

False and Hostile Stand point on Vietnam's Covid-19 Prevention

Punto de vista falso y hostil sobre la prevención del Covid-19 en Vietnam

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Abstract.The strategy of the “peaceful evolution” of hostile forces opposing the Vietnamese revolution is highly malicious and inhuman. The study was conducted to affirm that the peaceful development strategy has been, is, and will continue to take place drastically in Vietnam in the form of false and hostile standpoint. The author has made observations, documents, and in-depth interviews about information related to the COVID-19 epidemic in Vietnam. The results showed hundreds of thousands of news articles with false and hostile views towards Vietnam's COVID-19 prevention and control that were spread on the internet and social networks. Still, they were blocked by the system means of ideological work of the Communist Party of Vietnam.

Keywords:strategy of the peaceful, wrong views, hostility, COVID-19, Vietnam

Resumen. La estrategia de la evolución pacífica de las fuerzas hostiles que se oponen a la revolución vietnamita es altamente maliciosa e inhumana. El estudio se ha realizado para afirmar que la estrategia de evolución pacífica ha tenido, tiene y seguirá teniendo lugar drásticamente en Vietnam en forma de opiniones falsas y hostiles. El autor ha realizado observaciones, documentos y entrevistas en profundidad sobre la información relacionada con la epidemia de COVID-19 en Vietnam. Los resultados mostraron cientos de miles de artículos de noticias con opiniones falsas y hostiles hacia la prevención y el control del COVID-19 en Vietnam que se difundieron en Internet y en las redes sociales. Sin embargo, fueron bloqueados por los medios del sistema de trabajo ideológico del Partido Comunista de Vietnam.

Palabras clave: desarrollos pacíficos, opiniones equivocadas, hostilidad, COVID-19, Vietnam

Introduction

Ideological work is an important and transversal sequence of activities of the Communist Party of Vietnam. Through ideological work, the Communist Party of Vietnam unifies the perception of the whole party and the people on the vision, tasks and steps for economic, political, cultural and social development in each specific historical period. From the unification of awareness, the ideological work has continued to propagate, mobilize and promote the formation of beliefs, positive attitudes and the will to act of the entire society for the performance of the tasks set forth by the Party. Besides that, in the face of the plot to destroy the socialist regime in Vietnam through “peaceful evolution”, smokeless warfare, the ideological work faced fierce opposition from powerful, hostile and reactionary forces. Therefore, the objective requirement also requires ideological work to protect itself and to be able to identify, fight and defeat the strategy of “peaceful evolution”, which is specifically false and hostile standpoint.

The reality of 35 years of renewal (since the 6th National Congress of Deputies in 1986) shows that hostile and reactionary forces constantly spread false and hostile standpoint in order to undermine the stability of society, holding back Vietnam’s economic development with the plot to turn Vietnam into an unstable country and fall into the orbit of the imperialist countries, turning Vietnam from an independent country into a dependent country. In particular, every time there are important events in Vietnam such as the National Party Congress, the election of deputies to the National Assembly and People’s Councils at all levels, the commemoration of major national holidays, such destructive becomes even more decisive, stronger and more violent. Therefore, ideological work with the role of protector, preserver and development of the spiritual life of the entire party and the entire people was hadn’t time to rest.

In recent years, the context of the world and Vietnam has changed a lot. In the world, the trade war between the United States and China, the tension between Russia and the West, the Middle East hotspot, the revolutionary rise in force in Latin America. Domestic, the Communist Party of Vietnam has intensified the work of rectifying and building the party, and the work of preventing and combating corruption and negativity. The enemy forces that take advantage of this situation constantly come up with new tricks to destroy the ideological foundation of the Communist Party of Vietnam, dispersing the

people's confidence in the Party leadership. Faced with these risks and challenges, on October 22, 2018, the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam issued Resolution No. 35-NQ/TW on "Strengthening the protection of the ideological basis of the Party, fight against false and hostile standpoint in the new situation".

At the beginning of 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic spreading across the world, including Vietnam, had become a better excuse for hostile and reactionary forces to once again spearhead the destruction of the Vietnam revolution. The ideological work of the Communist Party of Vietnam was once again facing unprecedented difficulties. It was the identification and prevention of false and hostile standpoint during the COVID-19 pandemic to protect Vietnam's disease prevention and control, maintain socio-political stability to continue to develop the economy.

Theoretical framework

The Marxist-Leninist theory shows that movement and development is an objective and inevitable law of nature, society and human mind. And in this process of movement and development, the formation and struggle of opposites, which leads to mutual negation, is also an objective necessity. Class conflicts, between workers and employers, between the proletariat, communism and capitalism; Among them are also ethnic conflicts, between oppressed and exploited peoples, between afflicted and suffering nations and imperialist countries. But this contradiction is not natural, it is the result of a whole process of development of human society, the accumulation of quantity leads to qualitative changes. These contradictions are an objective existence of human society and require us to resolve them, face them and not avoid them. Consequently, the bourgeoisie of the capitalist countries, led by the United States, had been choosing to prevent the development of the socialist and communist-oriented countries, including Vietnam. The theory of victory in peace, war without shooting, had been further developed and refined. The result was the birth of the "peaceful evolution" strategy.

Peaceful evolution is a series of targeted physical and mental attacks on all areas of social life, from economy, politics, culture to security order... to cause disorder and disturbance, to change the nature of the regime social from within with external support. In particular, the hostile and reactionary forces pay special attention to the ideological front. Nixon, in his book "1999 - victory without war", said that "the ideological

front is the most decisive front”, “...all our weapons, commercial activities, aid, The economic system will not go anywhere if we fail on the ideological front” (Tran, D., 2011).

To combat “peaceful evolution”, the ideological work of the Communist Party of Vietnam must prevent and defeat all “peaceful evolution” plots and tricks by hostile forces in the ideological sphere; maintain the ideological foundation of the regime, prevent the penetration of bourgeois ideology and Western lifestyles, protect the nation’s cultural values, and successfully carry out the cause of renovation and construction, building and defending the Motherland. To accomplish that task, the first requirement for ideological work in this war is to identify false and hostile standpoint.

False and hostile standpoint

The spirit of Resolution No. 35 of the 12th Politburo of the Communist Party of Vietnam, issued on October 22, 2018, clearly states that protecting the Party’s ideological foundation is protecting the Party, the political platform and the Party lines; protect the people, the socialist rule of law State of Vietnam; protect the renewal, industrialization and modernization of the country and international integration; protect the interests of the nation and the nation; maintain a peaceful and stable environment for the development of the country.

Accordingly, author Nguyen Viet Thong (2021) said that: “False and hostile standpoint are views that show deviations in theoretical awareness as well as practical perception (false standpoint) or views which purport to go against and in stark contrast to orthodox views (hostile standpoint)”. The author Huynh Thanh Hieu (2020) argues that: “In relation to the social regime, false and hostile standpoint can be generalized as words, articles, actions, ... of individuals/social groups (subjects) that incorrectly reflect (erroneously) the reality of political, economic, social life, etc. of a country, inflate negatives, inflate conflicts, distort current policies with the aim of changing and collapsing the political regime, disintegrating the government system, causing disunity among the people, etc., with the aim of establishing a regime politician and a new government in accordance with the wishes of the subjects”.

From the above concepts, we can give a concept of erroneous and hostile views in the spirit of Resolution 35 as follows: The false and hostile standpoint towards the Vietnamese revolution are those views

that go against or attack the political platform, Party lines, state policies and laws to attack the Vietnamese socialist rule of law, attack the doi moi process, public cause, industrialization, modernization and international integration of Vietnam; infringing on national and ethnic interests; destroy the peaceful and stable environment so that Vietnam cannot develop.

Recognize False And Hostile Standpoint

Analyzing ideological work according to the structural system model, we can draw on the elements of subject, object, purpose, content, method, form, means, and effectiveness to identify false and hostile standpoint and then take measures to prevent and neutralize them (Luong, K. H., 2017).

About the subject: The subjects of false and hostile standpoint of view can be hostile and reactionary forces; elements political opportunism, degeneration, discontent; individuals with low levels of political awareness (Vu, V. H., 2018).

About the object: The object of erroneous and hostile opinions are, above all, gullible people who do not have adequate knowledge of economic, political, cultural and social problems...

About the purpose: its “unchangeable and consistent purpose is to radically destroy political ideology, abolish the leading role of the Communist Party of Vietnam, depoliticize and neutralize the army and force the police force, towards the abolition of the socialist regime in Vietnam” (Vu, V.H., , 2018).

About the content : The author Tran Van Phong (2019) divides six types of erroneous and hostile views, including: “1) The type of attack on the ideological foundation of our Party with various manifestations; 2) The type of opposes the leadership of the Party, distorts the Platform, guidelines and guidelines of the Party, policies and laws of the State; 3) Types of misrepresentation of the history of the nation, the history of the Party, the history of the revolution; 4) Types of personal slander of leaders of the Party; 5) Types of takes advantage of the errors and defects of the Party to distort the nature of the Party; 6) The types of that celebrates capitalism with its various merits.”

The author Le The Duong (2021) argues that false and hostile standpoint can be divided into two types: “First, distorting the values, science and revolution of the Marxist-Leninist doctrine, the Party’s

ideology of socialism. Second, distort socialism, goals and ideals on the road to socialism in Vietnam”.

About the methods and forms: they used to counter-revolutionary propaganda methods such as setting an example, making presentations, using visual images, seminars and debates. In which, they used content that had been distorted, distorted, cut, molded, inflated to give one-sided and misleading views, through which they given false and hostile standpoints. At the same time, they made recommendations in various forms, such as sending letters, exchanging ideas, giving suggestions on the occasion of the Party Congress, reforming the Constitution, etc., thinking that it's time to change according to political pluralism, multiparty opposition, construction of the state based on democracy and civil society. At the same time, they offer visions and arguments that take advantage of the existing difficulties, limitations, shortcomings, and loopholes in social life to equate the phenomenon to the essence of socialism, which is the result of following the path of socialism.

About the means of ideological work: the current hostile and reactionary forces used to many media such as newspapers, radio, blogs, even direct propaganda, but the main methods are through the Internet and social networks (Facebook, Youtube, Twitter, Blog. ..) to “colluding with each other, propagate, misrepresent, slander the Party and the State, divide the Party with the people, misrepresent history, misrepresent the truth, slander, obscure our regime. Through the propagation of wrong, hostile and hybrid ideas, views and lifestyles in our society, into cadres and party members, they want to promote self-evolution and self-transformation within us step by step to finally achieve the goal of victory without war” (Le, H. N., 2013).

About the efficiency: According to VI Lenin (1979: 79), it is: “capable of obtaining the most stable results with the least effort.” While the ideological work of the Communist Party of Vietnam always requires improving efficiency, that is, improving the results obtained by minimizing costs. The counter-revolutionary propaganda activities of the hostile and reactionary forces are willing to pay huge costs to obtain even the smallest results. They use all kinds of tricks, with the sole aim of eliminating socialism and eliminating communism.

Methods

The study was designed with a combination of quantitative researchs and qualitative researchs.

In qualitative researchs, researcher looked at information related to the COVID-19 epidemic. The observation period was carried out from June 2020 to December 2021 in the Vietnamese Internet environment. As previous studies have shown, the means used by the subjects to convey false and hostile standpoint in Vietnam today are mainly the Internet (via websites, blogs) and social media (Facebook, Youtube). Therefore, researcher first look for information in the Google searched engine with keywords such as “strange pneumonia”, “coronavirus”, “COVID 19”, “COVID epidemic in Vietnam”, “anti-COVID work in Vietnam”, “how to prevent and treat COVID”, “COVID vaccine”, “COVID-19 lockdown”, “medical isolation”, “COVID-19 pause of operations”, “fight the epidemic how to fight the enemy”, “going through all the alleys, calling from house to house, checking each person”, “the army participates in the prevention and control of epidemics”, “COVID-19 vaccine fund”, “directive 15”, “Directive 16”, “Directive 19”, “Resolution 128”, in the advanced search, the author checks the option to search for websites in Vietnamese. The reason for choosing the above keywords is because at the beginning of the COVID-19 epidemic, it was called “strange pneumonia” in China, then there were related keywords like “coronavirus” because this is the disease caused by a variant of the crown. virus, went by related names such as SAR-Covi-2, finally the disease was called COVID-19. The remaining keywords are related to the epidemic prevention and control work of the Government of Vietnam. From the perspective of a political scientist, the author believes that the proposals for measures, directives and resolutions associated with the anti-epidemic phases of the Government will be the target of attacks from the false and hostile standpoint. Also, with the above keywords, the author does a search on social media Facebook and Youtube, because these are the two social media sites with the highest percentage of users in Vietnam today. At the same time, we also directly accessed the websites and social media fan pages of a number of organizations and individuals identified as hostile and reactionary forces openly opposing the Vietnamese revolution. To saw from June 2020 to December 2021, how they give their standpoint on COVID-19 prevention and control action of Vietnam. In this way, the researcher will answer for the question: the false and

hostile standpoint attack at what stage of the prevention and control of the COVID-19 epidemic in Vietnam and what social group is it the main subject? Through compare, analysis, and evaluation, the author draws conclusions about the mode of coordination of hostile and reactionary forces in the counter-revolutionary propaganda in Vietnam and the way these methods the means of ideological work of the Communist Party of Vietnam in combated with false and hostile standpoint.

The researcher also conducted in-depth interviews with various people in areas that were once the epicenter of the COVID-19 epidemic, such as Bac Giang, Bac Ninh, Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, and Dong Nai. Due to the epidemic conditions, the interviews were conducted by telephone. The investigator actively sought out and contacted people in the epidemic area. To ensure the objectivity and representativeness of the selected sample, we actively select interviewees of different ages, occupations, and job titles, including men and women. The interviews were conducted during November and December 2021, when Vietnam transitioned to a state of safe coexistence with the epidemic. Each interview lasts 10 to 15 minutes, with content that revolves around information related to the COVID-19 epidemic, such as people's sources of access to information, the response of the authorities to the disease, especially the problem of fake news. Here we used to the term "fake news" instead of the phrase "false and hostile standpoint" to ensure objectivity in research and prevent political views from psychologically affecting people.

In quantitative research, the researcher uses primary and secondary data for analysis. The questionnaire was designed in Google Form and shared through the social networks Facebook and Zalo, the most popular personal and group information sharing networks in Vietnam. The online survey was conducted in June 2020 (when the new government issued policies to prevent and control the epidemic of COVID-19) and November 2021 (when the government made adjustments to the epidemic prevention and control policy). Participants will answer questions about information channels during the COVID-19 epidemic, the fastest information channels, the most reliable information channels, some people's reactions to information about the epidemic, diseases, and the attitude of people towards the prevention and control of epidemics from the Government. In turn, the study uses data from electronic newspapers, official information pages of the Party, Government and authorities, reports and results of related studies carried out, during a

period of time from 2018 to the present (since Resolution 35 was issued until now), to propose solutions to early identification and prevent false and hostile standpoint in Vietnam in the future.

Results and Discussion

In the context of Vietnam becoming more deeply and widely integrated with the world, the opening of economic, political, cultural and social activities to most of the world's countries and territories had been bringing to Vietnam an unprecedented "international fortune, position and prestige". However, accompanying the new winds to create motivation and vitality to help Vietnam develop in all aspects, there are flies and flies that carry toxic things. They find ways to sneak in to attack with the intention of bringing down the revolutionary socialist stronghold in Vietnam. This study makes three main findings, which are: (1) The activities of the Party and the State in the prevention and control of the COVID-19 epidemic had been the focus of opposition from hostile forces. In addition, (2) the hostile forces not only colluded openly but also secretly through the method of coordinating the media to propagate false and hostile standpoint in Vietnam. But (3) Vietnam's means of ideological work can fully identify and prevent false and hostile standpoint if there are proper methods of coordination. This strengthens the fighting force of the Party, strengthens the confidence of the people and society in the guidelines and lines of the Party, and in the policies and laws of the State.

False and hostile standpoint on the prevention and control of COVID-19 in Vietnam

By searching for keywords related to the COVID-19 epidemic as mentioned above, the researcher founded that in January 2020, when the disease had not yet occurred in Vietnam, rumors of the disease outbreak, symptoms of the disease, and unscientific preventive and curative measures were disseminated on the social network Facebook (Luu, H., 2020), along with conspiracy theories about new biological weapons. Because it was a "strange disease", the information about its origin, symptoms as well as its ability to cause death at that time was not verified. Therefore, when the bad actors released information about the disease outbreak in Vietnam, it caused people confusion and anxiety. In many places people rushed to buy food, hoarding of food

created the risk of social unrest. This was one of the tricks that hostile and reactionary forces often used to provoke social unrest in Vietnam.

During the COVID-19 epidemic in Vietnam, every time the state introduced new guidelines and policies, opposition forces tried to distort them with anti-scientific views. In addition, social issues and events related to the prevention and control of the COVID-19 epidemic, as well as events taking place during this time that are related to cadres, party members, authorities and Party organizations, were exploited by them to misrepresent, defame, slander and tear down idols. Specifically, they made a disparaging view of the Vietnamese government launching the establishment of the COVID-19 Vaccine Fund. “Voice of America”, “Viet Tan”, “Radio Free Asia”, “BBC Vietnamese”, ... said that: “The government calls on people to support the fund to buy vaccines to mislead public opinion, use money for nefarious purposes” (Lam, H. A., 2021), “the government deceives the people in the vaccination campaign”, “The government takes vaccines from international aid to sell them to the people”, “National The association proposes to promulgate soon a vaccination law to collect money” (Tran, D. T., Kieu, D. K., 2021). At the same time, they agitation regional and ethnic discrimination in the distribution and vaccination of vaccines. Meanwhile, the COVID-19 vaccine fund and vaccination campaign show the consensus of all the people, joint effort, consensus, tradition, morality of love, care and mutual protection that dates back thousands of years the culture of the people. When Vietnam implemented lockdown measures to prevent the epidemic, they had spreaded views on violations of democracy, human rights, and religion. In addition to undermining social stability by causing panic among the people, its purpose is also to undermine people’s confidence in the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam, weakening and breaking the great unity bloc of all the people, the invincible force of the Vietnamese nation. They tried to bring Vietnam into chaos due to the epidemic to easily organize riots and overthrow the people’s government.

In addition to hostile forces, the researcher also found that social networking sites Facebook and Youtube are also frequently used by political dissidents and disgruntled elements to propagate opinions that cause public opinion such as: Vaccine-related topics and COVID-19 vaccination. According to statistics from the Vietnam Ministry of Information and Communication, hundreds of people have been punished for spreading fake news and false information related to the

COVID-19 epidemic on social media (Vietnam Ministry of Information and Communication, 2021). A part of the population, due to its meekness, credulity and little knowledge, believed and became a tool to spread false opinions on the subject of vaccines against COVID-19.

From the research results and review of related documents, the author found that in anti-revolutionary activities in Vietnam, undermining the peaceful and stable environment, undermining political security, undermining the leadership role and relation of the Communist Party of Vietnam with people, the main force that plays a vital role was the hostile forces. They persistently resist, with many conspiracies and defying all tricks. Therefore, in destructive against the prevention and control of the COVID-19 epidemic in Vietnam, this is also the main force of the main source of false and hostile standpoint. They gathered forces and destroyed Vietnam with many false and hostile standpoint. These views attack most social issues, but mainly sensitive areas such as ethnicity, religion, democracy, human rights, issues related to irregularities by cadres and party members. They mold, distort and exaggerate our shortcomings and limitations while ignoring the results and achievements Vietnam had achieved. They take the limitations and shortcomings of individuals to attribute them to the entire organization, the political system, the Party and the State. In particular, from the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, the author realizes that unprecedented issues that arise for the first time and attract public attention will definitely become targets for powerful, hostile, and warlike forces counter. This perception can be one of the bases for us to recognize false and hostile standpoint of view early.

Recognition and prevention early of false and hostile standpoint

From the research results, the author finds be able to recognition and prevention early of false and hostile standpoint through some of the following signs: (1) a new and unprecedented problem attracting public attention (2) problems that affect the interests of community groups and (3) events and phenomena that attract large numbers of people to an unusual one way that are easy to become targets for hostile and reactionary forces to bring political standpoints, counter and attack Vietnam . Therefore, it is important to quickly provide original information in a variety of media. And we can easily see that the epidemic-related keywords like “COVID-19”, “vaccine fund”, “resolution 128”... have become keywords, general hashtags of articles, speeches,

make it a trend of search in the popular search engine like Google. In some cases, subjective agencies such as the Ministry of Health publish ads on Google. That improves the ability to connect official information channels with people. Then, through ideological work, the information is analyzed in depth, in multiple dimensions and scientifically, oriented and combative, contributing to shape the dominant information flow that covers society. This can be considered as a first step to prevent false and hostile standpoint from afar, and to minimize their access to people and society. This requires the rhythmic and synchronized entry of the means of ideological work. Each channel, each means of information about a field and area has analysis and commentary based on the stance of the working class.

C. Marx pointed out that: human nature is the synthesis of social relations. Therefore, in the struggle to prevent false and hostile standpoint, ideological work not only affects the spirit and ideology of people and organizations, but also affects their relationships. While hostile and reactionary forces have way to counter-revolutionary propaganda false and hostile standpoint, we need to have way coordination means of ideological work to prevent them. In addition to take control of the information space, need to quickly unmask only false and hostile standpoint. The ideological task force must also coordinate with other forces such as the Ministry of Public Security, the Ministry of Information and Communications to prevent and attend to them promptly. Specifically, in the past, through developing mechanisms, policies and legalizing them, the Vietnamese authorities have blocked various websites and blogs and asked to ban some fan pages of organizations. Organizations and individuals often publish false and hostile standpoint towards Vietnam, such as BBC Vietnamese, RFI, RFA, VOA Vietnamese...

Through the results of surveys and interviews, the researcher found that in the provinces and cities that were once the epicenter of the epidemic, 100% of the respondents said that there was false and false information spread during the epidemic period. Especially in isolation and lockdown areas. However, they also said that due to drastic reporting by the authorities and sufficient and timely reporting by the authorities, they were only fooled once or twice by such fake news. And then, they only tracked the information through official channels. The survey data shows that 78% of people choose to follow and trust the information from state television. When asked about their belief in epidemic

prevention and control, more than 90% of people believed in the Party and State policies. This result comes from the early identification of false and hostile standpoint and shows that the means of ideological work system of the Communist Party of Vietnam has effectively prevented the spreading of false and hostile standpoint in the community.

Conclusions

The transition period to socialism on a world scale continues to drag on, and the conflicts between revolutionary and counter-revolutionary forces remain tense and drastic under different content, shapes and forms and constantly changing. But the strategy of “peaceful evolution” will remain the key strategy of counter-revolutionary forces targeting revolutionary socialist strongholds like Vietnam, Cuba, China, North Korea. The COVID-19 pandemic has been exploited to the fullest by them. Although constantly attacked by false and hostile standpoint of counter-revolutionary forces with the aim of overthrowing communist ideals and dissolving the great unity bloc of the Vietnamese people. However, the ideological front of the Communist Party of Vietnam not only continues to stand firm, winning initial victories, making an important contribution to the achievements of Vietnam’s epidemic prevention and control work, but also continues to take new steps in both theories and practice. In there, include subject identification, recognition and prevention early of false and hostile standpoint, and ways to prevent them.

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