

# The Position and Role of The Vietnam Political System in Response to The Covid19 Pandemic

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## Abstract

*The Covid19 pandemic has been causing an unprecedented global crisis. The severity depends on how long the pandemic will last, as well as the national and international responses of governments. To prevent the spread of epidemics, it is not possible to use only economic and military might, but also “soft power” to be used to deal with it. The “soft power” in this research is Vietnam’s political system. Vietnam’s anti-epidemic achievements in recent years have clearly demonstrated the role of the Vietnamese political system. This study focuses on analyzing how the Vietnamese political system participates in the prevention of the Covid19 pandemic, the effects brought about by “soft power”, thereby drawing lessons for the next period.*

**Keywords:** Covid19, pandemic, position and role, Political System, Vietnam

## Introduction

The 19 Covid pandemic that took place at the end of 2019 with the first case discovered in Wuhan (China) has spread rapidly and become a terrible catastrophe for mankind in the early decades of the twenty-first century infected people and high mortality. After more than 12 months, the number of infected people in the world is over 84.4 million, the number of deaths is more than 1.83 million (Source JHU CSSE COVID 19 Data). Preventing pandemic is still a big question for us. Up to now, in the world of Covid 19 translation, almost all countries and regions have appeared. Many countries show indifference in the prevention of epidemics, so far they are struggling to prevent spread. The countries with the highest prevalence are: the US, India, Brazil and Russia. Besides, many countries in the response process have good experiences in preventing and curbing this pandemic, typically China, Singapore, Vietnam, etc. Vietnam has so far experienced 3 outbreaks of Covid 19, as follows:

Phase 1, from January 23 to March 5, Vietnam discovered that the intrusion case originated from residents in Vinh Phuc returning from Wuhan, China, with 16 confirmed cases is completely cured.

Phase 2, Vietnam started to have cases of infiltration from Europe and other countries around the world. This was an outbreak in the community with more than 300 infected people. In these two phases, Vietnam tracked F0 and made strong decisions on social distance to localize and quell outbreaks in the community. No one died during this period.

Phase 3, after 99 days without infection in the community, on July 25, Vietnam officially entered phase 3 of the Covid-19 epidemic with the recording of an outbreak in Da Nang,

concentrated at the impulse location the hospitals are the weakest. Already more than 1000 people infected and 35 people died in stage 3.

The 6 o'clock news on January 3, 2021 of the National Steering Committee for the Prevention and Control of Covid-19 states that in the past 12 hours, Vietnam has not recorded new Covid-19 cases. According to the National Steering Committee for the Prevention and Control of Covid-19, the number of Covid-19 patients in Vietnam is still 1,482 cases. Up to 6:00 am on January 3, Vietnam had a total of 693 cases of Covid-19 due to domestic infections, of which the number of new cases since July 25 to now is 553 cases.

From 6am on January 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6pm on January 3, 2021, no more cases of Covid-19 were recorded nationwide. Currently, the total number of people in close contact and entry from the epidemic area under medical monitoring (quarantine) is 18,372 people.

Thus, by this time our country has cured 1,337/1,482 Covid-19 patients. The Treatment Subcommittee also said that up to this point, there are no more severe cases of Covid-19 in our country.

Among Covid-19 patients being treated in medical facilities, the number of first-negative cases with SARS-CoV-2 virus was 7; the number of second negative cases with SARS-CoV-2 had 11 cases, the number of third negative cases was 10 cases.

Vietnam's achievements are evaluated by the world as a country that has achieved success in controlling and controlling epidemics. During the meeting of the Standing Committee of the Steering Committee for the prevention of acute respiratory infections caused by the new strain of Corona virus (Covid19) (July 27, 2020,) with representatives of the World Health Organization (WHO), the organizations, an international expert on epidemic prevention and control. Dr. Kidong Park, WHO Representative in Vietnam commented: "We are very impressed with what the Government, Ministry of Health and localities have done in recent days".

On August 3, 2020, representatives of the World Health Organization (WHO) praised Vietnam's response to the epidemic of acute respiratory infections, and urged other countries to refer to these measures. Also at the press conference, WHO Technical Team Leader Maria Van Kerkhove, assessed "Vietnam is acting quickly and comprehensively and Vietnam has a system in place that can help control Covid19".

What is the system here? It is the political system at all levels combined with the ministries and branches that have agreed to join under the leadership of the Party Central Committee and the response and consensus of the people. This is the main reason for Vietnam to achieve its initial success against the Covid 19 epidemic that has not yet ended. So what is Vietnam's political system, what parts does it include, and its role in the prevention of the Covid 19 pandemic, this study will focus on analyzing and clarifying its position and role of that system.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **The Political System of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam**

#### *Concept of the Political System of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam*

Currently, there are many different approaches to the political system: The approach to socio-economic form, the institutional approach, the system approach, the functional approach, etc. In Vietnam, the art the term of the political system is officially used from the Resolution of the Sixth Conference of the Party Central Committee, Session VI (March 1989), from which the concept is adopted by Party and State documents and documents science, books widely used instead of the concept of dictatorship of the proletariat before. This represents a new

understanding of politics - it not only surpasses the heavy nature of the class nature and the authoritarian side of politics; more importantly, focusing on and emphasizing systematizes, the integrity and the relationship between the components of the system, which had not been concretized before the Sixth Congress (December 1986). On the organizational structure of the political system stated in the Platform for building the country during the transition to socialism (June 1991) and the Platform (Supplement, development in 2011) and the Constitution of Vietnam (1992 & 2013).

Accordingly, the Socialist Political System in Vietnam is a whole composed of political institutions including: Communist Party of Vietnam, State of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Vietnam Fatherland Front and socio-political organizations including: Vietnam General Confederation of Labor; The Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, the Vietnam Women's Union, the Vietnam Farmers 'Association, the Vietnam Veterans' Association are organized from the central to grassroots levels, operating to maintain and protect their power, benefits of the working class, working people and people of Vietnam.

#### *Some Characteristics of the Political System of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam*

The Vietnamese political system is organized and operated in terms of historical, socio-economic conditions and specific political and cultural environment. Therefore, the Vietnamese political system is both popular and specific. The peculiarity of the Vietnamese political system can be found in the following:

*Firstly*, the current Vietnamese political system was born with the birth, existence and development of the Vietnamese State, although many member organizations of the socialist political system of Vietnam were born before the State such as the Vietnam Communist Party, Vietnam Fatherland Front, Trade Union, etc.

*Secondly*, the Vietnamese political system is led by the Communist Party of Vietnam. This specificity is governed by the role, position, leadership ability and leadership prestige of the Communist Party of Vietnam. This is an important condition to ensure the political stability of our country.

*Thirdly*, the Vietnamese political system is built according to the model of socialist political system. Although it is in the process of reforming and completing, it still has the influence of the bureaucratic and subsidy regime.

*Fourthly*, in Vietnam, socio-political organizations are trained by the Communist Party of Vietnam, born soon after the establishment of the Communist Party of Vietnam, becoming mass organizations and grassroots organizations political - social party.

*Fifthly*, the current Vietnamese political system demonstrates widespread democracy. Democracy is both a goal and a means of organizing and operating the political system. The organizations that make up the political system are organized and operate on the principle of democracy in order to effectively exercise the power of the people.

*Sixthly*, in the socialist political system of Vietnam, the political activeness of the people is always promoted. This characteristic is reflected in the people's active participation in discussions, contributing opinions to major political policies of the country and actively implementing those decisions; support the State both physically and mentally to solve the country's political problems, etc.

#### *Political Institutions in the Vietnamese Political System*

Communist Party of Vietnam:

In the political system in Vietnam, the Communist Party is both a leader and a member of the political system. That is the Party's special role in the political system.

The Party's leadership over the current political system is in a new condition, which is to build the socialist rule-of-law State of the People, by the people, for the People, to promote the democracy strongly in socialist-oriented market mechanism and international integration (Congress, 2013). To ensure the Party's leading role in the political system, the Party must renew itself and enhance the fighting strength of party organizations; strengthen the Party's relationship with members of the political system.

The Party's leadership on the political system is the country's problems, in each specific field, from politics, economy to culture and society at all levels and branches; in relations with the State, the Fatherland Front, mass organizations and the whole society. The leadership of the Party manifests itself most concentrated in politics and ideology, aiming to create a political framework for the State, the Fatherland Front, socio-political organizations and the people to properly carry out their tasks, powers, functions and roles according to the provisions of law, the charter, purposes and guidelines of each organization.

The leadership of the Party is reflected in the content of the political platform, guidelines, policies and policies of the Party, ensuring the political orientation for the development of the country, creating a basis for the organization and the operation of the entire political system and the whole society aims at: rich people, strong countries, democracy, justice and civilization (Communist Party of Vietnam, 20006, 2011 & 2016).

The Socialist Republic of Vietnam:

The Socialist Republic of Vietnam is the Socialist rule of law State of the People, by the People and for the People; owned by the People; all state power belongs to the People, the foundation of which is the alliance between the working class and the peasantry and the intellectuals (Congress, 2013). The apparatus of the State of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam includes: National Assembly, President, Government, People's Courts, People's Procuracies and local Government.

The National Assembly is the highest representative organ of the People and the highest organ of state power of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The National Assembly exercises constitutional and legislative powers, decides important issues of the country and has supreme oversight over the activities of the country.

The President is the Head of State, on behalf of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on domestic and foreign affairs. The Government is the highest organ of state administration of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, exercising executive power, and is the executive organ of the National Assembly. The Government is responsible to the National Assembly and reports its work to the National Assembly, the National Assembly Standing Committee, and the President.

The People's Court is the judicial organ of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, exercising judicial rights. The People's Courts include the Supreme People's Court and other Courts prescribed by law. The People's Courts have the duty to protect justice, human rights, civil rights, the socialist regime, the interests of the State, and the lawful rights and interests of organizations and individuals multiply.

The People's Procuracy exercises the right to prosecute and control judicial activities. The People's Procuracies include the Supreme People's Procuracy and other Procuracies prescribed by law. The People's Procuracies have the duty to protect the law, to protect human rights, civil rights, to protect the socialist regime, to protect the interests of the State, the legitimate rights and interests of organizations, individuals, contributing to ensuring the law is strictly and uniformly observed.

Local governments are organized in administrative units of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. Local governments include the People's Council and the People's Committee organized in

accordance with the characteristics of rural areas, cities, islands, and special administrative-economic units prescribed by law.

Local governments organize and ensure the implementation of the Constitution and laws in their localities; decide on local issues that are determined by law; submit to the inspection and supervision by superior state agencies. Tasks and powers of local governments are determined on the basis of the division of powers among central and local state agencies and of each level of local government. In case of necessity, local governments are assigned to perform a number of tasks of superior state agencies on terms of ensuring the performance of such tasks.

The People's Council is a local state power agency, representing the will, aspiration and ownership of the People, elected by the Local People, responsible to the local People and agencies superior state. People's Councils decide on local issues as determined by law; supervise the compliance with the Constitution and laws in the locality and the implementation of resolutions of the People's Council.

The People's Committee at the local government level elected by the People's Council at the same level is the executive organ of the People's Council and the local state administrative agency, responsible to the People's Council and agencies superior state administration. The People's Committee organizes the implementation of the Constitution and laws in the locality; organize the implementation of resolutions of the People's Councils and perform the tasks assigned by superior state agencies.

Vietnam Fatherland Front and socio-political organizations:

In country's revolutionary history, the Vietnam Fatherland Front and socio-political organizations play a very important role. These organizations have encouraged and gathered people of all classes in the struggle for power, in the wars against foreign invaders and the struggle to unify the country. The Vietnam Fatherland Front and its member socio-political organizations have played an extremely important role in the formation and consolidation of the State of the People, by the People and for the People in Vietnam. Article 9 of the Constitution of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (2013) affirms: "The Vietnam Fatherland Front is an organization of political alliances, voluntary associations of political organizations and political organizations. - Social, social organizations and typical individuals in the social classes, strata, ethnicity, religion and Vietnamese residing abroad. of the people's government; to represent and protect the legitimate and legitimate rights and interests of the People; to gather and promote the strength of the great unity of the entire nation, to exercise democracy and enhance social consensus; supervise and criticize society; participate in building the Party, the State, and people's external activities to contribute to the construction and defense of the Fatherland".

Socio-political organizations have the task of educating political ideology, encouraging and promoting the social activeness of people of all strata, contributing to the implementation of political tasks; take care of and protect the legitimate and legitimate interests of the people; take part in the state management, social management, maintain and strengthen the close relationship between the Party, the State and the people, contribute to the implementation and promote the process of democratization and social renewal associations, implementing the mechanism of the Party leadership, State management, people ownership.

### **"Soft Power" and "Soft Power" of Vietnam**

"Soft power" is a new concept formally introduced by Joseph Nye - the former Assistant Secretary of Defense in the early 1990s of the twentieth century to oppose "hard power" and it comes from strength attractive about cultural identity, political ideology and policies, especially the foreign policy of a country. If "hard power" is often understood as the use of military, violence, armed forces to impose, coerce, etc. then "soft power" is the use of non-military, non-

violent means force, it is educational, persuasive, motivating, encouraging, ... for people to confidently believe and follow. This is an attractive power and a choice that many countries are researching, believing and implementing under current conditions. It can be understood: “Soft power” is the ability to create power by propaganda, education, persuasion, foreign affairs, encouragement, etc. to attract, attract, attract the other (possibly countries), class, ethnicity, community, etc.) Voluntarily change their behavior and policies to suit what they want, instead of military might or economic pressure.

The “Soft power” often comes from three sources: political value (the correctness of operating policies, management, and socio-economic development); the value of cultural identity (traditional morality, unity, ethnic community cohesion, people’s consensus) and the country’s foreign policy (flexibility and wisdom of the diplomatic policy). However, each country has different ways of promoting, exploiting and promoting “soft power”.

Vietnam’s “soft power” is built on the following elements: (1) Political institutions (of which mainly political ideology and socialist democracy); (2) Foreign policy (foreign policy of the country); (3) The spirit of national solidarity, cultural traditions, national identity, social consensus and the people’s belief in the Party, the State, and the political system. In which, political institutions, national solidarity, social consensus, cultural and traditional identity are considered the “soft power” core of Vietnam today. The success of nearly 35 years of innovation has played a great role in exploiting and promoting “soft power” and now; in the prevention and control of pandemic Covid19 has been exploiting and promoting this strength.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

According to the report on the work of information and propaganda of the Central Propaganda Department, the work of disseminating and thoroughly implementing the documents of the Party and the State on information and propaganda in the prevention and control of Covid-19 epidemic is seriously and promptly implemented by Party committees and authorities at all levels; contribute to promoting the synergy of both the political system and the entire society in epidemic prevention and control; shows determination to control epidemics, best limit the spread in the community, ensure socio-economic development, social order and safety, and stabilize people’s life. The direction, orientation and information and propaganda work of the Central and localities on Covid-19 epidemic prevention and control has really gone one step ahead, ensuring fast and timely with many forms and channels of information. Propaganda is diversified, plentiful, suitable for each epidemic stage and each subject and area.

Communication and propaganda on the prevention and control of Covid19 has been effectively deployed in all forms of communication such as in the press, via SMS messages, and on all types of social networks. , applications on internet platforms, direct communication in the community, etc.

Information content is diversified, accurate, plentiful, closely following the Party’s guidelines and orientations, State’s policies, actively contributing to raising awareness and changing behavior of each officer and party member, and the people; help people trust in the Party and State, do not panic, fear, protect their own health and protect the health of the community. The communication and propaganda work has been implemented in a large and methodical manner with the active, unified participation and effective coordination of all forces: propaganda, health care, information and communication, and groups. Socio-political organizations, reputable and well-known individuals, international organizations have thus created very positive effects on mass media and social networks to spread the official and positive information on the role, position, achievements, results, joint strength and consensus of the entire Party, the entire people and the Government in Covid-19 epidemic prevention and control. External information work is actively and synchronously deployed, creating a widespread effect and is internationally recognized and highly appreciated. The work of grasping the situation, combating and

countering false and hostile information and views is conducted regularly, promptly and effectively.

According to a survey by the Institute of Social Opinion (Central Propaganda Department) 84% of respondents highly appreciated the work of information, propaganda and awareness raising for people about Covid19 prevention and control.

According to the Ministry of Information and Communications, the press has shown its aggressive role, complied with legal regulations and the information direction and orientation of the authorities, actively fighting against the authorities points, false information, bringing a lot of evidence to confirm that the Party, the Government, all levels and branches of Vietnam have been doing their best to prevent and control by translating Covid19. According to the report of the Ministry of Information and Communications, from February 1 to May 31, 2020, the press has published a total of 560,048 news and articles on Covid-19 translation, in which, about nuances, positive news the pole accounts for 41.96%; neutral accounts for 35.47%, negative news accounts for 22.56%. When Vietnam entered the state of “new normal”, the rate of news articles related to Covid-19 translation was still maintained by 28-40% of news and articles on recovery by news agencies and radio stations economic development but not subjective in disease prevention and control. In the first 5 months of 2020, on Vietnam’s cyberspace, there were nearly 17 million mentions (status lines, comments) related to the Covid-19 epidemic in Vietnam.

Permanent Deputy Minister of Health Nguyen Thanh Long emphasized: in the non-stop communication campaign on the prevention and control of pandemic Covid-19, with the view that the provision of information must ensure “Timeliness - Transparency - Main We have mobilized the strength of the revolutionary journalism in Vietnam, brought into full play scientific and technical advances, mobilized forces and means, combining tradition and present. To make use of all forms to create media campaigns with truly impressive impressions.

In the coming time, continue to further strengthen the role and responsibility of the Party committees, authorities and mass organizations at all levels in the leadership, direct the implementation of information and propaganda on Covid-19 epidemic prevention and control to improve to raise awareness, create unity among cadres and party members, consensus among the people about the policies of the Party and the Government on Covid-19 epidemic prevention and control, and identify regular and central tasks to avoid subjective, indifferent, continue to drastically and synchronously implement tasks and solutions. To attach importance to renewing forms, contents and methods to improve the propaganda efficiency. Promoting the initiative, creativity and fighting strength of press agencies, the contingent of reporters and communicators in epidemic prevention and control; bring into full play the strengths of each type of propaganda to suit each object, locality and time of propagation; continue promoting the application of information technology, internet and social networks in information and propaganda work. To step up propaganda and show the spirit and sense of responsibility of all levels, branches and units to well perform the epidemic prevention and control work from the central to local levels; go hand in hand with the discovery and struggle with activities and acts that violate the Party and State’s guidelines and policies on epidemic prevention and control. Mobilizing the strength of the entire political system; close and synchronous coordination among ministries, departments, branches and localities in information and communication on Covid19 epidemic prevention and control; to attach importance to promoting the role of the Fatherland Front and socio-political organizations in this work. To proactively organize foreign communication and propaganda activities through the Party, State and people’s external relations channels, through forums to propagate the efforts and achievements of Vietnam in the and combating the Covid-19 epidemic in order to enhance the influence and position and create favorable conditions for the country’s investment and business environment. Strengthen information in foreign languages, study and develop communication plans to promote

communication and introduction of development potentials, economic cooperation, trade, and investment attraction with stability in the new context of Vietnam. Firmly grasp the situation of ideology, strengthen and improve the quality of forecasting related to the epidemic situation, to early advise and direct the direction of propaganda and information with focus, no allowing hostile forces to take advantage of distorting, interfering, inciting, disrupting security and order, and undermining the country's socio-economy; maintain political security, social order and safety.

Speaking at the conference, Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc acknowledged and praised the results of the propaganda on Covid-19 epidemic prevention and control by forces working in management and communication in recent years. . The Prime Minister said that the role of the media and information, with a powerful force, has a very important meaning, is one of the factors determining the success or failure of any event. When it was difficult to understand people's hearts, the Prime Minister said that the aggressiveness and synergies of the media in contributing to the fight against the Covid19 epidemic were of great significance. Propaganda, media and information industry, press agencies, artists and artists have made important contributions to prevention and fight against epidemics, creating social consensus, raising people's awareness, and arousing the spirit of love country, national pride to win the pandemic.

Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc emphasized that success is due to the fact that the whole political system has done well the direction, orientation, timely and transparent information on Covid19 epidemic prevention and control to the people; effective application of technology in information and medical examination and treatment; in particular, the unanimity of officials, soldiers and people in epidemic prevention and control; people's belief in the leadership of the Party with a spirit of Vietnam - compassion and sharing; That is the close coordination between ministries, departments and localities, especially the participation of soldiers and soldiers of the Army, Public Security, medical doctors; cooperation with other countries in sharing information on epidemic prevention and control. The Prime Minister emphasized that Vietnam has basically controlled the Covid19 epidemic, but in the face of complicated epidemics in the world, it is necessary to continue implementing epidemic prevention measures with a "double mission" that has just been implemented Covid19 epidemic prevention and control measures, both implementing solutions for economic recovery and development, ensuring social security, security and order and completing socio-economic development tasks in 2020. Owner to promote Vietnam to become a destination in the business investment environment of countries around the world.

### **Effectiveness of Using "Soft Power" in Preventing and Fighting against Covid19 Epidemics in Vietnam**

With the human, economic and political losses that Covid19 is inflicting on the whole world, it has been shown that military power and economic strength cannot always solve all the problems of life fabricate. The most advanced weapons of humanity also cannot remove an invisible virus. The deadly epidemic is showing the foundation of worship "hard power", worship of power, gain, fame, power of money, etc. not the human philosophy of life. Virus is not a "super intelligent species", nor does it have any "computational strategy" to spread and harm humans, so its spread depends on the behavior of human. If humans hold hands, agree together towards the philosophy of human life, governments of all countries place the value of human life at the ultimate level, it can completely overcome this disaster. In other words, the more or less harm Covid19 has on people depends very much on political institutions, on the consensus of the people and on the use of the "soft power" of each nation.

In Vietnam, a national hero, cultural celebrity Nguyen Trai once affirmed, carrying a boat is the people, turning the boat is the people, the people are like water. President Ho Chi Minh also said: "In the sky, nothing is as precious as the people. In the world, nothing is as strong as the



unity force of the people” (Minh, 2002, p. 276). Everything originates from the people, taking the people as the root, the people’s life is the most important, is a great lesson summarized throughout the history of thousands of years of building and defending the country. This has also been successfully applied by our Party over the past 90 years. Therefore, one of the five lessons that the 12th National Party Congress has summarized is: “Innovation must always grasp the viewpoint” people are root”, for the benefit of the people, based on the people, to promote the role of mastery, sense of responsibility, creativity and all resources of the people; promoting the strength of great national solidarity” (Communist Party of Vietnam, 2016). That historical lesson has once again been proven, promoted in the prevention and control of the Covid19 epidemic in Vietnam today. This is a valuable cultural value and “soft power”, is a long-term strategic line, and is the law of survival and development of the entire Vietnamese people.

With a population of nearly 100 million people and a long border with China (the first country to experience the epidemic), Vietnam is a country at high risk of infection. But with the fierce participation and the consensus of the entire Party, the entire people and the entire army, now we have basically controlled and put out a good translation, praised and acknowledged by countries around the world and region as an example in pandemic prevention. That success is due to how we can exploit the “soft power” of Vietnam. That is shown:

*Firstly, the response and proactive prevention and fight against epidemics by the Party, the State and the Vietnamese political system.*

When there was information about the first case of illness in Wuhan and the risk of transmission of COVID-19, on January 16, 2020, the Prime Minister directed the Ministry of Health (in coordination with the World Health Organization). - WHO) urgently develop scenarios and plans for epidemic prevention and control; prepare material foundations for isolation, testing, examination and treatment. On January 23, 2020, when the first case of infection was detected in Vietnam, the Prime Minister issued the Telegram No. 121/CD-TTg and continuously on January 28 and 31, 2020, the Government issued Directive No. 05/CT-TTg, dated 28-1-2020, “On prevention and control of acute respiratory infections caused by a new strain of Corona virus”, Directive No. 06/CT-TTg, date 31-1-2020 “On strengthening prevention and control measures against new complicated developments of acute respiratory infections caused by a new strain of Corona virus”, in which firmly grasp the spirit of epidemic like fighting against the enemy”, mobilizing the whole political system to take part in the epidemic prevention and control. The National Steering Committee for epidemic prevention was established.

On January 30, 2020, the Secretariat of the Party Central Committee issued Official Letter No. 79-CV/TW “On prevention and control of acute respiratory infections caused by Corona virus”, requesting the party committee, to organize Party, government, Fatherland Front and mass organizations urgently joined in. Determining epidemic prevention is a key and urgent task that must focus on leading, directing and mobilizing the entire political system, armed forces, and the entire population to urgently and drastically implement preventive measures. , anti-epidemic. Facing the fast and complicated progress of the epidemic, the Prime Minister continued to issue Directive No. 13/CT-TTg, dated 11-3-2020, “On continuing to promote the prevention and control of Covid 19 in the new situation” to focus on strictly implementing the instructions of the Secretariat, strengthening measures to strictly control epidemics, allocating resources for medical activities, ensuring the environment, and supporting control prevention and control of epidemics.

On March 21, 2020, the Politburo issued the Conclusion Notice No. 172-TB/TW “On the prevention and control of the epidemic Covid19”, requesting party committees, authorities, departments and branches. The unions need to continue focusing on disease prevention and control with the highest sense of responsibility, determined not to let epidemic outbreaks occur,

at the same time, perform urgent tasks, support the business community, maintain production, business, care for people, proactively prepare economic recovery plans. Encourage the people and the business community to uphold the spirit of patriotism, compassion, and social responsibility, and join in epidemic prevention and control. In particular, on March 30, 2020, General Secretary and President Nguyen Phu Trong issued an appeal to our compatriots, comrades and soldiers throughout the country and our compatriots abroad to unite with one heart and unify their will and act, drastically and effectively implement the policies of the Party and the State, the direction and administration of the Government, to ensure the victory of the Covid19 pandemic. The whole political system is highly concentrated to continue to actively prevent and control effectively the epidemic; not too panic, but absolutely not subjective, lax; firmly grasp the situation, forecast the worst possibility, promptly work out effective measures to control and prevent by the spread of infection. Each agency, unit, organization, and each locality should follow the direction of their superiors, take the initiative and cooperate more closely to implement epidemic prevention and control; prioritizing resources, time and effort for epidemic prevention, etc. Thanks to strictly implementing the instructions of the Politburo, the Secretariat, the Government, the Prime Minister, with many specific solutions, up to now, b Second, the consensus of the Vietnamese people.

*Second, the consensus of the Vietnamese people.*

The high political determination of the Party and State of Vietnam in the fight against the Covid19 epidemic has received high consensus, joint strength and consensus from the people, really “the Party’s will - people’s hearts”, meeting the needs and aspirations of all classes of people. The majority of Vietnamese people are seriously implementing epidemic prevention and control, wearing masks when going out on the street or in public places; implementation of measures to track medical schedules and declarations; careful personal hygiene; centralized isolation and social isolation. Shops, shops trading in non-essential goods are closed, people are restricted from leaving their homes, etc. According to an investigation by the Institute of Public Opinion and Social Affairs, the Central Propaganda Department with 21,277 participants answered, 85% of the people completely believe that Vietnam will control and quell the Covid19 epidemic (Thanh, 2020). Because, the Party and State of Vietnam always put the health of the people first, ready to sacrifice immediate economic benefits to protect the health and lives of the people.

“Soft power” has been promoted in the fight against the Covid19 campaign that has been and is taking place, so that everyone can unite together, each citizen is an anti-epidemic fighter, creating collective strength, pushing together reverse epidemic. The Government signed Resolution No. 42/NQ-CP, dated April 9, 2020, of the Government “On measures to support people facing difficulties due to the Covid19 epidemic”, spent 62 trillion VND to support People facing difficulties due to the Covid19 epidemic. At the same time, with the tradition of solidarity, mutual affection, and love of the nation, over the past time, many organizations and individuals have voluntarily contributed money, donated rice to support the poor, many beautiful and touching stories, such as Rice ATMs, phone text messages, business people donating hundreds of millions of VND to the elderly who cycled tens of kilometers to donate 20,000 VND, etc. have been spread not only in the country but also in the international community.

The initial great successes in the fight against the Covid19 pandemic were to combine the strength of our nation, in which it is necessary to emphasize that the “soft power” of the whole country has been promoted properly and at the right time. “Soft power” is now a very precious asset. The results of social consensus, national solidarity, unanimity, and joint strength in the fight against pandemic also demonstrate Vietnam’s soft power. With this lesson, we see the deepest meaning and great human value from the decisions of the Party and the Government, from the involvement of the entire political system, the military, and the police to the ministries,

functional branches, and people. In difficulties and challenges, the “soft power” of the Vietnamese people shines even more.

## **NUMBER OF COMMENTS**

Vietnamese Political Institution: The People’s Democratic Republic is under the sole and absolute leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam. The Party leads the State and the society comprehensively, this is a favorable condition for the gathering of all resources and forces for effective anti-epidemic deployment. The Communist Party leads by way and policy, the authorities at all levels drastically execute, and the People’s organizations actively participate. On 1/4/2020, the Prime Minister signed Decision 447 / QD-TTg on the announcement of infectious epidemics in Vietnam. In April 2020, the Government and the Prime Minister continued to issue many important guiding documents on epidemic prevention and control in the new situation: Directive 19 / CT-TTg dated April 24, 2020, of the Prime Minister on procedures for implementing Covid-19 epidemic prevention and control measures in the new situation clearly state: To relax the limited measures to serve the prevention and control which have been taken in line with the epidemic developments; restore socio-economic activities on the basis of ensuring good disease control, especially in Hanoi City, Ho Chi Minh City, and big cities.

At the central level, the Politburo directs the state and political and social organizations to join the fight to prevent the epidemic drastically. Activities are deployed smoothly and quickly to the local political system and grassroots units. The local government has led and directed all levels and branches to grasp the situation and developments in a timely manner and to adopt effective solutions to disease prevention and control; issued many documents to direct and mobilize the participation of the entire political system, the participation of the entire people. The Covid-19 Steering Committee for Disease Control and Prevention was established in provinces, departments, sectors, unions, districts, and cities, especially the contingent of health workers, officers, and soldiers of the forces the number of armed forces, information, propaganda ... have been coordinated in the implementation and implementation of the assigned tasks promptly, drastically and synchronously. Information on epidemics, epidemic prevention, and control has been conveyed quickly, transparently, and fully; promptly and strictly handle false information, causing confusion in the society. The people coordinate with the party committees and authorities at all levels to calmly, actively, and actively participate in disease prevention and control.

Under the direction of the Party Central Committee, the Party Committee, authorities, the Fatherland Front, and mass organizations from the provincial level to the grassroots level, promote propaganda work, raise awareness and sense of responsibility to each officer. civil servants, employees, employees, and people about measures to prevent and control Covid-19 infection in the community; exercise social distance; Thoroughly emphasize the role and responsibility of the head and the forces directly in charge of epidemic prevention and control. Using various forms of information, propaganda (mass media, tables, panels, posters, oral propaganda, etc.); mobilize people to raise their awareness of self-protection, protect their family members, protect the community, and take anti-epidemic measures according to the provisions of law and the guidance of the Ministry of Health.

The Fatherland Front and mass organizations from the province to the grassroots have strengthened forms of encouraging people and business communities to promote patriotism, compassion, social responsibility, and participate in epidemic prevention and control. ; support spirit, material, funding, and means for functional forces to fulfill their tasks. Timely sharing and supporting people in difficult circumstances, workers who have to temporarily stop working, people in epidemic zones, can show the spirit of solidarity and mutual support. Provincial Youth Unions promote the role of impulse, volunteering, mobilizing forces, actively

supporting the authorities at all levels and people in epidemic prevention and control; cleaning streets, villages, hamlets, etc.

Party committees, the authorities of communes, wards, towns, villages, hamlets, villages, and residential groups promote the core role of the police force, the military, the health sector, the Fatherland Front, the youth and the women's union, etc. set up working groups or propaganda groups, coordinating with the authorities to "come door to door, check each person" to mobilize people to voluntarily comply with epidemic prevention and control measures.

On the basis of the direction of the Central Government, the Provincial Party Committee, the People's Committees of provinces established and led the Steering Committee of Covid-19 epidemic prevention in the provinces. The steering Committees actively are ready to deal with higher levels of translation according to the proposed plan, not to be passive or unexpected; fully satisfy the conditions on material foundations, equipment, materials, and human resources for epidemic prevention and control in the case of a strong outbreak. Focus on removing difficulties and problems in the purchase of equipment, materials, and tools for anti-epidemic protection. Develop policies to promptly encourage and support people participating in epidemic prevention and control. Districts and cities that have an epidemic must give priority to all conditions and resources to combat the epidemic and fight the epidemic under the 4-spot motto.

The localities have drastically and effectively implemented epidemic prevention and control measures; persistence principle: prevent, detect, isolate, localize, suppress epidemic, a cure. Resolutely handle strictly the cases of failure to declare, report incorrectly, fail to comply with isolation in accordance with regulations; organizations, and individuals that give false information, affecting epidemic prevention and control.

Local authorities firmly grasp the situation of immigrants in the provinces in order to have appropriate monitoring measures. Continue to monitor, monitor cases of returns from countries/regions with outbreaks, investigate quarantine lists, take test samples, and then divide them into levels of follow-up from F0, F1, F2, etc.

From here, localities strictly implement the flow of examination, isolation, and treatment of patients, measures against infection, and infection prevention for health workers, caregivers, and other patients at the treatment facilities. Health facilities have conducted online consultations on epidemic prevention and control so that localities can learn from each other's experiences in prevention, fighting, and treatment. Implement Test-kit for early detection of Covid-19 right after the Ministry of Health's permission. Investing in the prevention of negative pressure at provincial hospitals to serve treatment.

The government has designated and arranged sites, preparing facilities for mass quarantine; proactively prepare field hospitals to ensure that human resources, equipment, and facilities can meet treatment requirements. Development of the plan: Guidelines for community isolation, large-scale isolation, and other quarantine facilities (restaurants, hotels); implementing the requisition of a number of hotels as concentrated medical isolation areas when necessary; arranging hospital beds for the treatment of patients suffering from Covid-19 at district and city health centers, provincial general hospitals; at the same time work out a plan to mobilize and mobilize staff and equipment for units to serve epidemic prevention and control when an outbreak occurs.

Direct all levels and branches to actively innovate and improve working methods to adapt to epidemic prevention conditions, increase working online, reduce meetings, and gather crowds. Implement online training solutions, teaching, and learning via television to complete the education program at all levels of the school year 2019-2020 under the guidance of the Ministry of Education and Training. Temporarily suspending activities of tourist zones, attractions,

entertainment services, non-essential business activities, etc. Well implementing the Central's policies on foreign affairs and diplomacy in the new situation.

The political system has been deployed drastically, synchronously and uniformly under the direction of the Central Government, to localities (province, district, and commune); sectors (Health, Education, Communication, etc.); Social forces (Front, Youth, Women, Farmers, etc. residential groups, the village chief, etc.). Detecting, examining, and monitoring patient cases when classified as F0, F1, F2, etc.

Directing Communications in disease prevention through mainstream channels and social networks. Smartphones are transparently informed of the epidemic situation, measures to prevent epidemics, how to wash hands, wear masks to install Bluezone applications on smartphones; etc.

From timely and practical actions, etc. direction of the government. This has enabled the people to respond to various forms of folk media effectively by re-arranging familiar songs, revolutionary songs, such as the world-famous Jealous coved, and thereby people know Vietnam in the epidemic room.

The superiority of the socialist regime: No one will be left behind in this fight against the virus if they are Vietnamese children: Students, students, and workers returning home are subsidized for isolation at public facilities: School, army camp.

Countries then and very then responded in the same way that the Government of Vietnam oriented people in epidemic prevention such as wearing masks in the community, social isolation, during the epidemic days in the community. Elderly people should not leave the house.

Because of the drastic direction that Vietnam has been implementing a dual goal: to fight epidemic diseases and maintain production and business to ensure economic growth.

## **CONCLUSION**

Assessing the role of Vietnam's political system in the prevention of pandemic Covid19, Dr. Kidong Par (WHO's chief representative in Vietnam) commented: "In the coming time, we will not be surprised if Vietnam not appears to add new cases in the community. This shows that Vietnam's disease surveillance system is working well. We believe Vietnam will quickly detect quarantine, trace, localize, and stamp out epidemics effectively. The appearance of cases coming back from abroad, proves the humanitarian policy of the Government of Vietnam, strengthens people's confidence in the government".

From the results above, we can draw some lessons from the experience, as follows:

The Communist Party has a drastic, determined, and unified leadership in its will to set out a quick path;

Central and local governments, departments and branches agree and coordinate closely in action. When there is an outbreak, deploy like a battle;

The Fatherland Front, the political and social organizations encouraged and gathered all classes, strata, the People's force to join and respond to Anti-epidemic, struggle, donation, support, etc;

Communicate, promptly, and transparently update information on the epidemic situation on a variety of means so that people can quickly and promptly grasp and implement instructions;

The Health sector shall promptly direct and exchange experiences in treating patients in different localities and instruct how to prevent infection in the community.

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