

Promoting the Sustained Construction of the China-Vietnam Community with a Shared Future from a Multidimensional Perspective

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Abstract: *Amid the accelerated evolution of a world undergoing changes unseen in a century, undercurrents are surging beneath the seemingly tranquil global landscape. Each country is reflecting on its "unique ecological niche" on the global stage. An analytical framework covering the domains of "high politics" and "low politics" can better illuminate the history, current state and future prospects of friendly exchanges between China and Vietnam. Historically, the two countries share a distinctive revolutionary bond. Politically and economically, China's creatively initiated Belt and Road Initiative aligns deeply with the "Two Corridors, One Belt" framework jointly promoted by China and Vietnam. In cultural and security fields, the two countries have forged ahead in tandem to build a cooperative network. At present, the shared goals and strategic aspirations of China and Vietnam are gradually converging into new growth drivers, which carries prominent practical and realistic significance for advancing the building of the China-Vietnam community with a shared future.*

Keywords: Community with a Shared Future; Vietnam; Cooperation.

1. Introduction

Analyzing the history, reality and future of China-Vietnam relations from a multidimensional perspective serves as a critical entry point. Drawing lessons from history and integrating insights from the past and present enables a better outlook for the future. Vietnam and China have shared inextricable ties since ancient times. The two countries forged a profound friendship and bond during the revolutionary era of the 20th century, and both accomplished the tasks of national independence and liberation successively. By the end of the 20th century, the two countries had pursued proactive development and mutual complementarity. With the deepening of China's reform and opening up and Vietnam's Đổi Mới policy, comprehensive outcomes have been achieved in political, economic and cultural fields between the two countries. As time enters the 21st century, the two countries continue to deepen practical cooperation and march forward hand in hand into a new chapter.

At the invitation of Xi Jinping, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and President of the People's Republic of China, Tô Lâm, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and President of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, paid a state visit to the People's Republic of China from April 14 to 17, 2026. The two sides held that the Communist Party of China and the Communist Party of Vietnam bear the historical mission of seeking

happiness for the people, development for the country and progress for humanity. Upholding and strengthening the overall leadership of the two parties is the fundamental guarantee for realizing their respective socialist modernization and ensuring the long-term, sound and steady development of China-Vietnam relations, which bears on the future of the two countries, the two parties and their bilateral relations, as well as on the development and growth of the world socialist cause. Facing the changes of the world, the times and history, the two parties and two countries are committed to advancing the vigorous development of their respective socialist causes, demonstrating to the world the strong vitality and bright prospects of the socialist system. The two sides should remain committed to their path and aspirations, unswervingly uphold the leadership of the Communist Party, adhere to the socialist road suited to their respective national conditions, promote high-quality economic and social development, strengthen solidarity, cooperation and mutual learning, deepen understanding of the laws governing the exercise of power by communist parties, the development of socialism and the development of human society, jointly safeguard the socialist causes of the two countries, and dedicate themselves to the noble cause of human peace and progress, so as to always stay at the forefront of the times and move in the right direction amid the profound changes in the world situation.

China and Vietnam share the same ideals and a common destiny. Developing sound China-Vietnam relations bears strategic, overall and historical significance and represents the common strategic choice of the two countries. China emphasizes its commitment to the policy of friendship with Vietnam and always regards Vietnam as a priority direction in its neighborhood diplomacy. Vietnam reaffirms that its relations with China have always been an objective requirement, strategic choice and top priority of its independent, self-reliant, all-round and diversified foreign policy. The two sides should inherit, safeguard and carry forward the precious "comrades plus brothers" traditional friendship personally forged and carefully nurtured by the older generation of leaders including Chairman Mao Zedong and President Hồ Chí Minh. Guided by the principle of "long-term stability, future orientation, good-neighborly friendship and all-round cooperation" and the spirit of "good neighbors, good friends, good comrades and good partners", and in line with the overall goals of "higher political mutual trust, more solid security cooperation, deeper practical cooperation, stronger public support, closer multilateral coordination and better management and resolution of differences", the two sides will promote the sound and steady development of the China-Vietnam comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership in the new era and build a higher-level China-Vietnam community with a shared future of strategic significance [1]. Meanwhile, from December 12 to 13, 2023, President Xi Jinping paid a state visit to Vietnam. The two sides announced the building of a China-Vietnam community with a shared future of strategic significance and signed more than 30 cooperation agreements covering the Belt and Road, digital economy, green development and other fields [2]. From August 18 to 20, 2024, Tô Lâm, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam, visited China, and the two sides issued the *Joint Statement on Further Strengthening the Comprehensive Strategic Cooperative Partnership and Advancing the Building of the China-Vietnam Community with a Shared Future*, deepening political mutual trust and practical cooperation. From October 12 to 14, 2024, Premier Li Qiang paid an official visit to Vietnam and held talks with Vietnamese Prime Minister Phạm Minh Chính, promoting cooperation in infrastructure such as railways and expressways and signing multiple economic and trade agreements. On May 27, 2025, Premier Li Qiang met with Vietnamese Prime Minister Phạm Minh Chính. The two sides exchanged views on implementing the outcomes of President Xi Jinping's visit to Vietnam and strengthening regional cooperation, emphasizing the need to uphold international fairness and justice and the common interests of Global South countries. On April 28, 2025, the defense ministers of China and Vietnam held a border friendly exchange event. Chinese Defense Minister Dong Jun and Vietnamese Defense Minister Phan Văn Giang signed a cooperation agreement, including the establishment of a naval hotline, deepening joint patrols in the Beibu Gulf, and planning the joint construction of a military industrial zone.

This paper adopts a multidimensional analytical perspective and combines the analytical framework of "high politics" and "low politics" to dissect the cooperation practices of China and Vietnam in political, economic, cultural, social, security and historical fields at different levels, vividly demonstrating how the two countries continue to deepen the building of the China-Vietnam community with a shared future on the basis of mutual benefit and win-win outcomes. Interactions and communications at all levels and in all fields between the two countries have opened a new chapter in China-Vietnam development. In the past, we stood together through severe domestic and international challenges; at present, we support each other in pursuing development in all fields; in the future, we will share weal and woe and shoulder the responsibilities of the era of global development. At present, the world situation is undergoing rapid changes, and all countries are seeking new growth points. The "carrot and stick" policy of certain countries is still subtly influencing the choices of Vietnam's senior leadership. The "long-arm jurisdiction" of Western forces keeps interfering in Vietnam's domestic politics, and differences in lines among various domestic parties will all affect bilateral relations. Opportunities and challenges coexist dialectically. New challenges and new opportunities lie ahead of the two countries. Only by working together to advance the building of the China-Vietnam community with a shared future can the people of the two countries gain a greater sense of happiness and fulfillment.

2. Joint Progress of China and Vietnam in the "High Politics" Domain

2.1 Historical Dimension

The world history of the 20th century witnessed dramatic transformations. Shaken by the two world wars, the global political and economic structure was reshuffled and reorganized. Each country faced challenges of different tasks. Established capitalist countries stepped up efforts to continue dividing the world and winning over allies by leveraging the existing international order. Under the influence of the Soviet Union, socialist countries gradually became the main international force of the other pole, and the world entered a bipolar pattern. Nevertheless, it is undeniable that there were countries outside the two poles seeking national independence and liberation. Against this complex international backdrop, the Chinese people, under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, went through the new-democratic revolution to achieve national unification and independence, the socialist revolution to establish and consolidate the socialist country, and reform and opening up to achieve the vigorous development of the socialist market economy.

In 1945, Hồ Chí Minh, Chairman of the Viet Minh, wrote and read out Vietnam's *Tuyên ngôn Độc lập* (Declaration of Independence), marking that under the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam, the country broke away from colonial rule, founded an independent state, and subsequently established a republican system. Through the unyielding resistance and efforts of the Vietnamese people and the Communist Party of Vietnam, the entire south was liberated in 1975, and the country was officially renamed the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in 1976 [3]. Later, after implementing the *Đổi Mới* policy in 1986, Vietnam further promoted steady progress of its domestic economy.

Both countries have gone through struggles against foreign colonial rule. In the process of striving for national independence and liberation, they overcame hardships and eventually established socialist regimes, realizing the aspiration of the people to be masters of their own country. Meanwhile, both countries carried out revolutionary activities against the old regimes. Under the leadership of Mao Zedong, the Communist Party of China won the War of Liberation and overthrew the reactionary Kuomintang regime supported by the United States. Under the leadership of Hồ Chí Minh, the Communist Party of Vietnam ended the domestic division through the anti-French and anti-American

struggles. Hồ Chí Minh had already arrived in France, then known by the name Nguyễn Ái Quốc. In 1919, Nguyễn Ái Quốc was introduced by the famous French writer Paul Vaillant-Couturier to join the French Socialist Party. In 1920, Nguyễn Ái Quốc joined the French Communist Party, becoming one of its earliest members. In 1922, Xiao San, a young Chinese student studying in France, got acquainted with Nguyễn Ái Quốc during a demonstration. In the same year, Zhou Enlai also met Nguyễn Ái Quốc at a metro station in Paris. From 1924 to 1927, Hồ Chí Minh met Zhou Enlai again in Guangzhou. After the victory of the revolution, Hồ Chí Minh and Zhou Enlai had more interactions. After Hồ Chí Minh passed away, Zhou Enlai went to Hanoi in person to pay his condolences [4]. Zhou Enlai and Hồ Chí Minh met, got to know each other and helped each other abroad, jointly spreading Marxism-Leninism back to China and Vietnam and igniting the spark of revolution. In addition, Hồ Chí Minh once worked with Zhou Enlai to assist Soviet advisors in carrying out activities in Guangzhou, and invited Communist Party of China members such as Zhou Enlai and Li Fuchun to give lectures and exchange ideas at the political training class of the Vietnamese Revolutionary Youth League. Later, after studying at the Sun Yat-sen University in Moscow, his interactions with the Communist Party of China became even closer. It was with the strong support of the Communist Party of China that Hồ Chí Minh founded the Communist Party of Vietnam in Kowloon, Hong Kong in 1930. At that time, the Communist Party of China fully supported Vietnamese communists including Hồ Chí Minh and Trường Chinh in carrying out revolutionary activities in China, and rescued Hồ Chí Minh from prison on several occasions [5].

It is evident that China and Vietnam stood side by side during Vietnam's most arduous period. Vietnam's founding fathers even established their political party and sought independence with China's assistance. Both countries have contributed to the progress of history. The Communist Party of China and the Chinese people actively supported the Communist Party of Vietnam and the Vietnamese people in their anti-French and anti-American wars, providing a large amount of manpower, material assistance and diplomatic support, and making tremendous contributions to Vietnam's final national independence, liberation and national reunification. Therefore, both countries gradually adopted communist and socialist ideologies during the revolutionary period, armed their minds with these ideologies and put them into practice, realizing the establishment of socialist regimes. Meanwhile, they developed themselves and actively participated in the international communist movement, contributing their share to the development of communism in the world.

2.2 Political Dimension

Mutual assistance and trust in politics reflect the full confidence the two countries have in each other. The two countries share common ground in political systems, political structures and political power. Meanwhile, both take Marxism-Leninism as their guiding ideology, and these commonalities constitute the foundation and prerequisite for their political interactions and mutual trust. The stable and solid friendship continuously promotes communication and coordination between the two countries in the political field. In the China-Vietnam Joint Statement of December 2023, both sides emphasized that they firmly support the two parties, the two countries and the two peoples in upholding strategic autonomy, independently choosing development paths suited to their respective national conditions, and adhering to the proper handling and active resolution of differences through peaceful means on the basis of mutual understanding, mutual respect and compliance with international law, so as to maintain the sound momentum of China-Vietnam relations and make more positive contributions to regional and global peace, stability and development. History is the best textbook. History does not repeat itself, but it often rhymes. Throughout history, there have been countless cases of major powers interfering in other countries. Great-power chauvinism, interventionism and subversion are deeply rooted. Some interventions have led to political collapse, while others have turned the two sides against each other.

In the 1950s, the Soviet Union pursued great-power chauvinism, constantly squeezing the strategic space of other countries and arousing strong dissatisfaction, which eventually backfired and led to the collapse of its own political system. As Ouyang Xiu wrote in *On Factions*: "When serving the country, they are of one mind and help each other through thick and thin; they remain consistent from beginning to end—such is the friendship of men of virtue." History has taught people bloody lessons to respect each other and properly resolve differences. Differences and contradictions are universal. "What exists is reasonable" means that problems need to be identified, communication sought and solutions found. Vietnam fully supports China's three Global Initiatives, and all sectors of society have gradually come to understand China's policy concepts and governance principles. Meanwhile, China affirms and speaks highly of the remarkable achievements made by the Communist Party of Vietnam in leading all sectors of society to launch the Đổi Mới cause for nearly 40 years, which has nurtured Vietnam from a nascent country into a self-reliant one.

In the future, the two sides will continue to maintain high-level mutual visits and strategic communication, effectively exchange views on each other's reasonable concerns and latest hot issues, and timely address regional hotspots and international situations of key concern to both sides through bilateral visits, mutual dispatch of ambassadors, hotline calls, exchange of letters, annual meetings and other forms. This will continuously enhance political mutual assistance and trust between the two sides, bridge differences, and provide strategic guidance for their respective policy formulation and foreign affairs handling. Since their birth, socialist countries have shouldered heavy responsibilities and missions. The Communist Party of Vietnam and the Communist Party of China forge ahead bravely for the people, the country and the communist mission. The publication of *The Communist Manifesto* marked the birth of Marxism and the first systematic elaboration of communist theory, providing great guidance and goals for subsequent communists. On January 28, 2016, General Secretary Xi Jinping sent a congratulatory message to Nguyễn Phú Trọng on his re-election as General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, stating: "China and Vietnam are friendly neighbors connected by mountains and rivers. The two countries share the same political system, similar development paths and linked future and destiny, and form a community with a shared future of strategic significance." [6] A river cannot flow without its source, and a tree cannot grow without its roots. The two countries always cherish their dreams and gradually advance toward the goal of communism in accordance with their own paths and principles. As early as the 13th National Congress of the Communist Party of China in the 1980s, the Communist Party of China put forward the "three-step" development strategy, providing top-level planning and practical guidance for this enduring socialist country to steadily realize socialist modernization and communism. At present, China is on a new journey of fully building a modern socialist country, which is further deepened and innovated on the basis of accumulated experience and achievements. By the middle of this century, China will achieve the phased goal of building a great modern socialist country, and its subsequent development will strive toward realizing communism. This is a long-term, complex and challenging historical process, involving the high development of social productive forces, the improvement of education and cultural levels of all members of society, and the enhancement of ideological awareness and moral quality, among other soft and hard conditions. After the Đổi Mới policy in 1986, the Communist Party of Vietnam made a series of adjustments to the theory and practice of socialist society construction to adapt to the new domestic and international situation in phases and steps. The Đổi Mới policy marked Vietnam's implementation of more flexible and adaptive market economy reforms while always maintaining the fundamental direction of socialism. Vietnam's overall development strategies and plans are usually formulated at the National Congress of the Party and implemented step by step in accordance with the established guidelines during the subsequent term of office. According to the latest information, the 13th National Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam put forward development goals and long-term plans for 2025, 2030 and 2045, which reflect Vietnam's strategic thinking and

development vision for different stages of socialist construction. Vietnam's specific steps and timeline will be adjusted according to the country's actual situation and changes in the international environment. However, the overall long-term goal has been set, and the realistic phased goals need to be achieved one by one.

To sum up, the paths to communism for China and Vietnam are phased and step-by-step, rather than blind "great leap forward" development. Following the laws, proceeding in a down-to-earth manner and addressing current contradictions and tasks are the key points to realizing communism. At present, both countries are in a critical period of transition from the primary stage of socialism to a higher stage. The two countries shoulder common ideals and missions. Facing the heavy pressure and threat from capitalism, the two sides must stick together and help each other to strengthen the viable force of socialist countries and contribute tremendous strength to the cause of human communism.

2.3 Security Dimension

As influential countries in the region, the national strategies and security policies of China and Vietnam directly affect the stability and development of Southeast Asia. Globally, traditional security issues have tended to stabilize, while non-traditional security issues are becoming more extensive, extended and complex. Addressing such issues has become a key direction of cooperation between the two countries. In the China-Vietnam Joint Statement of December 2023, both sides emphasized that they will further strengthen high-level exchanges between the two militaries, give full play to channels such as border defense friendly exchange activities, defense and security consultations and the Ministry of Defense hotline, and effectively implement the *Joint Vision Statement on National Defense Cooperation by 2025* between the two defense ministries. They will strengthen exchanges and cooperation between the two militaries in fields such as political work, personnel training and joint research, and further enhance cooperation in national defense industry, joint exercises and training, medical and health services, United Nations peacekeeping and non-traditional security fields [7]. Military cooperation between the two sides began as early as Vietnam's struggle for national independence. Although the People's Republic of China was just founded and the whole country was still consolidating its foundation, the Chinese people and the Communist Party of China did not forget the Vietnamese people. Chen Geng, an outstanding commander and general of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, was dispatched to Vietnam in 1950 to serve as head of the Chinese Military Advisory Group in Vietnam. He stood with the Vietnamese people to help the People's Army of Vietnam fight the anti-French war and helped it achieve a series of important victories, eventually forcing French troops to withdraw from Vietnam. Chen Geng demonstrated outstanding military talent and made certain contributions to Vietnam's independence cause, making him a key figure in China-Vietnam friendship and Vietnam's national independence struggle. High-level exchanges and interactions between the two militaries can fully promote mutual learning, lay a foundation for training high-level military talents for both countries, and further strengthen national defense cooperation to contribute to peace and stability in Southeast Asia. The two sides will give full play to the ministerial meeting on cooperation in combating crime, establish a deputy ministerial-level dialogue mechanism on political security and a hotline between the two ministries of public security. They will actively respond to foreign attempts to split, subvert and undermine national security, and guard against the occurrence of "peaceful evolution" and "color revolutions".

China and Vietnam have always been socialist countries with consistent ideologies. Although the current international situation does not see overt struggles as in the Cold War era, the ideological struggle with capitalist countries is shifting from open to covert. The capitalist countries led by the United States always aim to subvert the regimes of socialist countries and suppress and contain them

through various means. The "peaceful evolution" of the former Soviet Union sowed the seeds of subversion in the last Soviet leader as early as his youth, collapsing from the top leadership level down to the ordinary people. This lesson is an unprecedented wake-up call, causing immeasurable losses to the socialist cause and leading to the fall of a giant. After being impacted by the drastic changes in Eastern Europe, Vietnam faced dual pressures at home and abroad. As early as 1994, the Communist Party of Vietnam pointed out that the country was facing "four major crises", among which was the crisis of "peaceful evolution". Since then, successive national congresses have emphasized its dangers and urgency. At present, China and Vietnam face the same problems: on the one hand, they actively resist the flood of interference from external Western forces; on the other hand, they strengthen bilateral cooperation to jointly address potential crises. They will maintain the stability of their respective regimes, preserve their strategic resolve, and guard against foreign forces using domestic hot issues to stir up trouble and undermine the friendship between the two countries.

3. Mutual Benefit and Win-Win Outcomes for China and Vietnam in the "Low Politics" Domain

3.1 Economic Dimension

After the victory of the socialist revolution, both countries faced the common problem of how to further develop the economy and raise people's income levels. China took the lead in implementing the reform and opening up policy in the 1970s. Influenced by China to a certain extent, Vietnam began to implement the *Đổi Mới* policy in 1986, drawing on relevant Chinese experience and methods to a certain extent, which provided lessons for Vietnam's economic and political restructuring [8]. China and Vietnam are both important developing countries in Asia. China is Vietnam's largest trading partner, major source of investment, main recipient of industrial transfer and key source of technology import. Vietnam, in turn, is an important import partner for China and a key node for the implementation of China's policies. The two countries form a genuine community with a shared future and common lifeline. China's economy is in the middle and late stages of world economic development. Capitalist countries took 200 years to gradually realize industrialization and modernization. As an emerging socialist power, China naturally started relatively late. In line with the laws of modern economic operation, China gradually undertook the backward low-end industries eliminated by developed countries after the 1970s [9]. These industries are in the middle and lower reaches of the economic operation chain, known as labor-intensive and low-output industries. As China enters a new stage of development, its industries have also undergone relevant industrial transfers. Vietnam has become an important link in undertaking new industrial transfers. Vietnam has a vast labor market and is in urgent need of new foreign investment to settle in the country, while its domestic infrastructure development is relatively lagging with obvious shortcomings. Chinese overseas enterprises perfectly fill Vietnam's demand, actively participating in infrastructure construction cooperation with Vietnam and injecting vitality into economic exchanges, trade interactions and industrial connection between the two countries. According to statistics from Vietnam's Ministry of Planning and Investment, by the end of 2022, China had invested in 3,567 projects in Vietnam with a total contractual value of US\$23.35 billion, accounting for 9.8% and 5.3% of the total number of foreign-invested projects and total contractual value in Vietnam respectively, ranking 6th among 139 countries and regions investing in Vietnam [10].

Meanwhile, a large number of projects invested and cooperated by Chinese enterprises have taken root. For example, the Hanoi Urban Rail Transit Line 2 (Cat Linh-Ha Dong) project, constructed by China Railway No.6 Engineering Group Co., Ltd., was put into commercial operation in November 2021. It has delivered sound economic and social benefits, won support and praise from the Vietnamese government and local people, and provided a Chinese solution for local transportation development.

Longjiang Industrial Park, located in Tien Giang Province, is China's only national-level overseas economic and trade cooperation zone in Vietnam. It is invested, developed and operated by Zhejiang Tien Giang Investment Management Co., Ltd. The economic and trade cooperation zone has driven bilateral economic complementarity and provided more development opportunities. The Vinh Tan Phase I Coal-fired Power Plant BOT Project, located in Binh Thuan Province with a total investment of US\$1.755 billion, is jointly constructed by three enterprises: China Southern Power Grid, China Power International Development Limited, and Power Generation Corporation under Vietnam National Coal and Mineral Industries Group. This project demonstrates China's strong capabilities in infrastructure and power engineering, providing a "model" for Vietnam to further learn from China's experience. Meanwhile, BOT projects can meet social and public needs in advance and enable multiple parties to benefit, creating a win-win situation for all.

At present, both sides mutually recognize each other's development initiatives and economic plans. They agree to promote the alignment and integration of the two countries' development strategies, and implement well the *Cooperation Plan on Promoting the Alignment between the Belt and Road Initiative and the "Two Corridors, One Belt" Framework* signed by the governments of China and Vietnam. The Belt and Road Initiative showcases China's wisdom and vision to the world. Amid the current sluggish world economic growth and regional hot events affecting normal economic circulation, China's Belt and Road Initiative aims to connect Europe and Asia, make extensive friends and pursue common development. Vietnam is a crucial node along China's Belt and Road. It enjoys a superior geographical location with numerous natural ports such as Ho Chi Minh Port, Cai Mep Port, Hai Phong Port and Quang Ninh Port. These ports are exactly within the "Two Corridors, One Belt" framework, and the combination of the two will surely generate new impetus and growth points. The "Two Corridors, One Belt" initiative is an important measure for China and Vietnam to strengthen connectivity and promote economic development, which conforms to the development aspirations of the two peoples in the long run. On the one hand, it meets China's strategy of large-scale development of the western region, fully supporting border provinces neighboring other countries to implement the Belt and Road Initiative and promote their own economy to go global and integrate into the world. On the other hand, it meets Vietnam's need to promote the development of underdeveloped mountainous areas in the north and narrow the historical gap with the economically developed southern regions. For both sides, it is a win-win move. Meanwhile, the two sides actively leverage platforms such as the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and the China-ASEAN Free Trade Area, continuously deepen in-depth exchanges and cooperation in various fields, and expand the export of products from both countries to each other.

3.2 Cultural Dimension

Vietnam has forged profound homologous ties with China since 257 BC. In subsequent development, the north-central region of Vietnam had a vassal relationship with the Central Plains dynasties. During this period, cultural exchanges exerted a subtle influence on Vietnam's social structure and social identity, impacting the establishment of Vietnam's political system, the development of law, changes in religion and daily life to a certain extent. Part of Confucian thought and Eastern values serve as the mainstream ideology in Vietnamese society. After being introduced from China, Confucianism and the Chinese character writing system deeply influenced Vietnam, and the values and philosophical thoughts of the whole society bear Chinese elements. For example, in the *Letter to Overseas Chinese Brothers* delivered by Hồ Chí Minh on the day of independence on September 2, 1945, he pointed out: "Our two peoples, Vietnam and China, have shared bloodlines and the same culture for thousands of years, and have long been known as brotherly nations in history." [9] Meanwhile, Vietnam and China share multiple ethnic minorities, which have a long history of migration and integration between the

two countries. According to the latest information, 12 ethnic groups in Vietnam have direct and indirect origins with ethnic minorities in China, including the Hoa, Ngai, San Diu, Tay, Nung, Thai, Hani, Lahu and Bouyei, among others. These cross-border ethnic groups maintain a certain degree of similarity in language, culture and traditions, and even share consistent folk customs. Meanwhile, over time, some ethnic groups have also developed unique local characteristics, all of which help promote people-to-people exchanges and interactions between the two countries. At present, the publicity departments of the two parties of China and Vietnam have stepped up efforts to promote the "comrades plus brothers" friendship between the two parties and two countries, and further strengthen publicity and education on China-Vietnam comprehensive strategic cooperation. They will firmly grasp the positive publicity of mainstream media, encourage the implementation of cooperation in all-media, converged media, news broadcasting, film and television and audio-visual fields, and enhance mutual understanding and deep affection between the two peoples, especially the younger generation.

The two sides encourage exchanges of international students, teaching staff and researchers, and give play to the influence and popularity of China's Confucius Institutes to further promote steady progress in the field of education. For example, the China-Vietnam Vocational Education Industry-Education Alliance was officially established on May 22, 2024. On the basis of bilateral exchanges and practices, the founding conference of the alliance was held to promote international cooperation and exchanges in the field of vocational education and gradually promote the implementation of cooperation projects, making it a highlight of bilateral cooperation in relevant fields. Meanwhile, Guangxi Vocational and Technical College of Communications and Vietnam Tong An Advanced College of Science and Technology signed an agreement to jointly build the "China-Vietnam New Energy Vehicle Modern Craftsman College". Cooperation in the education field between the two sides will continue to gain momentum and promote deeper exchanges. Vietnam supports China in building cultural centers in Vietnam, and China welcomes Vietnam to set up cultural centers in China, so as to operate and maintain the exchange platform for Vietnam-China friendship. Vietnam actively supports the activities of the China Cultural Center in Hanoi, and the two sides support cultural institutions and cultural and art vocational colleges of the two countries in carrying out academic and skill exchanges and dialogues. Culture itself is an intangible attraction, with a certain degree of affinity and centripetal force. Countries have realistic boundaries, but culture can cross national borders for exchanges and integration. The importance of culture acts as a lubricant in the society and among the people of China and Vietnam, injecting strong impetus into cooperation in other fields. It makes the two countries closer and more harmonious, and promotes development and progress in other fields through culture, eventually forming a virtuous cycle.

4. Conclusion

The complex and volatile domestic and international environment has posed certain obstacles to China-Vietnam relations. Internationally, the "long-arm jurisdiction" of Western forces keeps interfering in Vietnam's domestic politics, and differences in lines among various domestic parties will all affect bilateral relations. Nevertheless, it is undeniable that China-Vietnam relations are currently at their best in history. The "comrades plus brothers" friendship always carries the mission of the two countries and promotes further development of bilateral relations. Challenges and opportunities are dialectically unified. Perfect opportunities are rare, and potential challenges still exist. The two countries have many points of convergence in history, politics, economy, culture and society. These converging points, connected through various forms, can eventually build a giant ship sailing to the sea. Cooperation brings win-win results, while division leads to losses for both sides. The two sides must always follow the inherent laws of human history development, the gradual development law of socialist society, and the development law of the communist movement, vigorously develop the economy and improve

people's well-being, further deepen and popularize bilateral relations, and advance the causes of the two parties, the two countries and the people of the world at a faster pace.

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