

The Fundamental Changes in the Vietnamese Political System

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INFO	ABSTRACT
Submitted: 12-08-2024, Revised: 26-08-2024, Accepted: 03-09-2024 Available Online: 09-09-2024 Copyright ©2024 by author(s) This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International License.   Keywords: Fundamental Changes, Political System, Vietnam	Since 1989, politics of Vietnam has changed dramatically, the country has moved from the “proletarian dictatorship system” political structure to a flexible and comprehensive political system. This evolution has been crucial for sustaining political stability when encouraging the economic change and the reform of the administration. Officials of Vietnam, especially the Communist Party of Vietnam, have spearheaded the process of renewing the political system with focus on salving the problems of the bureaucracy, anti-corruption, and the promotion of democracy in the country. That has played a major role in the transformation of the political system in order to meet the new challenges of the global and domestic environment. Historical analysis joined with logical and comparative analysis is the methodology of this work in order to detect changes within political system of Vietnam. It analyzes the advantages of the system, for example, its capacity for maintaining stability as well as for fostering economic development as well as the sources of the weakness of the system; the bureaucracy or the under-democratized nature of the system. As observed from the analysis the following tough tasks have been observed in the post communism countries especially in context to work on public administration and grassroots democracy. Therefore, the conclusions have underlined the importance of the constant reform in the question of preserving the flexibility and efficiency of Vietnam’s political system. Before, political system was stable, following the industry standard of Vietnam while slowly adapting and preparing for world market but as Vietnam progresses forward to deeper and more successful integration with the rest of the world, the political system should also adapt and stay strong, diverse and answer the need and the desire of the Vietnamese people.

INTRODUCTION

The term "political system" has been officially used in Vietnam since 1989, transitioning from the term "proletarian dictatorship system." This shift emphasizes the interaction and cooperation of various entities in political and social life, aiming to create the synergistic strength of the entire system and its ability to adapt to changes in the social environment.

Faced with significant transformations both domestically and internationally, the Vietnamese political system has undergone profound changes in its philosophy of action, prioritizing national interests above all else. Organizations within the Vietnamese political system are constructed with clearly defined functions, tasks, and mechanisms of operation that are scientific and adaptable. Depending on actual conditions, there is a flexible and adaptable approach, gradually overcoming limitations and promoting the positive essence of the political system. The practical experience of 38 years (1986-2024) in reforming the political system in Vietnam shows that this is a process full of challenges and conflicts between old practices and new, uncertain elements. However, to lead the country out of the crisis, the Communist Party of Vietnam has persistently and gradually reformed the political system, steadily confronting impulsive trends, avoiding the replication of Western societies, maintaining the leadership role of the Communist Party of Vietnam, and ensuring national stability. From a historical perspective, this article clarifies the transformation

process of the Vietnamese political system, summarizing some advantages and limitations of the Vietnamese political system.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The Vietnamese political system has garnered significant interest from scholars both domestically and internationally, approached from various perspectives.

Ly Vinh Long (2012), in "The Political System in Vietnam from 1986 to the Present" – a Taiwanese author – delves deeply into theoretical issues regarding the political system and the necessity of reforming the Vietnamese political system; the goals, viewpoints, and results of the political system's reform in Vietnam from 1986 to 2010; and the directions and solutions for continuing to reform the political system in Vietnam for the period 2011-2020. Approaching from an organizational and managerial perspective, the work "Perspectives and Principles for Reforming the Political System in Vietnam for the Period 2005-2020" affirms the objective necessity of reforming the Vietnamese political system. The study also outlines the goals, viewpoints, and principles of reforming the political system in Vietnam; and the directions and solutions for political system reform in the period 2006-2020. Nguyen Huu Dong, in his work "The Party and Political-Social Organizations in the Vietnamese Political System" (2009), examines the role and tasks of the Party and political-social organizations within the political system. The current status of the Party and political-social organizations' activities. The content and methods of the Party's leadership aimed at reforming the political system, effectively implementing socialist democratization and promoting citizens' ownership rights. "Theoretical Basis on the Organization and Activities of the Political System in the Process of Building Socialism in Vietnam" (2007), edited by Le Minh Thong, presents theoretical issues regarding the scientific basis of organizational work within the political system and the issue of enhancing political nature within the Vietnamese political system. The aforementioned research works are important references for the author in conducting this article.

METHODS

In This research is grounded in a robust theoretical framework, primarily drawing upon Marxism-Leninism and the philosophical principles of Ho Chi Minh's thought. These foundational elements are further informed by the strategic guidelines and policies issued by the Communist Party of Vietnam. The study also takes into account the evolving legal frameworks established by the Vietnamese State, which play a critical role in the ongoing process of political system innovation.

In order to fully explore and rigorously analyze the complexities of Vietnam's political system, the study employs a multi-faceted methodological approach. Each method is chosen for its capacity to contribute unique insights into the subject matter:

Analysis and Synthesis

This approach allows us to dissect complex political phenomena into fundamental components. For instance, in studying Vietnam's political reforms, the analysis phase might involve examining the specific legal changes introduced during various reform periods. Synthesis then involves reconstructing these components into a cohesive understanding of the overall political evolution. By linking legal reforms with changes in party structure, administrative processes, and public policy, this method reveals how individual changes contribute to broader systemic transformation. This combined process helps in understanding not just what changes occurred, but how and why they were implemented in the context of Vietnam's socio-political environment.

Induction and Deduction

The inductive approach allows the study to generate general theories from specific instances of political reforms, such as anti-corruption campaigns or shifts in governance models. For example, by observing patterns in how different provinces implemented reforms, we can induce broader conclusions about the effectiveness of these reforms at the national level. Deduction, conversely, applies established theories of political science to predict outcomes of ongoing reforms. For

example, if a theory suggests that reducing bureaucratic red tape leads to improved public trust, we can test this by looking at corresponding data from Vietnam's recent history. The interplay of induction and deduction helps in creating a dynamic and testable framework for understanding Vietnam's political changes.

System-Structure Approach

This method focuses on the interconnectedness of the political entities within Vietnam's political system. By treating the political system as an organized structure, this approach analyzes the roles of different bodies such as the Communist Party, the State, and various socio-political organizations. For instance, how does the relationship between the central government and local party committees evolve through different reform phases? This approach also considers how external influences (like globalization) interact with and reshape internal political structures. The system-structure approach is particularly useful in understanding the resilience and adaptability of Vietnam's political system in the face of both internal and external pressures.

Comparative Analysis

Comparative analysis situates Vietnam's political reforms within a broader global context, comparing its trajectory with that of other post-socialist countries. For example, how do Vietnam's anti-corruption measures compare to those in China or Eastern European nations? This method helps in identifying what is unique about Vietnam's approach and what lessons can be learned from other countries' experiences. It also sheds light on whether Vietnam's political reforms are part of a broader trend in global politics or if they represent a distinct path. Comparative analysis provides a critical lens through which to view the successes and limitations of Vietnam's reforms, offering a broader perspective on its political evolution.

Textual Research

Textual research is critical in understanding the ideological foundations and practical implementations of Vietnam's political reforms. By analyzing primary documents, such as Party resolutions and legal statutes, this method uncovers the intentions and motivations behind key reforms. For instance, how do the textual records reflect the Party's evolving stance on economic liberalization? This approach not only highlights what changes were made but also provides insights into the debates and discussions that shaped these changes. Textual research is indispensable for tracing the ideological continuity and shifts within the Vietnamese political discourse, providing a historical narrative that supports the analysis.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Viewpoints and the need for fundamental transformation of Vietnam's political system

Nowadays, the context of globalization is profoundly impacting nation-states, the social life of the global community, and the lives of individuals. Globalization is an inevitable and increasingly expanding trend that every nation must face. The inevitability of globalization manifests in various fields such as economics, society, politics, and political systems, creating fundamental changes in social and human life.

In this context, there is an increase in interdependence among nation-states; no country can stand completely independent and separate from the outside world in the context of globalization. Hence, “the global community formed during the process of globalization in many fields, not just in the economic sphere, is weakening and questioning the strength of nation-states, penetrating all territorial boundaries through diverse social dependencies, market relations, communication networks, and unfamiliar customs and practices of residents that are not related to a specific territory. This manifests in all critical areas that form the foundation of national prestige, such as tax policy, the supreme authority of the police apparatus, foreign policy, and military security” (U. Bek, 2001, p.14-15).

Globalization has been and is profoundly impacting every aspect of social life, including politics

and the political system. Since this is a diverse and continuously changing field, “the study of the political behavior of individuals, groups, and institutions in which humanity exists and dominates, as well as the values that form the basis for political ideologies and systems” (David E. McNabb, 2013, p.3).

The political system refers to a framework of political organizations, encompassing the state, political parties, and socio-political groups. It functions as a crucial organizational tool for the ruling class, enabling them to exert significant influence over the development of the economy, culture, and society. The political system is defined as a structure that includes the state, parties, unions, and socio-political organizations, all of which operate within a legal framework established by the ruling class's ideology. Its primary aim is to influence socio-economic processes to maintain and develop the prevailing social order. Additionally, the political system comprises a power institution supported by a specific ideology, along with institutions that ensure its existence and functionality. It also encompasses political behavior, characterized by the interactions between power holders and those subject to their authority. As part of the social superstructure, the political system includes representative organizations and institutions that legally participate in political power. These entities engage in social leadership, state activities, and decision-making at the national level. Overall, the political system is the most crucial and fundamental aspect of politics, consisting of political organizations that operate with the specific purpose of pursuing political goals (Pham Ngoc Tram, 2011, pp. 15-17).

The definitions above all consider the political system to include political organizations such as the state, parties, and socio-political organizations. In political and social literature, not all countries use the term “political system.” However, in the sense mentioned above, every country has its political system.

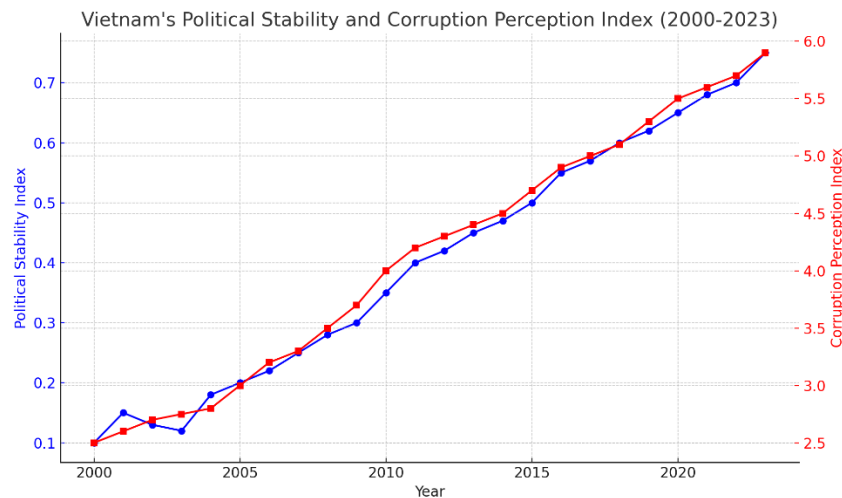
The political system in Vietnam, besides some common points, has some unique features compared to the political systems of other countries worldwide. Each country has a political system with its characteristics, reflected in its constitution and laws.

The method of operation of organizations and agencies in the political system is a combination of measures: planning, arranging forces, assigning tasks, directing, managing, inspecting, evaluating, and drawing experience to accomplish tasks according to the function of that organization or agency. The method of operation of organizations and agencies is closely linked to the long-term or immediate political functions and tasks of that organization or agency, with organizational machinery, staff resources, material resources, and the characteristics of the operating environment.

The operational method of organizations and agencies in the political system depends on the content of activities – political tasks – evaluated through the quality and effectiveness of each organization, agency, level, and the entire political system in each period. The quality of the political system's operation is expressed through the value, effect, and impact of the leadership entity of the ruling party and the state's management of the subjects.

The concept of “system” in the political system includes both vertical order, horizontal relationships, and interwoven integration. It is a collection of elements and parts that are interrelated and impact each other, forming a certain whole. Vertically, the highest is the central level, and the lowest is the grassroots level; the higher the level, the greater the authority. Horizontally, each organization exists and operates independently according to the law and the organization's regulations. In the political system at each level, the party organization is the regular and direct leader. In interwoven activities, the relationship between organizations is coordinated and managed, but the party organization holds the leadership role.

Figure 1. Correlation Between Vietnam's Political Stability Index and Corruption Perception Index (2000-2023)



Political Stability Index (PSI): This index has shown a steady increase over the years, reflecting improvements in political stability, likely due to continuous reforms, anti-corruption measures, and governance improvements. The index represents factors like the likelihood of political violence, government effectiveness, and state legitimacy. Corruption Perception Index (CPI): The CPI, on the other hand, shows a positive upward trend, indicating a reduction in perceived corruption over time. This corresponds with increased legal reforms and the implementation of anti-corruption strategies, especially after 2012 when stronger anti-corruption measures were introduced.

Overall, in terms of organization, including organizational machinery, functions, tasks of organizations, and operational mechanisms in the relationships between organizations, it is very diverse, intertwined, and extremely complex, such as leadership-executive relations (top-down), coordination, and collaboration relations (equality), direct relations, indirect relations, and relations that are both direct and indirect. For example, at an administrative level, the party committee directly leads the People’s Committee and indirectly leads the People’s Committee through the People’s Council; the party committee directly leads the Fatherland Front and each member organization of the Fatherland Front; at the same time, the party committee also leads mass organizations, member organizations of the Fatherland Front through the Fatherland Front and the party’s advisory committees or the People’s Committee of the same level.

Organizations and agencies in the political system relate and coordinate with each other according to the function of each organization and agency to fully perform their functions and tasks and fulfill their social responsibilities towards other organizations. All these relationships follow the party's leadership, revolving around the political nucleus as the party organization, specifically and regularly as the party committee, with the standing committee as the direct leader in the daily activities of organizations and agencies in the political system.

The coordination of activities among organizations within the political system at each level reflects the relationship between the party organization, which serves as the comprehensive and absolute political nucleus leading state organizations, the front, and the people's unions at the same level. These organizations are responsible for executing the party's leadership. At each level, the party committee initiates, organizes, and coordinates activities, holding the primary, ultimate, and highest responsibility for addressing any issues or deviations in the relationships between organizations within the political system at that level.

In addition, each state agency and each union, according to their functions, tasks, and authority as prescribed by law, must actively and proactively relate to other agencies and organizations,

considering it one of the main methods to fulfill their responsibilities and complete their tasks. However, such active and proactive efforts are only in the right direction, highly effective, and avoid overlap when directed and coordinated by the party committee, adhering to the resolutions of the party organization and committee. The concept of the Party’s comprehensive leadership includes promoting the initiative of each organization and individual in coordinating activities with other organizations and organizing such coordination.

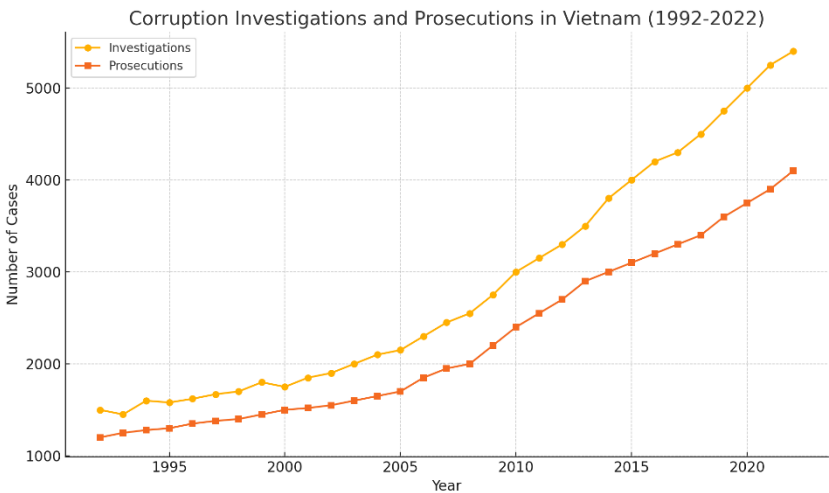
In summary, the political system in Vietnam encompasses all political institutions, including the ruling Party, the State, the Fatherland Front, and the people's unions. The organization and functioning of this system adhere to specific principles and are interconnected to effectively implement the Party's leadership, the State's governance, and to promote the people's sovereignty.

Changes in the Vietnamese political system

Since 1991, the process of reforming the political system has seen significant changes. The content and operational methods of organizations within the political system have initially been reformed to promote internal democracy and the people's mastery, enhancing the effectiveness of government management at all levels; rectifying the Party alongside renewing the Party's leadership over the State and society.

The transformation of the political system has contributed to political stability, creating favorable conditions for accelerating economic reform. The success of economic reform is a crucial condition for political stability and gradually renewing the country's political system in line with the multi-component market economy, as stated in the Platform for National Construction during the Transitional Period to Socialism: “The Party must be strong in politics, ideology, and organization, constantly renewing itself, self-rectifying, striving to enhance intellectual capacity, and leadership ability. Uphold the tradition of unity and consensus within the Party, ensuring full democracy and discipline in Party activities; regularly self-criticize and criticize, fight against individualism, opportunism, and all divisive, factional activities. The Party takes care of building a clean, quality cadre and party members with high combat capability. The Party pays attention to nurturing and training the succeeding generation for the revolutionary cause of the Party and the people” (Communist Party of Vietnam, 1991, p.20-21).\

Figure 2. Corruption investigation distribution in Vietnam (1992-2022)



The rise in investigations and prosecutions indicates the effectiveness of legal reforms in addressing corruption. Post-2012, there is a sharper increase in prosecutions, suggesting that the enforcement mechanisms were strengthened alongside legal changes.

The transformation of Vietnam's political system is evident in the establishment of institutional frameworks that formalize the Party's leadership over the State. Our Party continues to drive political reform, streamline administrative processes, and remove obstacles to innovation by tackling bureaucracy and corruption. This effort includes purging the state apparatus and fostering

a spirit of democracy, initiative, and creativity across all sectors, localities, and grassroots levels. A strong stance has been taken against corrupt Party members, violators, and those deemed unfit for Party membership. Between 1992 and 1995, disciplinary actions led to the expulsion of 205,545 Party members (Various authors, 2005, p.516). From 2012 to 2022, national prosecution agencies initiated and investigated 19,546 cases involving 33,868 suspects, prosecuted 16,699 cases involving 33,037 suspects, and held first-instance trials for 15,857 cases involving 30,355 defendants for corruption, position-related, and economic crimes. Of these, 2,657 cases involving 5,841 suspects were specifically related to corruption, leading to the prosecution of 2,628 cases involving 6,199 suspects and the first-instance trials of 2,439 cases involving 5,647 defendants. Since the 13th Party Congress, nearly 4,200 cases involving 7,572 suspects have been initiated and investigated for corruption, position-related, and economic crimes, including 455 cases involving 1,054 suspects related to corruption (Central Economic Commission, 2022).

The recent transformation of Vietnam's political system has significantly influenced the reform of the state apparatus, guiding it towards revising the organizational structure, reforming administrative processes, and strengthening legal institutions to enhance the effectiveness of state management functions. The State is mandated to establish mechanisms and measures to control and prevent issues such as bureaucracy, corruption, abuse of power, irresponsibility, and violations of citizens' democratic rights. The organization and operation of the state management apparatus are grounded in the principles of democratic centralism and unified power, while responsibilities and authority are clearly divided, ensuring centralized direction from the government.

The State is structured on the principle of democratic centralism, which delineates the responsibilities, authority, and tasks at each level of government. It distinguishes the functions of administrative and economic management from those related to production and business, combining sectoral management with local and territorial management according to the Constitution. The Socialist Republic of Vietnam is described as a socialist rule-of-law state, where all state power belongs to the people, founded on the alliance of the working class, the peasantry, and intellectuals.

This transformation within the political system has also played a crucial role in consolidating and strengthening the unity of the Party, the people, and the broader national and international community. The Fatherland Front and other socio-political organizations have renewed their content and operational methods, yielding practical results. The promotion of people's mastery in economic, social, political, ideological, and cultural fields has been emphasized, fostering unity among various social strata and ethnic groups in the pursuit of building a prosperous, strong nation with a just and civilized society.

The Vietnam Fatherland Front and its member organizations are recognized as the political foundation of the people's government. The Front upholds the tradition of national unity, enhances political and spiritual cohesion among the people, and works alongside the State to protect the legitimate interests of the people. It mobilizes the population to exercise their mastery, adhere to the Constitution and laws, and supervise the activities of state agencies, elected representatives, and state officials.

The responsibilities of the Front and its member organizations are enshrined in various laws, such as the Law on the Election of National Assembly Deputies, the Law on the Organization of the National Assembly, the Law on the Organization of the Government, and the Law on the Organization of the People's Court. In certain aspects of social life, the activities of the Front and people's unions are further institutionalized through laws like the Law on the Protection, Care, and Education of Children, the Law on Universal Primary Education, and various ordinances. These laws not only formalize the roles, responsibilities, and authority of the Front and People's Unions but also outline the obligations of relevant agencies to collaborate with these organizations in fulfilling their tasks and exercising their powers.

Renewing the content and leadership methods of the Party

In renewing the content and methods of the Party's leadership, the emphasis has been on improving the quality of the political system at the grassroots level. Grassroots Party organizations have effectively served as the political nucleus, linking the construction and consolidation of Party structures with the promotion of local political agendas. These organizations have established and implemented comprehensive working regulations for Party committees, thereby clarifying the working relationships between Party organizations and other entities within the grassroots political system (Nguyen, 2019; Pham, 2020). The ongoing campaign for Party-building and rectification is closely tied to implementing grassroots democracy regulations, which have been critical in strengthening the effectiveness of local governance (Le, 2021). Additionally, the role of grassroots organizations in mobilizing public participation in political processes has been vital in maintaining the Party's influence at the local level (Tran, 2022).

Building and perfecting the socialist rule-of-law state has led to significant transformations in Vietnam's socio-economic landscape. Administrative reforms have streamlined many processes, making them more transparent and accessible, thus reducing the time required for organizations and citizens to engage with state agencies (Nguyen, 2018; Hoang, 2020). These reforms have been instrumental in improving the efficiency of public administration and enhancing the government's accountability. Furthermore, the consolidation of the organizational system across various sectors has been complemented by the comprehensive training and management of cadres and civil servants, ensuring that the state's human resources are well-equipped to meet the demands of modern governance (Le, 2020). Public financial reforms have also expanded, particularly in transforming the management of public assets and the state budget, which is crucial for maintaining fiscal discipline and promoting sustainable development (Tran, 2019; Pham, 2021).

Judicial reform has been gradually implemented, aligning with the functions and tasks of the National Assembly and the administrative reform of the government's apparatus at both the central and local levels. These reforms have strengthened the operational mechanisms of the judiciary, including the Procuracy and courts, enhancing coordination between judicial agencies in litigation activities (Nguyen, 2020; Hoang, 2019). The judicial sector has also focused on addressing wrongful convictions, ensuring that justice is fairly administered and that the rights of citizens are protected (Le, 2018). The construction and improvement of the rule-of-law state have resulted in a more comprehensive legal system, with new laws governing various sectors such as business, society, defense, security, and foreign affairs (Tran, 2020). These legal reforms are part of a broader effort to establish a socialist rule-of-law state that serves the people and upholds their rights and freedoms (Nguyen, 2021).

The reformation of the Fatherland Front and mass organizations has played a crucial role in rejuvenating the political system, promoting political stability, and accelerating socio-economic development. These organizations have been key in fostering national unity and expanding cooperative relationships at both national and international levels (Hoang, 2019; Pham, 2020). The Fatherland Front has mobilized resources to support the Party's objectives of building a prosperous nation and ensuring social justice. Moreover, mass organizations have been restructured to be more responsive to the needs of the people, introducing initiatives that promote grassroots democracy and social engagement (Le, 2019). These reforms have also helped to bridge the gap between the state and society, ensuring that the government's policies are aligned with the aspirations of the people (Nguyen, 2020; Tran, 2021).

The construction and improvement of the rule-of-law state have also led to improvements in the legal system and judicial reform (Nguyen, 2020). A more comprehensive set of laws, encompassing business, society, defense, security, and foreign affairs, has resulted from this (Hoang, 2021). During this time, there has been significant growth in both the amount and quality of legislative work (Le, 2019). The objective is to craft and enhance laws that govern the establishment and operation of political institutions, aiming to establish a socialist rule-of-law state that belongs to, serves, and benefits the people (Pham, 2020). Laws have been made and

improved to safeguard human rights, freedoms, and democracy for everyone (Tran, 2018). To make market-based economic structures more socialist, civil and economic laws have also been refined (Bui, 2021).

The process of establishing a rule-of-law state has had a beneficial effect on socio-economic progress (Vu, 2019). The state has strengthened the organizational structure across all sectors and levels (Do, 2021). Extensive endeavors have been undertaken to train, nurture, deploy, and oversee cadres and civil officials, and to implement public finance reform and judicial reform, among other initiatives (Nguyen, 2018). The link between the state and the people has been formalized, progressively strengthened, and refined (Tran, 2021). During this period, the reformation of the organization and operations of the state apparatus had a diverse impact on the country's socio-economic development and facilitated the process of international economic integration (Pham, 2021). Furthermore, the reformation of the Fatherland Front and mass organizations is another important aspect to consider (Le, 2020). The process of national renewal and integration has resulted in significant transformations, systematically rejuvenating the political system, fostering political stability, expediting economic progress, enhancing the well-being of individuals, broadening social democracy, reinforcing national unity, overcoming isolation, expanding cooperative relationships, and actively engaging in the regional and global community (Bui, 2020).

Under the Party's guidance, the Fatherland Front and mass organizations have actively advanced democracy, addressing infringements on people's rights (Do, 2020). They have also expanded and reinforced the national unity bloc, fostering patriotism and self-sufficiency (Hoang, 2020). Furthermore, they have mobilized the nation's resources to pursue the objectives of a prosperous populace, a robust nation, and a fair and civilized society (Vu, 2021). The Fatherland Front and socio-political organizations have recently restructured their operations and initiatives (Nguyen, 2021). They have introduced regulations to promote grassroots democracy and have launched movements such as "All people unite to build a new life in residential areas," "Youth pioneering for career establishment," and the "Gratitude movement" (Pham, 2019). The Front and mass organizations have successfully employed a variety of methods to mobilize people, fulfill the needs of society's progress, and harness the creative potential of individuals to satisfy the legitimate interests and desires of different socioeconomic classes and groups (Le, 2022).

From the results achieved, the lessons learned are to thoroughly grasp the viewpoints, policies, and resolutions of the Central Committee, thereby concretizing them into policies and strategies suitable to the practical conditions of the locality (Tran, 2022). The proposed goals, tasks, and solutions must be both feasible and innovative (Hoang, 2022). Before issuing the action program to implement the resolution, it is necessary to survey the reality, organize discussions, and collect opinions from the Party Committee to cadres and Party members (Bui, 2022). The action program to implement the resolution must be directly contributed by key cadres, not assigned to the staff department, and the head of the Party Committee to directly implement and disseminate to all cadres and Party members, especially those who directly implement it (Vu, 2022).

For Party Organizations: It is necessary to thoroughly evaluate the current situation and propose solutions to strengthen and reform the organizational models and operational methods of Party organizations, especially Party committees and Party cadres (Do, 2022). Focus on directing and consolidating weak Party organizations; promptly restructure Party committees and reinforce cadres in areas with many difficulties and internal disunity (Nguyen, 2022). Emphasize innovation and improving the quality of meetings at Party committees and organizations (Tran, 2023). Promote democracy within Party activities, from grassroots cells and Party committees to the Central Committee (Le, 2023). Strictly adhere to the principle of democratic centralism in the organization and activities of the Party (Pham, 2023).

For the State: Accelerate the construction and perfection of the socialist rule-of-law State, ensuring that our State truly belongs to the people, is of the people, and serves the people, under the leadership of the Party (Bui, 2023). Effectively implement the functions of economic and social

management; properly address the relationship between the State and other organizations within the political system, the people, and the market (Hoang, 2023). Strengthen socialist legality and discipline within the State's operations, taking care of and serving the people, ensuring the legitimate rights and interests of all citizens (Vu, 2023). Supplement specific institutions and operational mechanisms to ensure the principle that all state power belongs to the people and that state power is unified, with a clear division, cooperation, and oversight among the legislative, executive, and judicial branches (Do, 2023). Continue to build and gradually perfect the mechanism for checking and supervising the constitutionality and legality of activities and decisions made by public authorities (Nguyen, 2023).

For the Vietnam Fatherland Front and Political-Social Organizations: Continue reviewing and restructuring the organizational apparatus of the Vietnam Fatherland Front and political-social organizations toward streamlining, with clear functions and responsibilities, avoiding overlaps (Pham, 2023). Innovate the leadership methods of the Party, the management of the State, and financial mechanisms for the Vietnam Fatherland Front and political-social organizations, creating conditions for them to increase their autonomy and become more proactive in their activities, avoiding bureaucratization, and bringing them closer to the people (Le, 2023). Effectively implement the coordination regulations and provisions on supervision and social critique by the Vietnam Fatherland Front and political-social organizations, as well as the mechanisms for the people to contribute their opinions on the construction of the Party and government (Tran, 2023). Strictly regulate the organization and activities of associations based on the principles of voluntarism, self-management, and self-financing, while complying with the law (Hoang, 2023). Amend and supplement the State's regulations on the organization, management, and operation of associations in accordance with the new context (Bui, 2023).

CONCLUSION

Politics, in its broadest meaning, encompasses the activities and connections of individuals in society that pertain to the identification and resolution of shared societal issues. Politics refers to the dynamics and interactions of different social classes and groups in their pursuit, retention, and utilization of governmental authority. The political system serves the purpose of organizing, distributing, and exerting political authority among individuals and groups within a society. The Vietnamese political system comprises legitimate political entities in society, such as political parties, the state, and socio-political groups. A system of structures and functions, along with operational processes and linkages, interconnects these entities to exercise political power. A single Communist Party governs the Vietnamese political system. The absence of opposition political parties in former socialist nations is indicative of the widespread support for the political system. Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh's ideology form the intellectual framework that structures and functions the entire political system. The Vietnamese political system is both unified and centralized in terms of authority. The political system's unity stems from the people's approved power, granted by the Party and the State, to achieve a shared objective. The overarching political objective of the entire system is to effectively establish socialism and communism in Vietnam. The specific goals are defined as achieving prosperity for the people, strengthening the nation, promoting democracy, ensuring fairness, and fostering civilization.

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Data Availability

The data supporting the findings of this study are available within the article and its supplementary materials. Any additional data that support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.

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Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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