

Implementing the Principle of “State Power belongs to the People” in Vietnam

Assoc. Prof., Dr. Quang Hien TRAN

Abstract: *In Vietnam, “State power belongs to the people” is a constitutional principle. Its practical implementation through direct democracy and representative democracy via the National Assembly, People’s Councils, and other State agencies has achieved significant results, though certain limitations still exist. This article analyzes the legal basis and assesses the practical implementation of this principle in Vietnam; highlights both achievements and shortcomings; then proposes solutions to ensure its effective and purposeful implementation in Vietnam today.*

Keywords: *people; State power; institutions of direct democracy; institutions of representative democracy.*

1. Legal basis for the principle of “State Power Belongs to the People” in Vietnam

The 1946 Constitution, the first constitution of our State, was directly supervised in its drafting and promulgation by President Ho Chi Minh. Article 1 of this Constitution asserted: “*Vietnam is a democratic republic. All State power belongs to the entire Vietnamese people, regardless of race, gender, economic conditions, social class, and religion*”. This principle was inherited in the 1959 Constitution, stipulated in Article 4: “*All powers in the Democratic Republic of Vietnam belong to the people*”. The 1980 Constitution further affirmed in Article 6: “*In the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, all powers belong to the people*”, and the 1992 Constitution in Article 2 also stated: “*The Socialist Republic of Vietnam is a State of the people, by the people, and for the people. All State powers belong to the people, and is based on the alliance between the working class, the peasantry, and the intelligentsia*”. Under the demands for development and national management in the new context, the National Assembly issued Resolution No. 51/2001/QH10 on December 25, 2001 on amendments and supplements a number of articles of the 1992 Constitution of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. Accordingly, Article 2, Clause 2 was amended and supplemented: “*The Socialist Republic of Vietnam State is a law-governed socialist State of the people, by the people and for the people. All State powers belong to the people and are based on the alliance between the working class, the peasantry, and the intelligentsia*”.

Article 2, Clause 2 of the 2013 Constitution once again reaffirmed: *“The People are the masters of The Socialist Republic of Vietnam; all the State powers belong to the people and are based on the alliance between the working class, the peasantry and the intelligentsia”*. Additionally, the 2013 Constitution, for the first time, specifically outlines two methods for exercising State power: *“The people exercise the State power under the form of direct democracy and of representative democracy through the National Assembly, People’s Councils, and other State agencies”* (Article 6). This legal basis has provided the legal framework for the people to effectively exercise their power through both direct and representative democracy, thereby realizing this constitutional principle in practice.

2. Practical implementation of the principle “State power belongs to the people” in Vietnam

*** Some achievements**

Firstly, the legal framework ensuring that State power belongs to the people has been increasingly perfected⁽¹⁾.

In addition to affirming that the people exercise power through representative democratic institutions (the National Assembly and People’s Councils), the Vietnamese Constitutions in different periods have stipulated various forms of direct democracy, consistently identifying direct democracy as the most genuine and complete expression of the people’s will and aspirations. The 2013 Constitution continues to recognize referendums, the dismissal of elected representatives, and the right of citizens to participate in State and social management. The 2013 Constitution laid the legal basis for the issuance of important legal documents aimed at expanding and promoting direct democracy, such as the Law on the Vietnam Fatherland Front (2015), the Law on Referendums (2015), the Law on Access to Information (2016), the Youth Law (2020), and so on.

In the current context, with the increasing levels of education among the populace and the expansion of democracy, our State has been continuously improving legal provisions on the people’s right to mastery, such as the Ordinance on exercise of Democracy in Communes, Wards, and Townships (2007, now replaced by the Law on the Implementation of Grassroots Democracy in 2022), the Law on Complaints (2011), the Law on Denunciations (2011, amended in 2018), the Law on Referendums (2015), the Law on Access to Information (2016), etc. Additionally, following the promulgation of the 2013 Constitution, many legal documents in various fields have been amended, supplemented, repealed, or newly issued, incorporating provisions on human

rights and citizens' rights. Examples include the Penal Code of 2015 (amended and supplemented in 2017), the Civil Code of 2015, the Press Law of 2016, the Cybersecurity Law of 2018, the Law on enterprise 2020, and the Law on Investment 2020, which have introduced new advancements in ensuring property rights, freedom of production, and the right for everyone to freely conduct business in industries not prohibited by law.

Secondly, the exercise of State power by the people through direct democracy has achieved certain results.

The proactive, public, and transparent approach to information access in policy making and law-making has been effectively implemented. Recently, the processes of policy making and law-making have been carried out quite successfully; drafts of legal documents are published on mass media for public feedback.

Moreover, the people's right to mastery has continued to be consolidated with significant advancements. The rights to direct democracy are exercised through activities such as voting and candidacy, referendums, the dismissal of elected representatives, and participation in State management (providing feedback; filing complaints and denunciations; democratic dialogues; discussions and critiques). The process of drafting and widely collecting public opinions on the 1992 and 2013 constitutional drafts demonstrated that these were truly extensive political activities. During the nationwide collection of opinions on the 1992 Constitution amendments, 28,000 seminars, conferences, and discussions were organized, and 26 million comments on the Constitution's content⁽²⁾ were collected. The voter turnout for National Assembly and People's Council elections at all levels has consistently been very high, exceeding 90%.

Thirdly, the exercise of State power by the people through representative democracy via the National Assembly, the People's Councils (PCs), and other State agencies has yielded significant results.

In our political practice, there has been a long-standing recognition of shifting power from the people to the National Assembly at the central level and the People's Councils at the local level, with the understanding that the State could represent the people in exercising all their power. This led us to trust in maintaining the connection between the sovereign power holder, the people (voters), and those elected to represent them, namely the National Assembly deputies and People's Council members, who are accountable to the people. During the drafting, constructing, and promulgating the 2013 Constitution, the authorities, based on public feedback, gained a clearer and deeper understanding of this issue. Thus, the 2013 Constitution addressed this limitation and, during

its implementation, realized this constitutional principle, achieving significant results. The organization of the National Assembly and the people's councils has been reformed to better ensure representative democracy; the National Assembly and the People's Councils operate more regularly and professionally, limiting the number of deputies who simultaneously hold positions as officials in administrative and judicial bodies; and mechanisms have been improved for voters to exercise the right to recall deputies of the National Assembly and the People's Council who have lost the people's trust.

*** *Some limitations and issues***

Despite the above-mentioned achievements, the implementation of the principle that all State powers belong to the people still has certain limitations.

Firstly, regarding some limitations in the exercise of State power by the people through direct democracy.

In our country, the process of building and perfecting the legal system in the Constitutions has always affirmed the importance of direct democracy. However, we have not yet built a comprehensive and synchronized legal framework regarding the procedures and processes for implementing forms of direct democracy. Recently, several laws have been enacted, such as the the Ordinance on exercise of Democracy in Communes, Wards, and Townships (2007), the Law on Election of Deputies to the National Assembly and People's Council Deputies (2015), the Law on Referendum (2015), the Law on Access to Information (2016), and the Cybersecurity Law (2018). However, there are still some forms of direct democracy (such as the dismissal of elected representatives, citizens' initiatives) that lack regulations on procedures and processes. This limitation has hindered the public's ability to exercise their power through these forms of direct democracy.

Secondly, in effect, there are some limitations in the exercise of State power by the people through representative democracy due to inadequacies in the legal regulations concerning representative bodies.

Thirdly, limitations exist in the supervisory and social criticism activities of the Vietnam Fatherland Front today.

Clause 1, Article 9 of the 2013 Constitution stipulates that the Vietnam Fatherland Front performs the function of "*social supervision and critic*". Additionally, Clause 1, Article 3 of the Law on the Vietnamese Fatherland Front (2015) also stipulates: the Vietnamese Fatherland Front "*Gather and compile opinions and proposals from voters and the people to respond and make proposals to the Party and State*". On this legal basis, the Vietnamese Fatherland Front directly performs the functions of supervision and social critic and serves

as the focal point for collecting and consolidating the people's opinions and recommendations to propose to the Party and the State. However, while the Vietnamese Fatherland Front carries out methods to perform these functions to provide opinions and recommendations to the Party and the State, the accountability for whether the Vietnamese Fatherland Front's opinions and recommendations are accepted or not has not been clearly defined.

3. Solutions for Implementing the Principle that “All State Power Belongs to the People” in Vietnam Today

To ensure that State power genuinely belongs to the people and that the people's delegation of power to the State does not result in the loss of their own power, it is necessary to “lock power in a cage of mechanisms”⁽³⁾. To that end, the following synchronized solutions should be implemented in the coming period:

Firstly, To continue to build and improve the institutions for direct democracy and democratic practice in Vietnam today.

There is a need to quickly build the Law on the Implementation of Grassroots Democracy, the Law on Social Supervision, Critic, and Citizen Initiatives, etc. Additionally, laws on referendums, elections, candidacies, and dismissal should be perfected. The development and improvement of democratic practice institutions are entirely in line with the current Constitution, aimed at concretizing the principle that State power belongs to the people and creating a comprehensive legal framework for the people to exercise their rights to mastery substantially and fully in practice.

Building and perfecting democratic institutions to concretize the people's constitutional rights is an urgent requirement in Vietnam today. This will play a positive role in promoting the people's rights to mastery and democracy in social and State management. However, developing and perfecting democratic institutions must be linked with the political and legal culture of the people to ensure the “appropriateness and correspondence” between the people's rights to mastery and their practical ability to exercise these rights.

In the context of building and perfecting the law-governed socialist State of Vietnam to ensure the principle that all State powers belong to the people, it is necessary to perfect the institutions that promote the people's rights to mastery in social management. This requires “seriously implementing the viewpoint that ‘taking the people as the root’; truly trusting, respecting, and promoting the people's rights to mastery, and persistently implementing the motto ‘people know, people discuss, people do, people monitor, people supervise, people benefit’”⁽⁴⁾. From now until 2030, it is essential to accelerate

the construction and improvement of democratic practice institutions. This is both a requirement to fully institutionalize the people's constitutional rights and to create a synchronized transformation linked with the enhancement of democratic culture, political culture, and legal culture in society.

Secondly, to perfect the institutions of representative democracy and its various forms in Vietnam today.

In our country, the people exercise State power not only through direct democracy but also through representative democracy via the National Assembly (NA), People's Councils (PCs), and other State agencies. In practice, most State affairs are decided through representative democracy, meaning by representatives elected by the electorate (the people), namely NA deputies at the central level and PC deputies at the local level. NA and PC deputies represent the people to make decisions on State affairs, and are accountable to the people for the decisions they make. The relationship between NA and PC deputies and the people is one between representatives and their constituents. The people are constituents elect representative, delegate their power to them, and these representatives make decisions on behalf of the people. The people have the right to recall their representatives (NA and PC deputies) "when they are no longer worthy of the people's trust"⁽⁵⁾. From these representative bodies, other State agencies are formed; thus, the entire State apparatus originates directly or indirectly from the people. This operation of the State apparatus is known as representative authority. Therefore, it is crucial to perfect the institutions of representative democracy and the forms of representative democracy in our country today.

First and foremost, this perfection should aim at substantive improvement, enhancing accountability, especially the accountability of democratic representative institutions to the electorate. The satisfaction of the people and the degree to which their legitimate rights and interests are ensured should be the most important evaluation criteria⁽⁶⁾. The Law on Election of Deputies to the National Assembly and People's Council Deputies should be improved so that representatives are committed to their constituencies throughout their terms and fulfill their promises to the people, reflecting the people's will and aspirations, avoiding vague and superficial representation. Representatives must be under the people's supervision and must link their responsibilities in fulfilling their duties and powers to the people's trust. In case they fail to fulfill their responsibilities and roles in representing the interests and aspirations of the electorate, they should be recalled. Additionally, it is necessary to enhance the democratic nature of electoral activities and the quality of NA and PC

deputies by reforming the electoral system to ensure that each constituency elects only one representative, improving the candidacy mechanism, encouraging candidacy, and ensuring high competition in elections. Further, we need to continue to vigorously reform the organization of the NA and PCs to better ensure representative democracy institutions, such as having the NA and PCs operate more regularly and professionally, limiting the number of NA and PC deputies who concurrently hold positions as officials and public servants in administrative agencies, and perfecting the mechanism for voters to exercise the right to recall NA and PC deputies when these deputies are no longer trusted by the voters. Additionally, it is necessary to review and improve the legal institutions regarding the functions, duties, organization, and activities to ensure that the NA, PCs, and their respective agencies and deputies operate on a scientific, legal, effective, and efficient basis. We must avoid conflicts, overlaps, and lack of scientific and practical foundations, such as the current inconsistencies in the provisions of the Law on Organization of the NA and the Law on Supervisory Activities of the NA and PCs, as analyzed in the limitations section of this article. Therefore, in the future, we need to continue to improve the legal system to review, identify, and eliminate conflicting and overlapping legal provisions to ensure the feasibility of legal documents in practice.

Thirdly, to initiate research to develop mechanisms for conducting election campaigns in the election of National Assembly and People's Council deputies to provide comprehensive information and proof of individual capabilities, giving voters a solid basis to accurately select representatives for the rights and interests of the people.

To develop mechanisms for conducting election campaigns in the election of deputies to representative bodies to provide comprehensive information and proof of individual capabilities, giving voters a solid basis to accurately select representatives for the rights and interests of the people.

However, it is important to note that the implementation of election campaigns in the election of deputies to representative bodies is unprecedented in Vietnam. This requires the development and completion of a system of electoral institutions suitable for this mechanism. In the short term, this mechanism is unlikely to operate smoothly in practice. Therefore, to align with Vietnam's development, a roadmap should be established with a direction towards the period from 2030 to 2045 to continue building and perfecting the mechanism for conducting election campaigns in the election of deputies to representative bodies. This aims to provide comprehensive information and

proof of individual capabilities, giving voters a solid basis to accurately select representatives for the rights and interests of the people, ensuring that State power truly belongs to the people./.

(1) See: Party Committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front, *Ensuring Implementation and Promoting the People's Mastery and Role as the Main Subject in Building and Perfecting the Socialist Rule of Law State in Vietnam*, 2021, pp. 24-25.

(2) Tran Van Phong, "Contributing to refute the opinion that 'Vietnam must transform its political system from totalitarianism to democracy', in the Central Theoretical Council (2017), *Criticizing erroneous viewpoints, defending the fundamental ideology, orientation of the Communist Party of Vietnam*, National Political Publishing House, Truth, Hanoi, p. 323.

(3) See: Nguyen Phu Trong, "Fighting against corruption, negative phenomena: Looking back on the past 10 years; setting direction, tasks for the future", Speech at the National Conference to Review 10 Years of Anti-Corruption and Anti-Negative Activities, June 30, 2022, p. 24.

(4) See: Communist Party of Vietnam, *Documents of the 13th National Party Congress*, The Truth National Political Publishing House, Volume I, p. 96.

(5) See: National Assembly, *Constitution of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam 2013*, Article 7, <https://moj.gov.vn/>, accessed December 8, 2022.

(6) See: Party Committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front, *Ensuring Implementation and Promoting the People's Mastery and Role as the Main Subject in Building and Perfecting the Socialist Rule of Law State in Vietnam*, 2021, p. 43.

Some Issues on Training and Updating Political Theoretical Knowledge for Cadres and Party members via the Internet

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Khac Hieu LUONG

Abstract: *Training and updating political theoretical knowledge via the Internet is an objective trend in the context of the Fourth Industrial Revolution and the current construction of a learning society. It plays a significant role in diversifying forms of political theory education, enhancing the ability to quickly and flexibly transmit a large amount of political theoretical knowledge to the target audience, helping to save costs and time, and contributing to improving the quality and effectiveness of political theory education for cadres and Party members.*

Keywords: *training, updating, political theoretical knowledge, political theory education, Internet.*

In the current stage, the content of training and updating political theoretical knowledge via the Internet for cadres and Party members should focus on providing distilled research results from national and ministerial-level programs and projects in the field of social sciences and humanities; core and new issues in congress resolutions and resolutions of the Party Central Committee; knowledge and skills in protecting the ideological foundation of the Party, combating wrongful and hostile viewpoints; skills and expertise in researching and educating political theory.

Training and updating political theoretical knowledge via the Internet is not only a trend or possibility in the digital era, but it is being increasingly applied at various levels and scales in institutions that function in training and fostering political theory in general, and for cadres and Party members in particular. Clarifying the connotation of the concept of training and updating political theoretical knowledge via the Internet for cadres and Party members, its important role in the Party's political theory education work, and defining the content of this activity hold great significance in realizing the possibility of increasingly widespread application of this form of training and fostering in the practical work of political theory education for cadres and Party members in our country today.

1. Training and updating political theoretical knowledge via the Internet and its role in political theory education for cadres and Party members

Political theory is a system of viewpoints, guidelines, lines, and policies of a political party or class aimed at gaining, maintaining, and exercising state power. It is a system of knowledge about the political field that reflects class attitudes and interests towards state power in a class-based society, and it is the result of scientific research and political practice by many individuals over various historical periods.

In our country, political theory is defined with specific contents, including: Marxism-Leninism (comprising scientific disciplines such as Marxist-Leninist Philosophy, Marxist-Leninist Political Economy, Scientific Socialism), Ho Chi Minh Thought, viewpoints, guidelines, and lines of the Party, and policies and laws of the State.

Training and updating political theoretical knowledge is the process of organizing activities to replace outdated knowledge, supplement, and update new knowledge and understandings about Marxism-Leninism, Ho Chi Minh Thought, the Party's lines and viewpoints, and the State's policies and laws for cadres and Party members. This helps them improve their understanding and ability to creatively apply Marxism-Leninism, Ho Chi Minh Thought, the Party's lines and viewpoints, and the State's policies and laws into the practice of each revolutionary period.

The Internet is a global information system that can be publicly accessed, comprising interconnected computer networks. This system transmits information using packet switching based on a standardized internet protocol (IP). It includes thousands and tens of thousands of computer networks from research institutes, universities, businesses, individual users, governments, and international organizations worldwide. Currently, the Internet has become the largest interconnected network globally, infiltrating all areas of life—from economy, politics, culture, society to education and entertainment. This explosive development is creating a booming era of services and utilities on the Internet. It also creates opportunities for the field of education, training, fostering, and updating human knowledge. Especially, IoT (Internet of Things)—the Internet connecting all things—is increasingly developing and being widely applied in all areas of social life. The field of education, training, fostering, and updating knowledge needs to quickly seize this opportunity to develop and reach the target audience, enhancing the effectiveness of its activities.

The Internet network also includes Wi-Fi. Wi-Fi is a wireless networking technology that provides Internet access capabilities for smartphones,

computers, laptops, and other devices equipped with Wi-Fi within a certain range. The ability to wirelessly connect to the Internet while moving allows users to check emails, browse websites, access social media platforms, send and receive real-time chats as well. Wi-Fi also creates opportunities for online learning for many users as long as they have connected devices, especially for those who often move and work with tight schedules.

In a broad sense, training and updating political theoretical knowledge via the Internet is a term used to describe the activity of training and updating political theoretical knowledge based on information technology. According to current concepts, it involves the distribution of political theory learning content through the use of modern electronic tools such as computers, computer networks, the Internet, etc. Learning content can be obtained from websites, CDs by videos, audios, etc., through a computer. Teachers and learners can communicate with each other over the network in forms as follows: email, online discussions (chat), forums, seminars, and videos, etc. Therefore, it can be understood that training and updating political theoretical knowledge via the Internet is the process of applying teaching and learning technology, transmitting and receiving, acquiring knowledge through interactive methods over the Internet (E-learning) in all stages of the teaching process—the process of transmitting, receiving, acquiring, and applying political theoretical knowledge.

The activity of training and updating political theoretical knowledge via the Internet for cadres and Party members needs to be widely used and of high quality in the context of information technology development, the Fourth Industrial Revolution, the development of a learning society, and the enhancement of the quality and effectiveness of the Party's political theory education work. This activity plays a significant role in political theory education for cadres and Party members.

Firstly, training and updating political theoretical knowledge via the Internet helps diversify forms of political theory education, enhancing the ability to quickly and flexibly transmit a large amount of political theoretical knowledge to a wide range of cadres and Party members.

Training and updating political theoretical knowledge via the Internet allows implementation anytime, anywhere, promptly and quickly transmitting knowledge according to the needs of many broad audiences. Learners can access courses anywhere and at any time during the week or day. It is also highly flexible; learners, especially cadres and Party members working in our country's political system, can freely choose courses that suit their needs and conditions, work characteristics, and living circumstances.

Through the Internet, multiple learning contents, courses, and levels can be provided simultaneously, helping cadres and Party members easily choose according to their needs to improve their qualifications. The content of the lessons is regularly updated and renewed to best meet the needs and appropriately match the conditions and capabilities of cadres and Party members. With the support of multimedia technology, lectures integrating text, illustrative images, and sound contribute to increasing the attractiveness and persuasiveness of the lectures. Moreover, cadres and Party members can automatically adjust the speed and progress of learning according to their abilities, strengths, and working conditions. Especially, learners can enhance and enrich their knowledge and methods, develop self-discipline, planning, independent thinking, and creativity through self-researching the rich material repository of online libraries.

Secondly, training and updating political theoretical knowledge via the Internet helps increase the level and diversify forms of interaction, saving costs and time for political theory education work for cadres and Party members.

Training and updating political theoretical knowledge via the Internet increases interaction and cooperation between teachers and learners, transmitters and receivers. Cadres and Party members can exchange with each other on political theory issues through discussions, practice, assignments, and practical research projects. They can also easily exchange information with each other and with lecturers or reporters through forums, online chats, emails, etc.

Training and updating political theoretical knowledge through this method allows cadres, Party members, and political theory education institutions to reduce costs, especially travel expenses and venue organization costs. It also helps save time for cadres and Party members who are always busy with daily work. According to current estimates, learners via the Internet can reduce the time participating in courses by 20–40% compared to traditional training and updating methods, thanks to saving travel time.

Thirdly, training and updating political theoretical knowledge via the Internet for cadres and Party members contributes to improving the quality and effectiveness of political theory education work.

This method makes an important contribution to enhancing the quality and effectiveness of political theory education for cadres and Party members in our country today. Besides reducing costs and time—important factors in improving training effectiveness—this method also meets the needs of learners, helping cadres and Party members to self-orient their learning to improve their qualifications. More importantly, it helps learners enrich their knowledge,

skills, and self-learning methods, creating a favorable environment for using interactive teaching methods, personalizing learners in political theory training and fostering. Moreover, it supports and supplements traditional political theory training methods, contributing to innovating methods and improving the quality and effectiveness of political theory education for cadres and Party members in the digital age.

2. Orientation for Content Development in Training and Updating Political Theoretical Knowledge via the Internet for Cadres and Party members in the Current Revolutionary Era

Basis for Determining Political Theoretical Knowledge Content for Training and Updating via the Internet

Education, training, and fostering personal qualities are inherently tied to the era in which individuals live and operate, closely linked with the movement and development of social practice. The content of education, training, and updating knowledge is influenced and defined by the needs of the target audience, their practical work, and the objectives of the educational or training program. The following factors are the primary bases for determining the key content in training and updating political theoretical knowledge for cadres and Party members in Vietnam today.

First, target audience for training and updating in political theoretical knowledge

The target audience for training and updating political theoretical knowledge broadly includes all cadres and Party members. However, given the current circumstances, the focus for Internet-based training and updating should prioritize the following groups:

- Political theory researchers and educators currently working at the Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics, its regional branches I, II, III, IV, and the Academy of Journalism and Communication; political theory lecturers at provincial and central-level political schools, district-level political centers, and political theory lecturers in universities, colleges, and vocational schools within the national education system.

- Communication officers, including leaders and specialists working at the Central Communication Department, provincial and city-level communication departments, and district-level communication committees; as well as communication committees of Party organizations in Central government agencies, enterprises, public security, and the military.

- Leaders and managers at various levels.

These groups generally have a background in advanced political theory

programs or university-level political theory studies. They may have participated in multiple programs for training and updating political theoretical knowledge but often face challenges in allocating time for direct learning due to their practical work commitments. However, they are well-suited for online learning or Internet-based training.

Second, objectives of the program

As a program focused on training and updating, its objectives are to provide learners with new knowledge—content that does not overlap with or could not be incorporated into previous political theory programs these groups have undertaken. Additionally, the new political theoretical knowledge should be practical, meaning it must align with and serve the demands of their practical work. This knowledge should aim to enhance theoretical awareness, professional expertise, political and ideological qualities, ethics, and the quality and effectiveness of their practical work.

Third, practical work requirements

Based on practical work requirements, the identified target audiences can be divided into three groups:

- Target group 1: Political theory researchers and educators in educational institutions.
- Target group 2: Individuals involved in training, fostering, disseminating, and educating political theory outside the classroom through ideological and theoretical institutional frameworks.
- Target group 3: Leaders and managers at various levels who primarily acquire new political theoretical knowledge for application in their practical work.

Therefore, the program content must align with the practical needs of these groups. For Group 1: The content should include new political theoretical knowledge and skills for conducting political theory research and summarizing practical experience. For Group 2: The content should focus on new political theoretical knowledge and methods for educating, training, propagating, and disseminating political theory. For Group 3: The content should consist of new political theoretical knowledge and the ability to apply this theory to practical work.

Orientation for New Political Theoretical Content to Be Trained and Updated for Cadres and Party members in the Current Revolutionary Era

On the structure of political theoretical knowledge

Under current concepts, the structure of political theoretical knowledge includes:

- Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh Thought:

Marxism-Leninism is a unified and comprehensive theoretical system comprising three main components: Marxist-Leninist Philosophy, Marxist-Leninist Political Economy, and Scientific Socialism. Ho Chi Minh Thought is a comprehensive and profound system of theoretical viewpoints addressing fundamental issues of the Vietnamese revolution. It represents the application of Marxism-Leninism to Vietnam's specific conditions while inheriting and developing the nation's traditional values and incorporating the quintessence of global culture. The content of programs for training and updating political theoretical knowledge for cadres and Party members should focus on the foundational elements and significant values of Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh Thought, the creative development of these ideologies by the Party in leading the Vietnamese revolution, the Party's theoretical system on socialism and the path toward socialism in Vietnam, and perspectives and policies for building and protecting the socialist Vietnamese nation in the new era. The knowledge volume, proportion among subjects, and balance between theory and practical application depend on the program's objectives and the characteristics of the target audience.

- The Party's guidelines and perspectives, and the State's policies and laws:

The Party's guidelines and perspectives represent the application of Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh Thought to analyze realities and identify goals, pathways, and methods for the Vietnamese revolution during each historical period. These are expressed through documents, particularly Congress resolutions and resolutions of the Party Central Committee and the Politburo.

The State's policies and laws embody the institutionalization of the Party's guidelines and perspectives into State documents. This constitutes an essential component of political theoretical knowledge, vital for fostering the practical-political mindset and necessary qualities in learners.

On New Political Theoretical Content for Training and Updating in the Current Revolutionary Era

Based on the general body of political theoretical knowledge, and tailored to the target audience, purpose, and nature of the program content, the following key areas of new political theoretical knowledge should be emphasized:

Firstly, synthesized results of research on political theory:

Annually (or within each five-year term), Vietnam's Party and State organize numerous research programs and hundreds of national-level projects, alongside thousands of ministerial-level studies in social sciences, humanities,

political science, and political theory. These research outcomes are meticulously synthesized and reported to leading agencies such as the Party Secretariat, Politburo, National Assembly, and Government.

These synthesized results are the culmination of rigorous scientific research and practical reviews by thousands of scientists nationwide, providing critical theoretical and practical values. They serve as scientific foundations for proposing guidelines, policies, and laws. These results should be widely disseminated among cadres and Party members, particularly leaders, managers, and those engaged in political theory research and education.

Secondly, core and new contents of Party congress resolutions and central committee resolutions:

These are crucial elements within new political theoretical knowledge that must be popularized, trained, and updated for various target groups. The structure of this content in training programs not only enhances understanding and implementation of resolutions but also fosters theoretical and political thinking and the skills to apply and summarize practical experiences.

Thirdly, Knowledge and Skills for Protecting the Party's Ideological Foundation and Countering Hostile Views:

Protecting the Party's ideological foundation is a fundamental, crucial and vital content of Party-building work and rectification efforts. It is the top important task of the entire Party, the entire army, and the entire people, in which the Propaganda force at all levels is the core; is the voluntary and regular work of Party committees, Party organizations, and authorities, National Front Vietnam and political and social organizations at all levels; of each locality, agency, unit and of each cadre and party member. This task requires target groups to be equipped with updated theoretical and practical insights to effectively fight against erroneous and hostile views. *Fourthly, expertise and skills in political theory research, communication, and education:*

This is an essential area of knowledge and skills that cadres and Party members need to be trained and updated on. The content should be designed to align with the work characteristics of the three identified groups of cadres and Party members. All three groups require training and updates in knowledge and skills related to protecting the ideological foundation of the Party and fighting against erroneous and hostile views. Groups 1 and 2, in particular, need in-depth training and updates in expertise and skills for researching and educating political theory.

To fully realize the role of Internet-based training and updating of political theoretical knowledge for cadres and Party members, and to effectively transmit

and absorb the content to achieve its intended goals, a comprehensive system of necessary and sufficient conditions must be established. These include robust information technology infrastructure, strong Internet connections, online classrooms, portals or websites for online training, e-learning software systems, and digital resources such as online and electronic lectures. The most critical condition is the development of a team of lecturers, collaborators, and presenters with high-level expertise in political theory. These professionals must possess advanced skills in designing, structuring, and delivering online lectures. Additionally, a team of staff responsible for managing online training and fostering must be established, with regular technical and technological support from a professional information technology center or an online training/software company. Furthermore, a well-structured and appropriate regulatory framework for online training and updating programs must be developed to ensure the effectiveness of these activities./.

REFERENCES:

1. Nguyễn Thị Thu Hà (2019), *Developing Online Education and Training in Vietnam During the Integration Period*, Finance Magazine.
2. Mai Đức Ngọc (2020), *Online Training and Fostering in Political Theory and Journalism Communication in Vietnam*, Comprehensive Report of Ministerial-Level Scientific Project (Code B2019-TGC-01), Hanoi, 2020.
3. Phan Thúy (2020), *Online Learning Requires a Synchronized Legal Framework*, Law and Society Newspaper.