreign affairs

Firstly, we must be independent and self-reliant in foreign affairs and international cooperation. Independence and self-reliance are prominent and consistent thoughts in all of Ho Chi Minh's political activities. The main principle of that thought is "if you want others to help you, you must help yourself first". Maintaining independence and autonomy is both a path and an immutable principle to best protect national interests. Those guidelines and principles are also crystallized in Ho Chi Minh's thought and practice of foreign affairs.

According to him, independence means not being dependent, not imitating, following, or dogmatic; self-reliance means proactively thinking and mastering one's thoughts, being responsible before the people and the country, knowing how to master oneself and one's work. In international relations, he affirmed: "Independence means we control all our affairs, without outside interference"; and emphasized: "Independence without having its own army, its own diplomacy, its own economy. The Vietnamese people are determined not to crave that kind of fake unity and independence".

Thus, the Vietnamese nation's independence, self-reliance, and unity are not only territorial integrity, but the nation's diplomacy and foreign affairs must also be independent, not influenced by any power or force. In the relationship between parties of the international communist and workers' movements, he determined: "Parties, whether large or small, are independent and equal, and at the same time unite and agree to help each other".

He also expressed very specifically and deeply the dialectical relationship, the connection between independence and autonomy with the expansion and strengthening of international solidarity and cooperation; between self-reliance and self-reliance with cooperation and development. In that dialectical relationship, "independence and autonomy" always play a decisive role, a solid foundation for international solidarity, and enlist the widespread support of the world's people.

Second, combine national strength with the strength of the times in foreign affairs. This is an important content in Ho Chi Minh's thought, a rule and a great lesson of the Vietnamese revolution. In the relationship between national strength and the strength of the times, Ho Chi Minh considered internal resources to play a decisive role, external resources were important and strength could only be promoted through internal resources. He emphasized: "A nation that is not self-reliant but waits for other nations to help does not deserve independence".

To take advantage of the strength of the era, we must have the right path, promote independence and self-reliance, and closely combine our nation's goal of fighting for independence and unity with the goal of the era. Expressing this relationship simply and easily, he gave an example: "If strength is strong, diplomacy will win. Strength is the gong and diplomacy is the sound. The gong is loud, the sound is loud".

Based on determining the position and role of each source of strength, he clearly pointed out the need to focus on building and promoting the strength of people's foreign affairs to mobilize people to love peace in the world. The world supports the cause of the struggle for national liberation and national unification of the Party and people of Vietnam. Because as he affirmed: "The strength, greatness and perseverance of the Vietnamese people fundamentally lie in the solidarity of the Vietnamese people and the support of the people of the world".

Third, always love peace and oppose war and aggression. His ideology of loving peace and opposing war and aggression was expressed very early and remained consistent throughout his revolutionary activities. Immediately after the August Revolution in 1945, Ho Chi Minh wrote a Letter to the French people in Indochina (October 1945), expressing respect for the French people and highlighting the similarities between the two Vietnamese peoples. France is the desire for independence and freedom and calls: "O French people in Indochina! Don't you think that much human blood has been shed, that peace - a genuine peace built on justice and democratic ideals - must replace war, that freedom, equality, and fraternity must be realized? across countries regardless of race and skin color". Even when he had to wage a zero-sum war with the colonial empire to gain national independence, he always looked for opportunities for dialogue and negotiation to avoid an unjust, violent war.

Fourth, foreign policy and foreign policy are an important part of the political policy system of the Vietnamese

revolution. In that political policy system, foreign policy is an important part, serving the general political policy. Our country's first foreign policy was built by President Ho Chi Minh in the "Revolutionary Line" in 1927, and the "Brief Strategic Policy" in 1930. Next, it was outlined in a 4-point system of foreign policy. foreign policy in the Viet Minh program before the General Uprising (1944), then passed through the Tan Trao National Conference, August 1945. In particular, Uncle Ho's views on foreign policy were expressed in the Declaration of Independence (September 2, 1945) and through a report on the foreign policy of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (October 3, 1945). 1945). In the documents of the Communist Party of Vietnam Congresses, foreign policy is always considered an important part of our Party's policy system built by President Ho Chi Minh. Not stopping there, he also considered the diplomatic front as a powerful weapon, allowing us to change the relationship of forces to our advantage and the enemy's disadvantage.

Fifth, diplomatic independence and sovereignty is one of the standards and premises to ensure true national independence. The nation's independence and sovereignty is the premise for building an independent and autonomous diplomacy. Only with independence and sovereignty can we have our own diplomacy. On the contrary, having autonomous diplomacy is the standard for affirming the true independence of the nation. After the successful August Revolution (1945-1946), as President of the Government and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Uncle Ho persistently fought to build and protect the nation's diplomacy. That origin is an important factor in completing national independence. He pointed out: "If Vietnam's military and diplomacy are under French rule, it means Vietnam is not completely independent and is still a French colony"; At the same time, he affirmed: "Independence means we control all our affairs, without outside interference." This ideology of Uncle Ho is not only a legitimate aspiration of all peoples but has become a standard in modern international relations. After the Preliminary Agreement (March 6, 1946), Vietnam's basic national rights were recognized, but the issue of "independent diplomacy" still had to be fought because France had not yet reached an agreement. On the other hand, Uncle Ho believes that independence and diplomatic sovereignty are the premise for realizing equality and democracy among nations in international life.

Sixth, combine State diplomacy with the Party's foreign affairs and people's foreign affairs, creating a synergy. During the period when the Party led the struggle to gain power, the Party's foreign affairs work and the people's foreign affairs work were closely combined. Ho Chi Minh's ideology is to apply people's diplomacy to build a movement, propagate the revolution, and support the Party's foreign affairs in its infancy. Since the government came into power, three foreign service branches have been officially built and strengthened. Each of these troops has its own characteristics, strengths and attacks, but they combine and support each other closely and harmoniously, depending on the appropriate circumstances, situations and objects to work with. Foreign affairs will be conducted through the channels of the state, the Party or the people. Thanks to that, foreign affairs work is carried out effectively, synchronously and flexibly to achieve the set goals.

To create and develop the synergy of foreign affairs, President Ho Chi Minh and our Party always attach

importance to unifying the Party's leadership and the State's management of foreign affairs. Particularly for foreign affairs work, the people must take advantage of the support of the Party's foreign affairs work and the State's diplomacy to increase their own strength and the strength of foreign affairs work in general, contributing to realizing Currently combining foreign politics with foreign economics, foreign affairs with security and defense. It is necessary to thoroughly take advantage of the Party's leadership and the government's support, and at the same time expand and strengthen links and coordination between sectors, unions, and socio-political organizations; compete for the participation and contributions of organizations, individuals and all walks of life to expand and improve the effectiveness of people's foreign affairs activities. Today, applying Ho Chi Minh's ideology on the combined strength of the nation and the combined strength of diplomacy, our Party leads the organization to closely combine diplomacy with national defense and security with economic development. international.

People's foreign affairs work has the strength of the people as its backing, so it has a special advantage. President Ho Chi Minh said that diplomacy must have real strength and must demonstrate force, referring to the strength of the people in foreign affairs. The advantage of people's diplomacy is that it can use reason and emotion to persuade and gain international support; mobilize the opinion of our people and the people of other countries to speak out against the hostile plots and actions of hostile external forces. Using the power of the people, the people's foreign affairs work has a voice and action that the Party's foreign affairs work, especially State diplomacy, does not have the conditions to do and if it does, it will have no advantages or disadvantages.

People's foreign affairs work clearly and fully demonstrates the diplomatic qualities of peace, cooperation, justice against injustice, humanity against brutality, using voice, reason with love, simple and elegant style. Cards easily penetrate people's hearts to convince, enlist the support and sympathy of the people of other countries for our people, introduce and campaign to make our people and the people of other countries understand each other, building and developing friendly and cooperative relationships. Having rich activity content, diverse and flexible forms, diversifying partnership relationships. People's foreign affairs and international advocacy directly directed by President Ho Chi Minh have particularly rich content and strong persuasive power; clarify meaning, fight injustice, use humanity to fight brutality, call for peace, filial piety, friendship, cooperation, solidarity, and mutual help. People-to-people diplomacy activities are also very diverse: speaking, writing articles, writing books, lobbying individuals and organizations, giving talks, presenting views at forums of partner countries and international forums, meetings meetings, friendship festivals, seminars, cultural exchanges, arts and sports, scientific and technical exchanges; cooperation in education, humanitarian aid mobilization and development.

2.2. The role of foreign affairs today

One of the core contents of Ho Chi Minh's thought and the path of the Vietnamese revolution is that national solidarity must be associated with international solidarity, true patriotism must be associated with internationalism in the light of the working class, the solidarity of the people at home linked to the solidarity of the people of the world.

Appreciating and promoting the role of international solidarity and people-to-people diplomacy is a consistent and thorough policy of our Party. President Ho Chi Minh clearly pointed out: "Nothing in the sky is more precious than the people. In the world, there is nothing stronger than the united force of the people" and it was he who laid the foundation, led and directly implemented people-to-people diplomacy.

Right in the first days after the birth of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, when our country had not yet established diplomatic relations with other countries, our Party and President Ho Chi Minh directed the establishment of opposition organizations. Vietnam's first foreign people's association was the Vietnam - America Friendship Association (October 17, 1945) and the Vietnam - China Friendship Association (1946), which proposed and organized the implementation of decisions on solidarity and alliance with neighboring countries Laos and Cambodia. Along with the establishment of diplomatic relations with many countries, many friendship organizations with the people of those countries were established in the following years to maximize the sympathy, support and help of friends international.

The importance, role and tasks of people-to-people diplomacy were officially included in Party Congress documents very early on by our Party. Documents of the Second Party Congress (February 1951) on foreign policy emphasized the widespread development of people-to-people diplomacy, paying special attention to participating in major movements around the world and tightening ties. Organize activities between Vietnamese people's organizations and world people's organizations. After the country was unified, our Party's views on people-to-people diplomacy and the policy of synchronously implementing the three pillars of foreign affairs have continued to be developed and perfected. Documents of the Fourth Congress of the Party (1976) identified foreign affairs tasks for each specific target group. Documents of the 6th Party Congress (1986) clarified the subject and coordination between subjects of foreign affairs activities, including the Party, State and people of Vietnam. With new thinking on foreign affairs, the 7th Party Congress (1991) emphasized the policy of "solidarity with forces fighting for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress", creating a breakthrough and brought new vitality to people's foreign affairs.

Documents of the VIII, IX, must "closely coordinate the State's diplomatic activities, the Party's foreign affairs activities and people's foreign affairs activities... to help the world better understand the country, its people, and Vietnam's innovation process.", the policy line of our Party and state".

Directive No. 44-CT/TW, dated September 20, 1994, of the 7th Party Central Committee Secretariat, "On expanding and innovating people-to-people foreign affairs activities", is the first document of the Party dedicated to for people's foreign affairs activities, clearly defining people's foreign affairs as an integral part of our country's general foreign affairs work, clearly stating the requirements, goals and measures to conduct people's foreign affairs work. After summarizing Directive No. 44-CT/TW, the 11th Party Central Committee Secretariat issued Directive No. 04-CT/TW, dated July 6, 2011, "On continuing innovation and improving efficiency." people's foreign affairs work in the new situation", affirming the view that people's foreign affairs is an integral part of the general foreign affairs work of our Party and State.

Innovating and improving the effectiveness of people-to-people foreign affairs activities is the task of the entire political system and the entire people, with the core being the Vietnam Fatherland Front, the Vietnam Union of Friendship Organizations, and mass organizations and people's organizations.

For the force responsible for people-to-people diplomacy, the Vietnam Union of Friendship Organizations (Friendship Union), the Secretariat issued Directive No. 27-CT/TW, dated July 27, 1993, "On the tasks and organization of the Vietnam Union of Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organizations", Directive No. 28-CT/TW, dated December 2, 2008, "On continuing to innovate and improve performance results of the Vietnam Union of Friendship Organizations", and most recently Directive No. 38-CT/TW, dated September 19, 2019, "On continuing to innovate, promote the role and enhance improve the quality and operational efficiency of the Vietnam Union of Friendship Organizations in the new situation".

Reality shows that, under the wise leadership of the Party, creatively applying Ho Chi Minh's ideology of combining national strength with the strength of the times, convincing people with morality, transforming with humanity to Multiplying the power of justice, people's foreign affairs have achieved great achievements, making important contributions in every revolutionary period of the country. People's diplomacy has established and developed relations with the people of other countries, helping the world's people understand clearly about a resilient and indomitable Vietnamese people in the struggle for independence, freedom, and living with humanity faithful, peace-loving, about the just struggle of our people, creating a large and strong front of world people united and supporting Vietnam, making an important contribution to the victory of the war our people's struggle for national liberation and national unification.

After the country was unified in 1975, people's foreign affairs, together with party foreign affairs and state diplomacy, actively "went ahead and paved the way", breaking the blockade and embargo, expanding relations, and strengthening friendship, promoting the normalization of relations between Vietnam and important partners, mobilizing the support of the world's people for the work of overcoming the consequences of war and rebuilding the country. Many peace, volunteer and support activities for Vietnam, such as: smile surgery, mine clearance, support for Agent Orange victims, walking for peace, visits by veterans...contributes to healing the wounds of war and enhancing mutual understanding.

Sticking to the motto "proactive, flexible, creative, effective", in recent years, people-to-people diplomacy has made positive developments, constantly growing stronger, effectively coordinating with the Party's foreign affairs and state diplomacy, making an important contribution to the successful implementation of the Party and State's foreign policies and guidelines. People's diplomacy actively contributes to helping the world's people better understand Vietnam and helping our people better understand the foreign policy and guidelines of our Party and State, strengthening international solidarity, friendship with people of other countries, enhancing Vietnam's position in the international arena, creating a favorable environment for the development of foreign relations, taking advantage of international support and resources, contributing to maintaining peaceful and

stable environment, protecting the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity of the fatherland and national interests.

2.3. Applying Ho Chi Minh's ideology to develop current foreign policy

To date, Vietnam has had diplomatic relations with 189/193 United Nations member countries, and strategic and comprehensive partnerships with 30 countries. We attach great importance to relations with bordering neighbors and strategic and comprehensive partners; the relationship with partners has become increasingly deeper, more stable and sustainable, and has gradually resolved arising and existing problems. At the same time, efforts are being made to develop increasingly practical relations with regional neighbors and traditional friends.

The country's international integration process is increasingly profound and effective. Economically, Vietnam has become an important link in many economic links through signing many free trade agreements, thereby creating great motivation for development. According to the assessment of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Vietnam is among the 20 economies with the largest contribution to global growth in 2019. Although the Covid-19 epidemic is causing a global economic recession, But Vietnam still has positive growth, among the highest in the region and among the top 16 most successful emerging economies in the world. International integration in politics, defense-security, culture-society and other fields is increasingly deepening.

With its new position and strength, Vietnam has participated and actively contributed to most important international organizations and forums, successfully assumed many important responsibilities, and effectively promoted its role as Chair of ASEAN 2020 and the Commission. Non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council for the 2020-2021 term. Vietnam has been actively contributing to solving many important international issues such as: contributing to ensuring food security, promoting international cooperation in preventing and combating the Covid-19.

Besides the above results, other important pillars and areas of foreign affairs have achieved many achievements. Party diplomacy, State diplomacy, People's diplomacy, National Assembly diplomacy, defense-security diplomacy are deployed effectively, closely and smoothly coordinated; Economic diplomacy, cultural diplomacy, citizen protection, work for Vietnamese people abroad, and foreign information are deployed proactively and actively, making an important contribution to the country's overall foreign policy achievements.

Today, in the context of the new situation, our country continues to creatively apply Ho Chi Minh's ideology on foreign affairs, pioneering in creating an environment of peace, security, stability, cooperation and combination national strength with the strength of the times to serve the most effective cause of building and protecting the fatherland, enhancing Vietnam's prestige and position in the international arena, and successfully implementing the tasks set out in the Resolution proposed by the 13th Party Congress. That is: "Resolutely and persistently protect the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the Fatherland; protect the Party, State, People and socialist regime; implement a foreign policy of independence, autonomy, multilateralization, and diversification;

proactively and proactively integrate comprehensively, deeply, and effectively internationally; maintaining a peaceful and stable environment, constantly enhancing Vietnam's international position and reputation.". At the same time, successfully implementing the goals: "By 2025, be a developing country, have modern industry, surpass the low average income level; By 2030, it will be a developing country with modern industry and high average income; By 2045, we will become a developed, high-income country, bringing our country "on par with the powers of the five continents" as Uncle Ho always wished.

Practice has proven that Ho Chi Minh's diplomatic ideology is an invaluable heritage, a foundation of strength and the key to successfully and effectively deploying the Party's foreign policy through revolutionary periods. Thanks to the creative application of his diplomatic ideology in the new situation, Vietnam's foreign policy has achieved many important achievements, contributing to maintaining a peaceful environment, attracting resources for development, and protecting the environment firmly maintain the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Fatherland and enhance our country's international position.

Our country's international integration process is increasingly profound and effective. Economically, Vietnam has become an important link in many economic links through signing many free trade agreements, thereby creating great motivation for development. The IMF assesses Vietnam among the 20 economies with the largest contribution to global growth in 2019. Although the Covid-19 epidemic is causing a global economic recession, Vietnam still has positive growth in the high category in the area. International integration in politics, security, national defense, society, culture and other fields is increasingly deepening.

With new position and strength, Vietnam has actively participated and contributed to most important international organizations and forums, successfully assumed many important responsibilities, and is effectively promoting its role as ASEAN Chair 2020 and Non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council for the 2020-2021 term. Vietnam has been actively contributing to solving many important international issues, such as: Contributing to ensuring food security, promoting international cooperation in preventing the Covid-19 epidemic, promoting peace and harmony tournament on the Korean peninsula.

3. Conclusion

The current situation creates many advantages for people-to-people diplomacy. In the world, peace, cooperation and development are still major trends. Along with the development of science and technology, especially information technology, and the trend of democratizing international life, the role, voice and participation of people's organizations are increasingly considered important at the national, regional and global levels. Great and historically significant achievements over the past 35 years of innovation have created new positions and forces, strengthening the country's combined strength. International friends continue to give Vietnam affection good. Our Party especially emphasizes the pioneering role of foreign affairs, as well as the important position of people-to-people diplomacy.

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