

YOUTH EDUCATION ON ETHICS AND LIFESTYLE DURING VIETNAM'S INTERNATIONAL INTEGRATION - OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

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ABSTRACT

Youth education plays a crucial role in building and sustaining a resilient and prosperous society. Youth are not only the future of the nation but also a precious resource with the ability to innovate, create, and drive social change. However, youth education in morality and lifestyle faces both opportunities and challenges during the process of international integration. This study provides an overview of the youth education situation in Vietnam within the context of international integration, emphasizing the importance of considering and balancing opportunities and challenges in youth education morality and lifestyle. Consequently, it proposes solutions to foster youth education in morality and lifestyle during the current international integration in Vietnam.

Keywords: Youth education, Morality, Lifestyle, International integration.

INTRODUCTION

Youth is considered a youthful and potential human resource, playing a pivotal role in shaping the future of each nation and the world. In an increasingly complex era of globalization, where borders are no longer barriers to social, economic, and cultural interactions, youth education has become a multidimensional and captivating research topic. The significance of studying youth education in the context of international integration is evident in gaining a deeper understanding of the profound impacts of the integration process on this age group. This has been repeatedly emphasized by the Communist Party of Vietnam:

"Youth is the backbone of the nation, the future masters of the country, the vanguard force in building and defending the Fatherland, and one of the decisive factors for the success of the industrialization, modernization, international integration, and the construction of socialism. Youth is placed at the center of the strategy for nurturing, promoting human factors, and human resources. The care and development of youth are both the goal and the driving force to ensure the stability and sustainable development of the country" (Communist Party of Vietnam, 2016, Complete Party Documents, Volume 67, p. 759).

Indeed, the process of integration opens up opportunities, allowing young people to access knowledge, skills, and international resources. This can promote personal capacity building, create

employment opportunities, and foster innovation for youth to meet the demands of the current international integration in Vietnam. Alongside the opportunities presented to Vietnamese youth during the international integration process are a series of challenges that they must confront. Global competition becomes fiercer than ever, particularly in the pursuit of employment opportunities and career development. Furthermore, the risk of losing cultural identity in a diverse and multicultural environment, moral decay, and lifestyle deterioration poses a significant and concerning challenge. Youth are grappling with the pressure to maintain traditional values while adapting to the global environment.

In addition, researching youth education during the integration process contributes significantly to the formulation of appropriate policies and support measures. A deeper understanding of opportunities and challenges assists the government, social organizations, and relevant agencies in designing more effective programs and projects, ensuring that youth can leverage opportunities and overcome challenges during the integration process. Recognizing the importance of this, the Prime Minister approved the Youth Development Strategy for the period 2011-2020 under Decision No. 2474/QĐ-TTg dated December 30, 2011, with the overarching goal:

"Building a comprehensive, patriotic, ethically revolutionary, and socially conscious generation of Vietnamese youth; equipped with education,

vocational skills, and employment opportunities; possessing cultural, health, life skills, and the determination to strive for progress; actively participating and mastering advanced science and technology; forming a high-quality young workforce to meet the requirements of the period of industrialization, modernization, and international integration. Enhancing the role and responsibility of youth in the cause of building and protecting the Fatherland" (Prime Minister, 2011).

In addition, this issue has been emphasized by General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong, signifying the importance and attention it deserves:

"Education for the younger generation on revolutionary ideals, ethics, cultural lifestyles, fostering patriotism, national pride, and especially nurturing aspirations for building the country is crucial. It is essential to instill a sense of mission and responsibility in them for nation-building and defense. Each young person must continually cultivate revolutionary ethics, humility, simplicity, and a progressive spirit; nurture a strong will, maintain a clear mind, and foster lofty aspirations. They should actively fight against negative manifestations, social evils, and distortions by hostile forces; steadfastly combat individualism, opportunism, pragmatic lifestyles, and selfishness; and resist psychological fear and timidity" (Nguyen Phu Trong, 2022, p. 312).

Therefore, in the increasingly complex context of globalization, researching youth education during the process of international integration is of utmost importance. This not only significantly impacts the youth and the nation of Vietnam but also contributes to understanding human development in an ever-changing and diverse environment. The aim of this study is to analyze and clarify the opportunities and challenges for youth during the process of international integration and propose solutions for youth education in Vietnam amid the current international integration landscape.

METHOD

Methodology: Based on the dialectical and historical materialism of Marxist-Leninist theory, Ho Chi Minh's ideology, combined with the Party's principles and perspectives, as well as the mechanisms, and legal framework of the State.

Research methods: Document research method; Systematization method for documents;

Comparative and evaluative method; Analytical and synthetic research method.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Youth and youth education in Vietnam

In Vietnam, the term youth is understood in various ways. According to the widely used Vietnamese language, the term youth from the Vietnamese Dictionary (2003) published by the Institute of Linguistics can be understood as follows: 'Youth refers to individuals who are still young and in the process of maturing' (Institute of Linguistics, 2003, p. 913). From a legal perspective, in the current legal documents of Vietnam, the term youth is also regulated with considerable inconsistency. According to the 'Strategy for the Development of Vietnamese Youth until 2010,' approved and signed by the Prime Minister under Decision No. 70/2003/QĐ-TTg on April 29, 2003, 'Vietnamese youth' is considered to include individuals in Vietnam between the ages of 15 and 34. On the other hand, the Youth Law (Law No. 53/2005/QH11) passed by the XI National Assembly stipulates in Article 1: 'Youth defined in this Law are Vietnamese citizens from the age of sixteen to thirty.' This is also noted in Article 1, Clause 2 of the Charter of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union (2007). Most recently, the term youth is reiterated in the Youth Law (Law No. 57/2020/QH14) passed by the XIV National Assembly, stating in Article 1: 'Youth are Vietnamese citizens from sixteen to thirty years old' (National Assembly, 2020). Therefore, it can be observed that in the most important legal documents concerning Vietnamese youth, the definition of this term is not consistently regulated.

Therefore, youth are individuals in the age of maturity, typically between 16 and 30 years old, with the capacity to take responsibility for themselves, their families, and society. Youth is a valuable asset to the country and an indispensable part of the economic, cultural, and social development of a nation. They are considered a demographic group that requires focused training, education, support, and conducive conditions for optimal development. Youth actively contribute to the nation-building endeavor and participate in various social activities.

The current situation of youth education in Vietnam is strongly influenced by social, economic, and cultural factors, especially amid the country's process of international integration. These changes

present both opportunities and challenges for the advancement of the youth group. In terms of population, Vietnam has a young population, with the latest figures from the National Committee on Youth of Vietnam indicating that there are over 22.1 million people in the youth age group, accounting for approximately 22.5% of the total population and nearly 36% of the labor force. About 60% of the youth population resides in rural areas, and 98.7% of individuals in the working age group are employed (Tran Quang Vinh, 2022, "Youth Month: 'Golden' Figures about Vietnamese Youth," <https://www.vietnamplus.vn/>). This demographic profile forms a solid foundation for economic and social development, especially in the context of the world transitioning to a knowledge-based economy. However, faced with the surplus of the youthful population, supportive measures in education, training, and job creation are necessary to ensure that this resource is utilized effectively.

In an increasingly developing economic environment, young people have opportunities to access new resources, technology, and knowledge. The emergence of technology conglomerates, startups, and the IT application environment creates

a conducive atmosphere for innovation and creativity. However, the competitiveness and adaptability of youth in this environment are also being challenged, especially for those lacking soft skills such as communication, time management, and teamwork. Changes in values and culture also impact the development of young people. The diversification of values, perspectives, and lifestyles from the outside world is promoting modernization and changing the mindset of youth. However, maintaining the cultural identity and preserving ethical values also poses a challenge, particularly in the context of integration with diverse cultural interactions and awareness.

To have an accurate understanding of the situation, specific data on the demographic structure and the Young Development Index (YDI) should be collected. Only with this information can we assess the implementation of youth rights, young people's access to legally defined rights, and the effectiveness of programs and policies aimed at enforcing these rights. According to the Youth Development Index 2020 report covering 181 countries, Vietnam ranked 64th with a fairly high YDI level:

Global Ranking	Country	Total YDI Score	Education Ranking	Education Score	Employment Opportunity Ranking	Employment Opportunity Score	Equality and Inclusion Ranking
61	Sri Lanka	0.747	92	0.769	56	0.806	117
62	China	0.745	59	0.83	89	0.734	94
63	Cuba	0.744	79	0.793	77	0.762	84
64	Vietnam	0.744	57	0.833	85	0.741	66
65	United States	0.737	3	0.956	44	0.824	40

Source: Global Youth Development Index and Report 2020

In general, the current youth education situation in Vietnam reflects a diverse and multifaceted picture. The combination of the potential of the young population, opportunities from economic development, and challenges from social changes creates a complex and interesting landscape. To cope with and leverage this situation, multidimensional support is needed from the government, political and social organizations, and relevant stakeholders to help youth develop

themselves, contribute to society, and build a sustainable future.

International integration and its impact on Vietnamese youth

The term "international integration" has been used for quite some time in seminars, research, and policies related to international economics and politics. In Vietnamese, this term is translated from foreign languages, with its English equivalent being

"international integration." This concept is primarily used in the fields of international politics and economics, originating in Europe around the mid-20th century. Particularly, the theories of the founders of Marxism-Leninism extensively analyzed the phenomenon of socialization, with its core content being the process of globalizing socio-economic life.

Marxist economists discussed socialization carefully in their works, emphasizing that the development of productive forces is a prerequisite for the globalization of economic life. Marx and Engels stated: "The bourgeoisie, wherever it has got the upper hand, has put an end to all feudal, patriarchal, idyllic relations. It has pitilessly torn asunder the motley feudal ties that bound man to his 'natural superiors,' and has left remaining no other nexus between man and man than naked self-interest, than callous 'cash payment'" (Marx and Engels, 1995, p. 601).

Building on these foundations, the term "international integration" saw increased usage from the 1990s, as Vietnam vigorously pursued open, multilateral, and diversified foreign relations policies. The term "integration" was first used by the Communist Party of Vietnam in the documents of the Eighth National Party Congress (1996): "Building an open, integrated economy with the region and the world" (Communist Party of Vietnam, 1996, pp. 84-85). By the Eleventh National Party Congress, the Party officially adopted the term "international integration," affirming: "Proactively and positively integrate into the international community" (Communist Party of Vietnam, 2011, p. 35).

According to author Bui Thanh Son, "International integration is the process by which a country pursues its interests and goals through self-aware, proactive cooperation, extensive collaboration with other countries in various fields (economics, politics, security, defense, culture, society, etc.) based on shared perceptions, interests, goals, values, resources, and power (sovereignty, authority, policy determination, etc.). It involves actively accepting, complying with, and participating in the establishment of common rules and standards within the framework of international regulations or organizations" (Bui Thanh Son, 2015, p. 18).

Vietnamese youth play a crucial and indispensable role in the nation's community. With a dense and rapidly developing population, the

number of youth in Vietnam is significantly increasing, constituting a generation full of enthusiasm, potential, and readiness to face challenges and opportunities in the future. As of 2021, the youth population in Vietnam is 22,169,712, accounting for 22.5% of the total population (Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, 2022, p. 149), forming a young labor force striving to contribute to the economic and social development of the country. With an entrepreneurial spirit and dynamism, Vietnamese youth are actively seeking educational opportunities, improving their professional skills, and being prepared to participate in the international integration process.

Today, international integration has brought about significant changes in the lives of Vietnamese youth, ranging from expanded educational and employment opportunities to new challenges and opportunities in a multicultural and dynamic environment. However, international integration also poses some challenges for Vietnamese youth. Fierce competition and the impact of technological revolutions can create pressure and tension in the search for employment opportunities and adaptation to changes in industries. With both opportunities and challenges, international integration has strongly influenced youth education in Vietnam today, specifically:

Firstly, opportunities for the moral and lifestyle development of youth in the process of international integration.

(1) International integration helps youth proactively engage in education and access cultures worldwide. International integration has opened up broader opportunities for youth to access diverse information and knowledge from around the world. Advances in information technology and communication have unlocked the door for Vietnamese youth to access the Internet and utilize online educational resources. This enables youth to supplement their knowledge and stay updated on the latest information in various fields, including science, technology, culture, and the arts. Additionally, international integration also provides opportunities for youth to interact with and experience diverse cultures globally. Through cultural exchanges, youth can gain a deeper understanding of different countries, languages, customs, and traditions of various ethnicities, contributing to the promotion of diversity and

respect within the youth community and building a globally multicultural society.

(2) International integration creates opportunities for cultural exchange and experience-sharing among youth. International integration has introduced a range of new opportunities for Vietnamese youth by encouraging economic, cultural, social, and political activities. Cultural exchange, in this context, signifies the exchange and sharing of cultural values, traditions, languages, and arts among countries and communities. Specifically, during the period 2017-2022, 101 foreign political exchange activities were organized, including notable events with neighboring countries such as the Vietnam-Laos Youth Friendship Program over the years, the "Following the Footsteps of the 2022 Summit," and the annual Vietnam-China Youth Friendship Meeting. These activities also include online dialogues like the "Me and My Party" program in 2021 and high-level dialogues between the central leaders of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union and the Communist Youth League of China, the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union, and the Union of Youth Federations of Cambodia (Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, 2022, pp. 158-159). Through cultural exchange, Vietnamese youth can understand and respect the cultural diversity of the world, fostering consensus and sharing among nations.

Furthermore, experience-sharing plays a crucial role in the personal and professional development of youth. By learning from the experiences of others, youth have the opportunity to gain exposure to new knowledge, develop skills, and expand their social networks. Cultural exchange and experience-sharing opportunities for Vietnamese youth may include participating in student exchange programs, applying for international scholarships, attending international conferences and forums, as well as participating in international cultural events.

(3) International integration creates favorable conditions for youth to cultivate and enhance language skills. In this context, Vietnamese youth have taken advantage of the favorable conditions generated by the international integration process to develop and improve their language proficiency. Firstly, youth are exposed to various languages, including English, Chinese, Korean, Japanese, and many others. This multicultural environment provides an ideal setting for youth to refine and

develop language skills through interactions with foreigners and participation in cultural exchange activities.

Moreover, the international integration process grants youth access to a diverse range of advanced language learning materials and resources. Youth can tap into books, documents, learning methods, and teaching approaches from different developed countries. By utilizing these resources, youth can elevate their language skills, broaden their vocabulary, and become more adept communicators. This is evident in the period from 2017 to 2020, during which the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union implemented the Project to Enhance Foreign Language Proficiency for Vietnamese Youth from 2017 to 2022, attracting nearly 10 million young participants in various activities (Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, 2022, p. 160).

(4) International integration provides favorable conditions for youth to learn and apply advancements in the fields of science and technology to their studies, work, and daily lives. Thanks to the continuous progress in information technology and telecommunications, the latest knowledge and information from every corner of the world have become more accessible than ever. This creates an undeniable advantageous environment for the development, innovation, and learning of youth. International integration has built a global information environment, enabling Vietnamese youth to access new knowledge from various sources. Media, websites, and online communities disseminate information about advancements in science and technology. Youth can grasp new trends, innovations, and advanced applications in their daily lives.

The development of technology has also opened opportunities for youth to participate in online courses offered by top universities and educational organizations worldwide. Specifically, during the period 2017-2022, nine new youth and foreign affairs organizations were established, supporting numerous activities for youth organizations abroad. Notable events include the Youth Camp in Europe, the Vietnam Youth and Student Festival with the theme "Connecting Great Arms," the Global Young Intellectuals Forum of Vietnam, and the online dialogue between the First Secretary of the Communist Youth Union and youth at home and abroad, featuring the participation of youth from various countries

worldwide (Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, 2022, p. 160). This helps youth expand their knowledge, develop skills, and apply new knowledge to their lives and work.

(5) International integration creates favorable conditions for young people to promote and develop soft skills. These skills are not only crucial for personal success but also play a significant role in fostering the economic and social development of Vietnam. Communication skills, teamwork, and time management are essential factors for youth, enabling them to interact effectively in today's multicultural and diverse world. Developing communication and teamwork skills helps young people build strong relationship networks and promote collaboration in both work and daily life.

Secondly, the challenge for the moral and lifestyle development of young people during the process of international integration is evident. Alongside positive impacts, international integration also poses challenges to the lifestyle of Vietnamese youth in the present stage, namely:

(i) International integration influences a change in the traditional values of the youth. International integration is deeply affecting life and culture globally, and Vietnam is no exception to this trend. Recently, international integration has exerted a strong impact on the traditional values of the nation, especially among the youth. This implies that some traditional values are at risk of decline. Media and international culture can create pressure, influencing the lifestyle and attitudes of Vietnamese youth. Long-standing traditional values, customs, and practices associated with the nation are gradually being replaced by more diverse and complex values and lifestyles.

On the other hand, with the robust development of information technology and telecommunications, communication plays a crucial role in transmitting information and ideas. Vietnamese youth today have easy access to foreign cultures and ideas through the Internet and international media. However, the preservation and promotion of traditional values also face significant challenges. International integration may threaten or diminish some traditional values if they are not protected and inherited. For instance, the fading patriotism of the nation's traditions, as exemplified by the case on July 7, 2020, when the People's Court of Lam Dong province sentenced Nguyen Quoc Duc Vuong (29 years old, residing in Lac Lam commune, Don Duong district, Lam Dong

province) to 8 years in prison for producing, storing, disseminating, or propagating information, documents, or items aimed at opposing the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (Lam Vien, 2020). Similarly, on December 26, 2022, the People's Court of An Giang province sentenced Nguyen Nhu Phuong (born in 1991, residing in Ba Ria-Vung Tau province) to 5 years in prison for committing, disseminating, and propagating information, documents, or items aimed at opposing the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (Nguyen Nhan, 2022). Therefore, the construction and preservation of cultural values for the younger generation are essential efforts to help Vietnamese youth maintain the national identity in the context of expanding international integration.

(ii) International integration has led to the emergence of a carefree lifestyle among some young people. The integration process has positively contributed to expanding the perspectives and thinking of Vietnamese youth through exposure to and acceptance of diverse cultural values and lifestyles from other countries. Under the influence of international integration, the trend of a relaxed lifestyle has blossomed and become a significant factor in the lives of Vietnamese youth. One of the crucial impacts of this integration on their lifestyle is the increased access to information and diverse cultures. Through the Internet and international media, Vietnamese youth easily access trends, ideas, and values from developed countries. They can follow fashion trends, music stars, and famous personalities, drawing lessons from the way other youth live. As a result, the relaxed lifestyle quickly spreads and becomes popular and appealing to Vietnamese youth. However, it is important to note that this lifestyle may lead to an imbalance in life and could impact the building of a stable and successful future. For instance, on July 6, 2023, the Hoang Mai district police (Hanoi) initiated a case against four individuals: Tran Phuong Linh (born in 1992 in Hai Ba Trung district, Hanoi), Le Thien Long (born in 1997 in Hoan Kiem district, Hanoi), Hoang The Huy (born in 1986 in Ba Dinh district, Hanoi), Bui Thi Nhu Quynh (born in 2002 in Tien Hai district, Thai Binh province) for organizing the illegal use of drugs (My Chau, 2023). Therefore, international integration also brings opportunities for young people to connect and learn from other countries, thereby developing flexible and creative thinking in building a meaningful and fulfilling lifestyle.

(iii) International integration has led to the emergence of a violent and law-defying lifestyle among some young people. International integration has created an immensely vast world for Vietnamese youth, allowing them to encounter various values and lifestyles from developed countries. Some youth have chosen a rebellious life, seeking a sense of freedom and self-satisfaction, even disregarding the law and causing negative impacts on the surrounding community. The rise of unhealthy social behavior and legal violations among Vietnamese youth is becoming a worrisome issue that needs to be addressed.

Furthermore, the influence of media and technology plays a crucial role in shaping unhealthy role models for the youth. Television programs, movies, and social media often depict violent behaviors and legal violations without clearly illustrating the consequences. This makes it easy for young people to be influenced and imitate negative role models, complicating the issue further. Specifically, according to statistics from the Criminal Police Department, Ho Chi Minh City Police, from 2018 to Q1 2021, there were 516 legal violations committed by individuals under 18 years old, with 884 suspects arrested. Among them, those under 14 years old accounted for 3.62%, those aged 14 to under 16 accounted for 27.26%, and those under 18 accounted for 69.12%. Of the 884 offenders, 553 were dropouts, making up 71.44% of the cases (Thai Yen, 2021). This indicates that the trend of legal violations is getting younger. To address this issue, there needs to be a collaborative mechanism involving relevant authorities, families, communities, and social organizations.

(iv) International integration has led to the emergence of a pragmatic, indifferent, apathetic, and irresponsible lifestyle among Vietnamese youth. International integration has opened up opportunities for exposure to cultural diversity, new knowledge, and modern conveniences. However, in this process, many young people have been drawn towards a trend of practical, indifferent, apathetic, and irresponsible lifestyles, resulting in concerning consequences for the community and society.

One notable consequence of international integration is the prevalence of a practical lifestyle among the youth. With diverse access to technology, entertainment, and consumer goods, many young people have focused on satisfying personal needs and emphasizing material success. In an environment rich in information, negative

content and violent images easily spread, negatively impacting the souls of the youth. Consequently, a portion of the youth has become indifferent, uninterested, and unwilling to share emotions with those around them, significantly affecting family relationships, friendships, and creating contrasts within society.

Furthermore, the lack of responsibility is also a worrisome trend in the mindset of today's youth. In the context of international integration, participation in social life requires taking responsibility for oneself and the community. However, many young people have become wasteful of time, continuing to pursue meaningless and impractical endeavors. They shirk responsibility in their work, within their families, and show little concern for social issues such as the environment, conflicts, and poverty.

(v) International integration has led to the emergence of a hybrid lifestyle and the adoption of selectively chosen cultural elements by some young people. Since participating in the process of integration, we have had the opportunity to engage with new cultural values, customs, and lifestyles from different countries. However, the concern arises with the appearance of a hybrid lifestyle among the youth, as they live in a culturally diverse environment and sometimes struggle to make clear distinctions. While absorbing different cultures, some Vietnamese youth have embraced inappropriate or thoughtless values from foreign cultures. This imbalance in cultural assimilation can lead to societal conflicts.

To address this situation, it is essential to enhance education on cultural identity, traditional values, and cultural awareness for young people. Education plays a crucial role in helping them better understand their own culture, identify positive values, and contribute to the well-being of society.

Some solutions for the ethical and lifestyle development of young people during the current international integration in Vietnam

International integration is not only taking place but also presenting challenges and numerous opportunities for Vietnamese youth in the current era of globalization. Confronting the rapid changes in the world, improving the quality of life, and promoting sustainable development are not only crucial issues but also urgent responsibilities for all of us. To address both the challenges and

opportunities brought about by the international integration process in youth education, specific solutions are needed to help Vietnamese youth become the future leaders of the country, including: *One, realizing the Party's standpoint and implementing the state's policies to develop the ethical values and lifestyles of Vietnamese youth during the process of international integration.*

Firstly, given the increasing complexity of the international integration process and the need for flexible adaptation, the Communist Party of Vietnam has articulated a clear standpoint on constructing ethics and lifestyles for the youth amidst integration. This involves implementing specific measures while simultaneously promoting a spirit of patriotism, socialism, and national pride. To meet the requirements of the integration process, innovation in education and training has been identified as a top priority. The Party has emphasized that education is a crucial foundation, the key to helping Vietnamese youth confront challenges, seize opportunities, and navigate cultural interactions. Therefore, increasing investment in education and training is essential to enable young people to access and master both specialized knowledge and foreign languages, allowing them to engage with advanced global knowledge and technology. Accordingly, in the Political Report at the XIII Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam, it was explicitly stated:

"Enhancing revolutionary ideal education, ethics, cultural lifestyles, fostering patriotism, national pride, nurturing aspirations, and ambitions; elevating the sense of responsibility towards the country and society; creating an environment and conditions for learning, working, entertainment, and training to develop comprehensively, harmoniously in terms of intellect, physical fitness, and aesthetic values for the younger generation. Providing motivation for youth to actively engage in learning, labor, creativity, entrepreneurship, mastering modern scientific and technological knowledge, and playing a role in the construction and protection of the homeland" (Communist Party of Vietnam, 2021, p.168).

In addition, implementing the state's policies on constructing ethics and lifestyles for Vietnamese youth in the context of international integration is becoming crucial and urgent. To ensure this, there is a need to enhance investment in the education and training sector, while providing the best

opportunities for youth to access specialized knowledge, foreign languages, and information technology. Developing a high-quality vocational education system is also a crucial factor to help youth integrate into the international labor market. Encouraging youth to participate in the economic integration process is noteworthy. The government should create favorable conditions for youth to engage in entrepreneurship and, at the same time, support them in developing business and management skills.

To ensure the positive engagement of youth in the integration process, building a sense of national pride and patriotism is indispensable. The government needs to strengthen moral education programs, helping young people understand their responsibilities to the country and its people. In particular, there is a need to organize and implement the Decision No. 1331/QĐ-TTg dated July 24, 2021, of the Prime Minister on issuing the Youth Development Strategy of Vietnam for the period 2021-2030, with the overall goal:

"Building a comprehensive, patriotically rich, self-reliant, and nationally proud generation of Vietnamese youth with revolutionary ideals, aspirations, and ambitions to contribute to the construction of the country; possessing ethics, civic consciousness, law-abiding behavior; maintaining good health and a healthy lifestyle; having cultural knowledge, education levels, life skills, professional expertise, and employment opportunities; demonstrating the determination to establish themselves, be entrepreneurial, dynamic, creative, and capable of mastering science and technology. Developing a high-quality young workforce that meets the fast and sustainable development requirements of the country and international integration. Harnessing the spirit of dedication, enthusiasm, voluntarism, and enhancing the responsibility of the youth in the nation-building and protection endeavor" (Prime Minister, 2021).

Therefore, to assist Vietnamese youth in cultivating ethical values and a scientific lifestyle within the context of international integration, it is essential to actualize the standpoint of the Communist Party of Vietnam and implement the state's policies regarding youth work with the aim of developing the youth into a proactive and competent force. In this regard, to aid Vietnamese youth in constructing an ethical and scientifically oriented lifestyle amidst international integration, it is imperative to realize the perspective of the

Communist Party of Vietnam and actively implement state policies related to youth affairs, aiming to develop the youth into a close-knit and capable workforce.

Two, enhance the role of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union in youth education ethics and lifestyles during the international integration process.

The Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union plays an extremely important role in developing ethical values and lifestyles for Vietnamese youth during the international integration process. This was affirmed by the 12th National Congress of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union:

"Building a comprehensive Vietnamese youth generation, rich in patriotism, with a strong sense of self-reliance, national pride; having revolutionary ideals, aspirations, and a desire to contribute to building a prosperous and happy nation; possessing ethics, civic awareness, law-abiding behavior; being physically healthy; having culture, scientific knowledge, technological skills, and life skills; pursuing a profession, having the determination to establish oneself, be entrepreneurial, dynamic, and creative. Harnessing the spirit of enthusiasm, voluntarism, innovation, and the responsibility of the youth in the nation-building and protection endeavor, especially during international integration, national transformation, and contributing to the realization of the country's development goals by 2030 and the vision towards 2045" (Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, 2022, p.165).

To enhance this role, the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union needs to focus on implementing several effective solutions. Specifically: (a) To guide youth in the right direction, the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union needs to design education programs focusing on explaining the significance, benefits, and challenges of participating in the international community. Additionally, encouraging youth to participate in international exchange activities and cultural exchanges to give them the opportunity to learn about different countries and acquaint themselves with diverse cultures; (b) To connect youth with the cultural values of Vietnam, the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union needs to organize social and cultural events. This will help increase national pride and promote consensus with international integration; (c) To provide youth with opportunities for learning and international

experiences, the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union needs to develop international study and exchange programs. Collaborating with international organizations to provide knowledge, new skills, and learning experiences in other countries. This will help youth enhance their integration and adaptability in international environments; (d) To ensure the positive engagement of youth in the integration process, there is a need to create a suitable environment. The Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union needs to support youth in entrepreneurship, studying, and working in other countries. Additionally, there is a need to train time management, communication, and cross-cultural interaction skills to ensure youth are confident and successful in the integration process.

Thus, the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union can strengthen its role in guiding Vietnamese youth in their lifestyles during the international integration process. This can be achieved through measures such as designing orientation education programs, encouraging participation in international activities, organizing socio-cultural events, developing international study and exchange programs, and creating a conducive environment for youth participation in the integration process.

Three, young people themselves need to be aware of the challenges and opportunities brought about by international integration, and consequently, overcome challenges and leverage opportunities for personal development.

In the context of international integration, young people must self-awarely recognize the opportunities and challenges impacting them. Therefore, for self-development, young people should: (1) Preserve and develop the cultural values and traditions of the nation, which is an important responsibility of youth towards society. This requires sharpness, awareness, and a spirit of solidarity in understanding and preserving the country's traditional customs. Young people can demonstrate their commitment through learning, researching, and participating in cultural events and traditional festivals. These activities help young people gain a deeper understanding of the origins, meanings, and values of national traditions, thereby fostering emotional connections with the homeland, people, and Vietnamese culture; (2) Simultaneously, young people have a responsibility to society by engaging in meaningful social activities. They can actively contribute to the

community through volunteering, assisting the disadvantaged, environmental protection, and participating in social support programs. The spirit of solidarity and willingness to help others is also an important responsibility of youth towards society; (3) Vietnamese youth can engage in innovation and development in the field of technology while learning and understanding the culture and customs of other countries. Success in this field requires not only specialized knowledge but also the development of soft skills such as communication, teamwork, and problem-solving. This helps young people confidently integrate and express themselves in a multicultural environment. Participating in international and social activities also helps young people build confidence, patience, and explore new opportunities. By using information technology effectively, young people can connect and learn knowledge from around the world, helping them stay updated with the latest information and broaden their perspectives. Confidence, patience, and specialized knowledge are essential factors helping Vietnamese youth build a scientific lifestyle and respond to the international integration process, contributing to the development and prosperity of the country in an increasingly complex and interconnected world.

CONCLUSION

In the process of international integration, the development of ethics and lifestyles among the

youth in Vietnam has encountered numerous opportunities and challenges. This study presents key points about the developmental context of youth in Vietnam and the opportunities and challenges influencing the development of Vietnamese youth in the context of international integration. Firstly, international integration has brought opportunities to access knowledge, technology, and ethical values from other countries. This has facilitated favorable conditions for Vietnamese youth to learn, develop skills, and seize new opportunities. The youth have the chance to study and work alongside individuals from various cultural backgrounds, promoting diversity and cultural integration in society. However, along with these opportunities, there are also many challenges. The rapid development of information technology and communication has created a complex living environment, where the youth face new pressures. In conclusion, youth education in Vietnam during the process of international integration is not only an opportunity but also a challenge. To leverage these opportunities and address these challenges, close collaboration among stakeholders is needed to build an environment that fosters the ethical development and healthy lifestyles of youth, ensuring that they can confidently move towards the future and contribute positively to society and the nation.

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