

INFORMATION OF SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES

International workshop “Transformation of Vietnamese family in relation to the transformation of family in the world”

On June 28, 2018, in Hanoi, Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences (VASS) organized an international workshop “Transformation of Vietnamese family in relation to the transformation of family in the world” with the participation of many national and international scholars.

The process of industrialization, modernization and international integration are posing new problems in the development of the Vietnamese family. Besides, the effects of the regionalization and globalization process are also raising big questions in understanding the transformation of the Vietnamese family in the general transformation of the family in the world. Be aware of its importance in the new context, studies on Vietnamese family have been promoted, in which some of them have been conducted by VASS at different scales.

The workshop was one of the events of Ministry Research Program “General study and assessment of family in the period of industrialization, modernization and international integration” which was assigned by the Government to the Academy in accordance with the Decision No. 1004/QĐ dated 20/6/2014. Apart from the opening remarks, the

workshop consisted of three sessions as follow.

Session 1: *Vietnamese family in relation to other social institutions*, presents the following reports on a wide range of issues related to family: Basic characteristics of marriage in Vietnam; Middle-class families in Vietnam in the process of social - economic and cultural development; Family economic function: the changing trends and policy implications; Religious activities in Vietnam family, the basic characteristics.

Session 2: *Family viewed from a multidisciplinary approach*, discussed some issues such as Vietnamese contemporary family values; Some characteristics of Vietnamese family change over the past few decades; Experience in violence prevention in some countries and in Vietnam; Factors affecting divorce (case studies in Hanoi city, Khanh Hoa and Tien Giang provinces).

Session 3 clarified *the trends in family transformation from the international and Vietnamese experiences* which clearly indicated in several reports: Family relationship, culture and family transformation in Lao People's Democratic Republic; Family support for the elderly in Thailand; Challenges for contemporary Korean families; Transformation of Japanese family

with emphasis on reducing fertility rate; Family sociology and poverty (Australian context)...

Through discussion, scientists have been worked together to clarify the common issues on Vietnamese family and family in the world; thereby, contributing to the provision of accurate scientific arguments and viewpoints for policy-making in regard to family issues. At the same time, the conference stated that the findings of topics have accurately reflected the contents of research and opened up opportunities for Vietnamese and international scientists to seek further collaborative research in this field.

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Scientific workshop “Vietnam’s current marine environment: Urgent issues and action of the youth”

On August 14, 2018, in Hanoi, the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union of a number of units under the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences, including the Institute of Social Sciences Information, Institute for Southeast Asian Studies, Institute for Northeast Asian Studies, Graduate Academy of Social Sciences, Vietnam Institute of Economics, Institute of Human Geography, jointly organized a scientific workshop on Vietnam’s current marine environment: Urgent issues and action of the youth. Attending the workshop were representatives from several institutes and units of the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences and a large number of members - young scientists

with a passion for research work - from the youth branches of the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences.

The 21st century is considered a century of the ocean. Countries having coastline pay much attention to and seriously develop their marine economic strategies in association with the marine environment management for exploiting the best of marine resources while ensuring the national sustainable development. However, the marine environment in many countries in the world (including Vietnam) is more or less polluted due to various causes and factors, which are detrimental to the socio-economic development. This requires a more scientific approach to the development of marine environmental protection.

Against this background, the workshop provided the young researchers with a comprehensive and systematic viewpoint on Vietnam’s current marine environment, which is useful for their major-oriented research contributing to the national marine environmental protection. The 19 reports in the workshop addressed to two main topics corresponding to two sessions.

Session 1 (*Theoretical issues and international experiences on marine environment*) focused on issues such as: the marine environment in relation to human rights; Law on controlling the marine environmental pollution in Vietnam; Experiences in dealing with marine pollution in some countries and territories in the world including Canada,

Australia, Indonesia, Taiwan, etc. On this basis, some lessons for Vietnam were presented.

Session 2 (*Situation of the marine environment and youth action on the current marine environment in Vietnam*) focused on analyzing the current situation of marine pollution in Vietnam, especially in some provinces in Central Vietnam (affected by Formosa incident in 2016), and Hai Phong city, Quang Ninh and Quang Ngai provinces, etc. At the same time, the presentations also discussed youth actions and activities in the protection of the environment in general, the marine environment in particular in recent years. It then defined the task and developed an action plan of the youth of the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences to protect the national marine environment in the future.

HOAI PHUC

Scientific seminar “US-China Trade War”

On August 13, 2018, in Hanoi, the Vietnam Institute of Americas Studies under the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences (VASS) held a scientific seminar on “US-China Trade War”. Participants in the seminar included leaders of VASS, representatives of international research institutes of VASS and a large number of scientists and experts from the Development Strategy Institute and the Central Institute for Economic Management (Ministry of Planning and Investment), the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam,

the Strategy Institute (Ministry of Defense), the University of Social Sciences and Humanities, and the University of Economics (Hanoi National University), etc.

The trade war between the two great powers is increasingly severe with the global impact, including Vietnam. No matter you like it or not, this war shall affect the development and national security of Vietnam. As a neighbor sharing many similarities with China, Vietnam has a great interest in the progress and impact of the war.

The United States and China are among the largest export markets of Vietnam; therefore, the trade tension between the two major economies will have a two-way impact on Vietnam. On one hand, Vietnam may have more access to the US market if Chinese goods are restricted. On the other hand, Vietnam may be negatively affected by the slowdown in overall global growth, which drags down demand for Vietnamese exports. Therefore, understanding the trend and evaluating the impacts have profound significance on Vietnamese scientists’ aware of the international changes that are taking place today and possible scenarios of the US-China trade war in the coming time.

Four reports, namely *US-China trade war* by Cu Chi Loi, *US-China trade war: From a Chinese perspective* by Do Tien Sam, *The impact of US-China trade war on Vietnam* by Le Xuan Sang and *Views from the US on the responses to the US-China trade war* by Nguyen

Ngoc Manh has highlighted the general context, situation and progress of the US-China trade war in recent years. They also analyzed the opportunities and challenges of the US-China trade war for Vietnam and other countries; clarified their relationship and predicted a number of possible scenarios as well as new trends and changes that would affect many countries in the region of East Asia, Southeast Asia and Vietnam.

The participants discussed the arising issues and concerned themselves with

the fact that the imposition of the tax by mid-2018 shall cause negative impacts which spread from trade to production, and in the years to come will have a greater impact. The participants' viewpoints shall provide a premise for new research directions on the impact of this war on the region and the world, thereby suggesting a necessary response for Vietnam in the changing context in the future.

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