
Title: Transnational Crimes in Southeast Asia: A Vietnam Perspective



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(Guest Editor)

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Proposal

The *Renovation (Doi Moi* in Vietnamese) has brought a general increase in living standards in Vietnam since 1986. Social and cultural factors have developed to ensure excellent quality of living for Vietnamese over the last three decades. However, while economic growth and regional integration create many positives, such as the increased mobility of goods, services, people and money, they also provide opportunities for transnational crimes (TCs) to threaten human security and challenge the rule of law in Vietnam. Further, the region's geographic nature and the process of improving infrastructure, communication and transportation, have increased opportunities for traffickers to operate transnationally. Specifically, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Master Plan and the Belt and Road Initiative of China in the last decade will create borderless regions and also create a number of potential advantages for TC's extensions.

As an uncharted territory in the map of criminology and policing at both the international and regional level, few publications have assessed the nature of transnational crimes and its trends and patterns in Vietnam from the *Doi Moi* until the present. Excluding criminologists who have been granted international or government scholarships at Western institutions to research their doctoral topics—such as wildlife trafficking, human trafficking, cybercrime, timber trafficking, and drug trafficking—there are limited studies in Vietnam that focus on transnational crimes-related topics. The lack of reliable data and official statistics in Vietnam is recognised as a prominent obstacle to published research.

Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to call for special attention from policymakers, practitioners, and scholars to introduce and assess TC's activities on the International Journal of Criminology and Sociology (IJCS). The main aims of this special issues on IJCS are to: 1) briefly identify trends of TCs in Vietnam; 2) compare these trends in Vietnam's context with other countries in the ASEAN; 3) share recommendations with policymakers to assess the nature of possible threats from these TCs; and 4) call for further research for policymakers and scholars to address the gap in the literature and highlight practical cases in this field in Vietnam.

I hope to encourage my colleagues from diverse background to involve this special issue on IJCS (Life Science Global Publishers), Scopus indexed (Q3). Here is potential topics to call for papers relating trends and patterns of transnational crimes in Southeast Asia: A Vietnam Perspective.

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| 1. Transnational drug trafficking | 7. High-tech crimes |
| 2. Timber trafficking | 8. Money laundering |
| 3. Human trafficking | 9. Corruption |
| 4. Cyber-gambling | 10. Sexual Assault on Cyber Space |
| 5. Wildlife trafficking | 11. Young criminal groups in Vietnam |
| 6. Smuggling of migrants | |
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