**Prevention Terrorism’s Ideologies in Vietnam: Legalizations and Standpoints**

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**Abstract**

The development of information technology and the influx of refugees from the unstable regions of the world have made terrorism and extremist ideology increasingly difficult to control and stop. Terrorism is increasingly becoming a transnational phenomenon, so cooperation between border control agencies is critical to combat the shift of transnational terrorism. With the motto of active prevention, not to happen terrorism is the main, Vietnam to attach importance and strengthen the capacity for prevention of terrorism for specialized forces. Yet, strengthening the state management of security and order, border control and border gates in order to detect and prevent terrorists have also considered as one of the highest priorities of Vietnam. Additionally, regional and international cooperation in counter-terrorism in Southeast Asian and around the world has been strengthened. To carry out these activities, the Government of Viet Nam has established the National Counter-terrorism Board (2016), which is not only responsible for advising the Government on the organization and direction of activities anti-terrorism in the whole country, but also assist Prime Minister in organizing, implementing and coordinating the inter-sectoral work in the prevention and fight against terrorism. This article reviews overall prevention’s strategies and policies to control terrorism and also introduce briefly Vietnam’s standpoints apply in practical situation for handling terrorism’s ideology. Using secondary data with combination between Court’s documents and social media’s sources (Vietnamese), one typical case study will illustrate terrorism with its distinguish characteristics under Vietnam’s criminal law regulations.

**Legalizations to Combat Terrorism: At a Glance**

Naturally, terrorismis commonly understood to refer to acts of violence that target civilians in the pursuit of political or ideological aims. In terms of legal terminology, although the international community has yet to adopt a comprehensive definition of terrorism, existing declarations, resolutions and universal “sectoral” treaties relating to specific aspects of it define certain acts and core elements (O'Neill 2003; Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights 2008). In 1994, the General Assembly’s Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, set out in its resolution 49/60, stated that terrorism includes “criminal acts intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public, a group of persons or particular persons for political purposes” and that such acts “are in any circumstances unjustifiable, whatever the considerations of a political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic, religious or other nature that may be invoked to justify them.”

However, since the September 9 event with terrible attack in the soil of the United States in 2001, together with a series of other terrorist attacks which followed in many parts of the world, terrorism has becoming increasingly as a real threat to the global security. Combating terrorism has become a hotly debated political issue for most countries around the world that it is not possible to fight terrorism in one single nation. In the recent years, terrorism has been getting more complicated and diversified in forms and manners of actions, dangerous in attempts, which cause heavy consequences and it has been a haunting issues to many countries. Three years later of the 9/11 event, the Security Council, in its resolution 1566 (2004), referred to “terrorism is criminal acts, including against civilians, committed with the intent to cause death or serious bodily injury, or taking of hostages, with the purpose to provoke a state of terror in the general public or in a group of persons or particular persons, intimidate a population or compel a Government or an international organization to do or to abstain from doing any act”. Later that year, the Secretary-General’s High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change described terrorism as any action that is “intended to cause death or serious bodily harm to civilians or non- combatants, when the purpose of such an act, by its nature or context, is to intimidate a population, or to compel a Government or an international organization to do or to abstain from doing any act”

There are measures proposed by specialists to fight terrorism at national, regional and international levels, in which the perfection of legal framework is considered a key solution. Within its mandate of peace and international security protection, the United Nations has approved various important international laws and regulations to suppress and try terrorist actions. These are also important legal bases for international cooperation amongst nations in the investigation, prosecution and trial of terrorist activities, and the bases for countries to sign, join and take responsibility in legalising their national laws.[[2]](#footnote-2) In general, all international convention on terrorism extremely opposes international terrorist activities and strongly their opposition to terrorism under all forms. By approving a system of international law on terrorism, the UN has shown clearly a leading role in the fight against terrorism worldwide as ‘Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy’ that has proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly since 8 September 2006.[[3]](#footnote-3) Accordingly, Office of Special Projects The UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy emphasized that “encourages the IAEA and the OPCW to continue their efforts, within their respective mandates, to help States to build capacity to prevent terrorists from accessing nuclear, chemical, or radiological materials, to ensure security at related facilities, and to respond effectively in the event of an attack using such materials” (United Nations General Assembly 2006).

In research of international law on terrorism shows that each international convention provides different measures and methods of punishments. Terrorist activities, defined under the international conventions are diversified, multi-forms, and could be violent actions or threat of violence, destruction or threat of destruction, killing, causing injury, bomb set-up… to define whether a behaviour is a terrorist activity depends on various specific criteria. In some cases, it is based on the persons who are violated; purpose of crime, and sometimes on the violators… in terms of national law, a behaviour to be no considered as terrorist activity depends on political institutions, class ideologies; and religious and ethnic perceptions of such country. That is why to date no single definition about terrorism has been reached by the international community. Although there is no single definition on terrorism, international conventions have listed activities, which are considered terrorist actions according to the following categories:

Firstly, terrorist activities attack aircrafts and in violation of aviation safety regulations, which include violation of the safety of aircrafts, people or properties. Currently, transporting via airlines is considered as the most popular transportation’s ways to convey people and cargo to the remotest places of the Earth per twenty-four hours. Alongside with positive benefits of civil aviation, it is also increasingly becoming the focus of the operational project of different terrorist’s targets as a subject of their actions. As far as Arasly (2005, p. 77) reviewed the number of terrorist activities directly at air transport with the variety of patterns, between the late 1960s and early 1970s, including “armed seized of an airliner; hijacking to a safe airport; and issuing demands of a political nature under the threat of execution of hostages.” Other threats of terrorist in airplane include public disorder on aircraft; use of violence or violent threat to take control of the aircraft; violent activities against people on an aircraft en route; behaviour to cause destruction of navigation system or destruction of aircraft; the transfer of information which a persons know it incorrect, and hence cause a potential danger to the aircraft, intentional and illegal use of equipment, agents or weapons to carry out violent actions against personnel working at international airports or cause suspension of operations of the international airport (Arasly 2005; Dempsey 2003; Elias 2009).

Secondly, terrorist activities relate to the safety of maritime routines and permanent facilities along continent borders. Although no any official definition ‘maritime terrorism’ adopted in the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), at least, it was referred by the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP) as ‘the undertaking of terrorist acts and activities (1) within the maritime environment, (2) using or against vessels or fixed platforms at sea or in port, or against any one of their passengers or personnel, (3) against coastal facilities or settlements, including tourist resorts, port areas and port towns or cities.’ To some extent, within the scope of the Southeast Asia’s content, Yau (2016, pp. 34-5) pointed out maritime terrorism’s acts includes the control or take-over of ships by violence or threat of violent actions or other alike behaviour; violent action against people on ships; behaviour to destroy or damage ships or commodities. Additionally, there are also cover any direct operations to set-up under any forms of devices or agents which lead to not only destroy ships, but also damage serious destruction to maritime navigation systems. Consequently, this is likely to cause serious intervention into the operative equipment and exchanged information’s tools, which affect negative to the safety of the ship en route and even, leads to killing and injury of people (Tuerk 2008).

Thirdly, terrorist activities impact either directly or indirectly on human rights, particularly in violation of human health, physical health and human freedom. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (2008, p. 7) emphasized that terrorism has a serious influence on the enjoyment of a number of human rights, “in particular the rights to life, liberty and physical integrity. Terrorist acts can destabilize Governments, undermine civil society, jeopardize peace and security, threatens social and economic development, and may especially, negatively affect certain groups. All of these have a direct impact on the enjoyment of fundamental human rights.” Besides that, this terrorism’s behaviour covers various violations to threaten human security, such as kidnapping, killing, taking hostage or attacking human bodies or human freedom of those under international protection; violent attack to offices, personal residence or vehicle of those under international protection; detaining, threat of killing or injuring, or continued detaining in order to threaten a third party to do or not to do something as an explicit or implicit condition to release hostages (O'Neill 2003, pp. 10-1).

Fourthly, terrorist activities use illegally dangerous weapons and weapon of high destruction. There includes bombs, mines, and nuclear weapons to detonate and intentionally detonate to kill people or targeting public places, government facilities, public transportation or infrastructure (Hoffman 1999). To share personal opinion in a Harvard Kennedy School Belfer Center white paper, Former President of the U.S. Obama stated, “if an organization like al-Qaeda got a weapon of mass destruction [chemical, biological, and radiological explosive – CBRE] in its hands…just a few individuals could potentially kill tens of thousands of people, maybe hundreds of thousands.”

Since 2014, the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP) has published the Global Terrorism Index (GTI),[[4]](#footnote-4) which provides a comprehensive summary of the key global trends and patterns in terrorism over the last 17 years in covering the period from the beginning of 2000. In the latest version, the 2017 GTI highlighted a turning point in the fight against radical Islamist extremism. The main positive finding shows a global decline in the number of deaths from terrorist attacks to 25,673 people, which is a 22 per cent improvement from the peak in 2014 (Institute for Economics and Peace 2017). Terrorism has fallen significantly in the epicenters of Syria, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria, which are four of the five countries most affected by terrorism. The ten countries with the largest improvements experienced 7,348 fewer deaths while the 10 countries with the largest deteriorations experienced only 1,389 terrorism deaths (Institute for Economics and Peace 2017). This highlights the strength of the positive trend with the number of people killed by terrorism decreasing for the second successive year. These annual statistics of IEP in terms of GTI questioned for counter-terrorism that is considered as one of the central missions of the U.N in order to protect the world’s peace. The international legal system on terrorism has in fact met urgent needs for countries in the struggle against terrorism at a global scale. The U.N member countries when joining international conventions on anti-terrorism shall be obliged to undertake tasks such as to introduce measures in order to define judicial rights; show strong commitment to trial of terrorist activities and terrorism-related actions; and cooperate internationally in anti-terrorism.

It can be said that international cooperation play an important role recognised in all international convention on terrorism. Enhancing multilateral cooperation is but an obvious need in the fight against terrorism as the threat of terrorism has now border. The need for multilateral cooperation in the prevention and fight against terrorism has been clearly stated in all international laws (O'Neill 2003; Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights 2008). Member countries are to cooperate and give all possible assistance in the prosecution process of crimes such as exchange of information, hand-over of evidence, investigation proceedings, and prosecution of violators. The fight against terrorism is a non-territorial one, without time line and the limit of possible consequences to which the international community might have to suffer. However, to fight effectively, it is important to build a strong legal system, not just within a nation, a territory but also in all places. Therefore, joining international convention on anti-terrorism is necessary to all countries in the world.

**Vietnam's Policies and Frameworks to Combat Terrorism**

An objective and comprehensive analysis and assessment of the causes of terrorist acts is needed to find the most effective and effective solutions. The causes of terrorism and international terrorism are related to inequalities in international relations. The benefits and disadvantages of globalization are not shared fairly among nations, especially between developed countries in the north and the underdeveloped countries in the south. The uneven economic and social development leads to the disparity between the rich and the poor, which causes negative reactions in a social part. They are stuck in life, so one department has come to extremes, excesses and it will be even more serious if terrorism’s groups instigate and agitate them for terror. Therefore, Vietnam’s authorities consider that in the fight against terrorism, there is a need for cooperation on the basis of equality between nations, ensuring equality in the enjoyment of the common achievements of human civilization at both regional and global levels (Thayer 2012; UNODC 2012; Vinh, Quang Pham 2011). The world community in general, first and foremost industrialized countries, needs to help poor countries escape poverty, disease and developmental delays. Where social justice is least practiced, the risk of terrorism is highest. Terrorism is the signal of a bad situation caused by wrong social policies and unequal international relations. To fight effectively against terrorist activities, it is necessary to solve all the problems of socio-economic, ethnic, religious and legal issues. Governments need to focus their energies on achieving economic growth, step by step improving the material and spiritual well-being of people, exercising equality, democracy and social progress.

***Legalizations and its Implications Counter Terrorism***

Recognizing the dangers of terrorism, Vietnam strongly opposes all terrorist activities, undermines national security and order, violates sovereignty, and interferes in the internal affairs of nations. Government of Vietnam stated: “Actively fight to defeat all conspiracy, anti-democratic activities of hostile forces; prevent and denounce the wrong information and allegiance, repel crimes; ready to respond to non-traditional security threats.” Furthermore, Vietnam condemns international terrorism and supports cooperation among nations, including the United States, to eliminate international terrorism (Vinh, Quang Phan 2009; Vinh, Quang Pham 2011). In Viet Nam, although there has been no terrorist act committed by international terrorist organizations, the functional forces have detected some international terrorists into the country; they were blocked by security agencies in time, not to happen terrorism (Institute for Economics and Peace 2016, 2017; Thayer 2012; UNODC 2012). Recently, we have discovered a number of in-country contacts, relationships with terrorist organizations, Islamic extremists in the world and in Southeast Asia. At the same time, it has detected, prevented and disabled many conspiracy and terrorist activities of hundreds of reactionary exiled Vietnamese expatriates inland.

In the coming time, with the trend of integration, opening up more and more, Vietnam will continue to expand, have more complete and comprehensive relations with many countries in the world, including big countries. Thus, terrorist acts aimed at the interests of large countries can occur and threaten seriously, directly to the security and order of Vietnam. With a tradition of peace-loving people, Vietnam has always expressed its uncompromising attitude towards terrorist activities in any form.

In order to create a solid and comprehensive legal foundation for combating terrorism, the National Assembly has passed the Law on Prevention and Fight against Terrorism, effective from 1 October 2013. The 51-article Law provides anti-terrorism principles, policies, measures and forces as well as state management, international cooperation and responsibilities of agencies, organizations and individuals in the prevention and combat of terrorism.

*Vietnam’s Definition and its Concepts to Terrorism*

The term “terrorism” is defined in Clause 1 of Article 3 by listing specific acts, which are regarded as terrorist actions. Besides, five groups of prohibited acts related to terrorism are specified in Article 6, namely 1) acts of terrorism and financing terrorism; 2) concealing, harbouring and not reporting on acts of terrorism and financing terrorism; 3) revealing state secrets in anti-terrorism activities; 4) intentionally spreading false information on terrorism and financing of terrorism; obstructing and causing difficulties to the prevention and combat of terrorism; and 5) abusing position and power in the prevention and combat of terrorism to infringe upon the State’s interests and rights and legitimate interests of organizations and individuals. In reviewing international conventions and in reference to current regulations of Vietnam related to terrorism issues, the author sums up some comments as follows:

First, terrorism as in Vietnamese criminal law is interpreted as countering people’s government meanwhile many international conventions to which Vietnam have become a part defines terrorism from a multi-faceted perspective. There includes 1) behaviour causing public embarrassment and disorder, or force a country, an international organisation, an inter-governmental organisation, a individual or an entity or a group of people to do or not to do something (adopted by International convention on anti-hostage taking of 1979);[[5]](#footnote-5) 2) killing or causing serious injuries or destruction of places, devices or system in a broad scale, leading to major economic consequences (adopted by International convention on the control of terrorist bombing action of 1997); and 3) some activities can be considered as terrorist actions regardless of purposes such as behaviours relating to the safety of vehicles or aviation and maritime routes (which defined in Tokyo Convention of 1963, the Hague Convention of 1970, The Montreal Convention of 1971)

Second, terrorist behaviours defined by the law of Vietnam include 1) violation of life, body freedom, physical health and 2) threat to human life and mental threat to government officials and cadres. International conventions give broad concept of terrorism including violent activities or threat of violence, killings, causing injuries or property destruction or bombing.

*General Provisions and its Specific Preventions Anti-Terrorism*

The Law devotes Chapter III to providing the prevention of terrorism. Eight groups of measures to prevent terrorism and financing of terrorism are specified from Articles 20 to 27, ranging from communication and education, management of security and order, control of transport activities, control of transaction of monetary and property, control of imported, exported, transit goods and means of transport, control of activities of publication, press, post and telecommunications, control of food safety and hygiene and medicine, and elaboration and implementation of anti-terrorism plans (Vinh, Quang Phan 2009).  Chapter IV regulates the combat of terrorism, specifying the detection of terrorism, receipt and processing of reported information and denunciations about terrorism, measures to prevent terrorism, measures to fight terrorists and counter terrorist attacks at foreign diplomatic and consular offices, representative offices of international organizations and residences of these offices’ members, and overseas agencies, organizations and Vietnamese (Vinh, Quang Phan 2009). According to Article 28, through their operation, agencies, organizations and individuals must proactively detect terrorism. The Law also provides 12 groups of urgent measures to stop and eliminate terrorism and minimize harmful effects of terrorism.

The combat of terrorism must use measures specified in this Law and the laws on protection of national security and maintenance of social order. Under the Law, the State will implement six groups of policies on the prevention and combat of terrorism. These policies include: raising the capacity of anti-terrorism forces; encouraging and mobilizing organizations and individuals to participate in the prevention and combat of terrorism; strictly punishing all individuals and organizations committing acts of terrorism and financing terrorism; and granting leniency.  To carry out these activities, the Government of Vietnam has established the National Counter-terrorism Board (2016), which is not only responsible for advising the Government on the organization and direction of activities anti-terrorism in the whole country, but also assist Prime Minister in organizing, implementing and coordinating the inter-sectoral work in the prevention and fight against terrorism. Accordingly, anti-terrorism steering committees will be established at national, ministerial and provincial levels. The Ministry of Public Security is the standing body of the National Anti-Terrorism Steering Committee and has its specialized advisory and support office called the Standing Office of the National Steering Committee for Prevention and Fight against Terrorism.

*Focusing on Control Financial Supports and Assistance to Terrorism’s Activities*

As per the Law, financing of terrorism is an act of mobilizing or providing monetary and property supports in whatever form to a terrorist organization or terrorists. The Law provides measures and mechanisms to combat financing of terrorism.  Chapter V specifies detection of acts of financing terrorism; receipt and processing of reported information and denunciations about financing of terrorism; identification and updating of client information and application of provisional measures; and control of cross-border transport of cash, precious metals, gems and negotiable instruments (UNODC 2012). According to Article 33, when detecting signs or acts of financing terrorism, the State Bank, financial institutions, related organizations and individuals conducting relevant non-financial business lines and other organizations and individuals must promptly report them to anti-terrorism forces.

*International Cooperation to Fight Terrorism*

In the recent years, under the renovation process of the Party, Vietnam has developed friendship and peace relationships with many countries, taking on important task within international institutions, regionally and in the world, at the same time joining many international, multilateral conventions relating to the protection of world peace, security and for the prevention of terrorist activities (Thayer 2012; Vinh, Quang Phan 2009). Vietnam has shown clear attitude and commitment to fighting terrorists and dedication to making efforts for peace, stability, development and international integration (UNODC 2012; Vinh, Quang Pham 2011). Accordingly, international cooperation in the prevention and combat of terrorism must assure independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, comply with domestic laws and respect international conventions and fundamental principles of international law. International cooperation will focus on information exchange, anti-terrorism training and exercises, building of legal capacity and settlement of terrorism cases (Vinh, Quang Phan 2009; Vinh, Quang Pham 2011).

To date, Vietnam has joined and ratified 8 international conventions on anti-terrorism out of 13 multilateral conventions relating to anti-terrorism approved by the UN (Thayer 2012; Vinh, Quang Phan 2009). Vietnam is also making preparations to join other conventions such as: Convention on marking plastic materials for detection purposes of 1991; International convention on control of terrorist bombing activities of 1997; international convention on anti-hostage taking of 1979; international convention on the protection of nuclear physic surface of 1979; international convention on anti-nuclear terrorism of 2005. Joining those convention shall help Vietnam in its addition of legal bases in the fight against terrorism, maintaining sovereignty and social order. In addition, it is show stronger, more expressly Vietnam’s dedication and commitment in the fight against terrorism, which has been recognised by the international community. In joining international community in the fight against terrorism, at regional level, Vietnam has joined and ratified the ASEAN Anti-terrorism convention, ASEAN legal and judicial assistance agreement, in negotiation to join the ASEAN extradition agreement. In multilateral relations, Vietnam has signed over 10 legal aid agreements with other countries and many other agreements, convention on international crime prevention. Vietnam has also actively contributed to ASEAN's counterterrorism efforts through the negotiation and conclusion of joint statements on counterterrorism between ASEAN and its partners such as the US, Japan and the European and Russia. Accordingly, Vietnam is now reviewing its legal system and especially national law on terrorism compatible with international law. All general principles and contents of international cooperation on anti-terrorism are provided in Chapter VI of the Law.

**Case Study: Vietnamese’s Terrorism Style**

Between 2000 and 2017, the Institute for Economics and Peace have published several editions with specific data’s collection from more than 100 countries in terms of terrorism’s activities through the Global Terrorism Index (GTI). No surprise when the GTI recorded Vietnam is one of the top non-terrorism’s impact in comparison to the Southeast Asia region and around the world (Institute for Economics and Peace 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017). To explain for this argument, Vietnam’s counter-terrorism authorities are often put the highest priority’s policies to anticipate and prevent any potential terrorism in domestic areas and combine to regional and international cooperation with partners to share responsibility and experience to combat terrorism. The below case study is rare case occurred in last year when Vietnam’s law enforcement to stop terror’s overseas-founders organization to overthrow the government via attacking international airport by petrol bombs in Southern area of Vietnam.

On Wednesday, 27th December 2017, a court in Ho Chi Minh City sentenced 15 defendants to between five and 16 years in jail after they were convicted of planting petrol bombs at Tan Son Nhat international airport in the commercial southern hub. Under the current articles of the Criminal Code of Vietnam, the fifteen defendants of the high-profile case have facedd charges of “acting to overthrow the people's government,” “participating in terrorism to overthrow the government,” “damaging property,” and “stockpiling military weapons.” Additionally, a local woman appeared in the same court on charges of “failing to denounce crimes.” (Petty 2017)

***Overseas-Based Organizations***

According to Ho Chi Minh City People’s Court documents, on February 16th, 1991, a group of Vietnamese subversives in California, known as a ‘counter-revolutionary’ that was officially announced “Temporary Vietnam Government” (TVG) as the terrorism’s organization against Vietnam’s government. Through social media’s system such as websites, emails and blogs, this group called for stripping the government of Vietnam of its leadership role and overthrowing the Vietnamese government through violence and riots. This counter-revolutionary organization then founded many other smaller sects to expand its forces and participated in terrorist acts in Vietnam, disseminating anti-government and anti-Party information in an attempt to topple the Vietnamese people’s government. By 2007, the Ministry of Public Security of Vietnam had successfully neutralized all activities by this organization and weakened its forces.

From the end of 2013, president of TVG and some accomplices living overseas have tried to restart his organization. In late 2016, he incited his closed cabinets and some other individuals through social media to form an armed group with the main objectives of participating in terrorism, assassinating Vietnamese officials, and sabotaging important targets and constructions in Vietnam. This armed group focused on making petrol and smoke bombs for use in protests and attacks on local police stations. They also purchased different weapons to prepare for the assassination of Vietnamese officials and Party members.

***Police Station’s Parking lot arson***

In late March 2017, some of those participants returned to Vietnam from Laos and gathered his men to plot an act of terrorism to ‘gain fame’ for the organization and sabotage Vietnam. During their time in Vietnam, these individuals then met other guys build their plan to cause an explosion at the parking lot housing impounded vehicles of the police station of Bien Hoa, the capital of Dong Nai Province. Under the direct constructions of this group, they prepared two sets of ‘gas bombs’, which attack the warehouse of the Bien Hoa police station. The warehouse security guards soon discovered the facility was on fire and called for help. However, the entire warehouse and 320 motorbikes were completely destroyed in the inferno, causing total damage of VND1.3 billion ($57,269).

***Tan Son Nhat International Airport’s bombing planning***

After the attack on the Bien Hoa police station, this group continued to instruct their domestic participants to make more petrol bombs to prepare for an attack at Tan Son Nhat. At least, necessary budget’s supports were transferred to the account of those guys to created petrol bombs with the purpose for fighting the airport.

At 5:00 pm on April 22nd 2017, while some participants to come the Tan Son Nhat international airport for waiting, others bring bomb’s petrol that stored in two cardboard boxes, to there as well. According to their integrated planning, the dropped the cardboard box with the bomb at Column 9 of the departure hall of the international terminal. Unfortunately, the bomb would not detonate due to a petrol leak, and one passenger saw the bomb and notified authorities. Accordingly, these major attacks were stopped just in time by anti-terrorism’s authorities.

**Conclusions**

On the basis of the tradition of foreign affairs, the peace-loving spirit and the humanitarian foreign policy have been built up through thousands of years of building the nation, preserving the nation, the Party and the State of Vietnam condemn and oppose strongly against all forms of terrorist activities. On the other hand, Vietnam also opposes the use of anti-terrorism to interfere in the internal affairs of nations. The fight against terrorism must be conducted in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, the fundamental principles of international law, respect for national sovereignty as well as the aspiration for peace, stability and coexistence of the whole of humanity. Accordingly, Vietnam also strictly observes its duties as committed in anti- terrorism international conventions to which Vietnam is a signatory. Viet Nam opposes the use of anti-terrorism in order to threaten or intervene in the internal affairs of other countries, condemning the use or threatening of the use of weapons of mass destruction aimed at terrorism or in the name of terrorism. Therefore, Vietnam considers terrorism a potential threat to peace, security and stability in the world at the moment. Yet, Vietnam proactively joins the struggle against all1 actions of terror. In other words, with a motto that Vietnam wishes to be friend, reliable partners to all countries, through this conference, Vietnam affirms its position, which is to actively cooperate to counter terrorism for a world of peace.

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2. Up to date, there are at least 13 international conventions related to terrorism approved and be effected in practice, including: Multilateral convention on crimes and other illegal activities on aircraft of 1963 (26 articles approved on 14 of September 1963, and becomes effective on 04 December 1963); the Hague convention on violation aircraft of 1970 (14 Articles approved on 16 December 1970, and become effective on 14 October 1971); Multilateral convention on the violation of aviation safety of 1971 (16 articles approved on 23 September 1971 and become effective on 26 January 1973); Convention on prevention and control of crimes against internationally-immunized people including diplomatic officials of 1973 (20 articles approved on 14 December 1973 and become effective on 20 February 1977); International convention on anti-hostage taking of 1979 (20 articles approved on 18 December 1979 and becomes on 03 June 1983); International convention on the protection of physics of nuclear materials of 1979 (23 Article approved on 03 March 1980 and become effective on 08 February 1987); Convention on the control of illegal violation of maritime route safety of 1988 (22 Article approved on 10 March 1988 and becomes effective 09 March 1989); Convention on marking plastic explosive for detection of 1991 (15 Article approved on 01 March 1991, and become effective on 21 June 1998); International convention on the control of terrorist bombing of 1997 (24 Articles approved on 12 January 1998 and become effective on 23 May 2001); International convention on the control of financial sponsorship for terrorism of 1999 (28 articles approved on 10 January 2000 and becomes effective on 10 April 2002); International convention on anti-nuclear terrorism (28 Articles, approved on 14 September 2005, and become effective on 07 July 2007); International protocol on the control of violent actions at international airports of 1988 (9 Articles approved on 20 February 1988 and becomes effective on 06 August 1989); International protocol on the control of illegal violation of safety of the continent periphery of 1988 (10 Articles approved on 10 March 1988 and becomes effective on 01 Mach 1992). In addition, the United Nations has also approved terrorism-related resolution such as Resolution No. 1267 (1999) on 15 October 1999; Resolution No. 1373 (2001) on 28 September 2001; Resolution No. 1390 (2002) on 16 January 2002; Resolution No. 1455 (2003) on 17 October 2003). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. The Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in the form of a resolution and an annexed Plan of Action (A/RES/60/288) composed of 4 pillars:

   1. Addressing the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism
   2. Measures to prevent and combat terrorism
   3. Measures to build states’ capacity to prevent and combat terrorism and to strengthen the role of the United Nations system in that regard;
   4. Measures to ensure respect for human rights for all and the rule of law as the fundamental basis for the fight against terrorism.

   [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. The GTI is produced by the Institute for Economics & Peace (IEP) and is based on data from the Global Terrorism Database (GTD). Data for the GTD is collected and collated by the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START); a Department of Homeland Security Centre of Excellence led by the University of Maryland. The GTD is considered to be the most comprehensive global dataset on terrorist activity and has now codified over 170,000 terrorist incidents. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Within the scope of this paper, one typical case study represented and analysed to describe this terrorism’s style in Vietnam, which referred at ‘Case Study’-section. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)