

NGUYEN KHAC GIANG

Contact information

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Education

PhD (2019 – 22), *Political Science*, Victoria University of Wellington (New Zealand)

Thesis: Political Accountability, State Capacity, and Authoritarian Resilience in Vietnam and China

MA (2012 – 14), *Media, Journalism, and Globalisation*, City University of London (UK) and Aarhus University (Denmark)

Thesis: Journalism Practice in Authoritarian Regimes: The Case of Vietnam

BA (2006 – 10), *International Economics*, Hanoi Foreign Trade University (Vietnam)

Thesis: Lý thuyết chuyển dịch cơ cấu kinh tế và thực tiễn ở Việt Nam từ 1986 đến nay [Models of Structural Changes and the Case of Vietnam since 1986]

Research interests

Vietnamese Politics & Southeast Asian Affairs

Civil Society in Asia

State Capacity

Authoritarianism and Democratization

Comparative Politics

Political Accountability

Work Experiences

Vietnam Studies Programme, ISEAS–Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore (Full time position): *Visiting Fellow* (2023-present)

Vietnam Center for Economic and Strategic Studies (VESS): *Research Fellow* (2020 - present)

Viet Nam Institute for Economic and Policy Research (VEPR): *Researcher, Head of the Political Research Unit* (2014 -2019)

Vietnam Report: *Researcher* (2011 – 2012)

Vietnam Financial Review: *Writer on Business and Government Policy* (2009 – 2011)

Frequent contributor to *the VnExpress*, *Saigon Times*, *BBC World Service*, *Vietnamnet*, *East Asia Forum*, and *the Diplomat*

Local collaborator with *the Financial Times* (2015-2019).

Provide consultation services to World Bank, Oxfam, and other political risk services.

Publications

Books

Nguyen, K.G.; Nguyen, Q.T (2018). *Xã hội công dân dưới góc nhìn thể chế [Civil Society in Vietnam - an Institutional Approach]*. Hanoi: Danang Publishing House (Vietnamese). *Vietnam's 2019 IRED Best Book in Economics Award*.

Nguyen D.T., **Nguyen K.G.**, Vu S.C. (2015), *Chi phí kinh tế của các tổ chức quần chúng công [Estimating the Economic Costs of Mass Organizations in Vietnam]*. Hanoi: Hong Duc Publishing House. ISBN: 978-604-86-6964-5.

Journal papers and book chapters

Nguyen K.G. (2024). Learn from Your Comrades: Understanding Authoritarian Diffusion between Vietnam and China. *Trends in Southeast Asia*. Singapore: ISEAS (2024).

Nguyen K.G. (2023). Trách nhiệm Giải trình của Nhà nước Trong Thời kỳ mới [Accountability of the State in the New Era], in Tran Van Tho & Tran Huu Phuc Tien (eds). *Vì một Việt Nam Dân giàu Nước Mạnh [For a Prosperous Vietnam]*. Hanoi: Vietnam National University Publishing House (Vietnamese). *Vietnam's 2024 IRED Best Book in Economics Award*.

Nguyen K.G. (2023). Why Accountability Differs in Vietnam and China? in Tuong Vu and Nhu Truong (ed). *The Dragon's Underbelly: Dynamics and Dilemmas in Vietnam's Economy and Politics*. Singapore: ISEAS (2023).

Nguyen. K.G. (2022). The Great Divergence: Political Accountability and Extractive Capacity in Vietnam and China in the Reform Era. *New Zealand Journal of Asian Studies*. Vol. 24/1 (June 2022): 41-64.

Nguyen K.G. & Thai Q. Nguyen (2022). From Periphery to Centre: The Self-evolution of the Vietnamese Communist Party's Central Committee. *Contemporary Southeast Asia* Vol. 44/1 (April 2022): 56-86.

Nguyen KG & Thai Q. Nguyen (2021) Civil society and extractive capacity in authoritarian regimes: empirical evidence from Vietnam, *Asian Journal of Political Science*, Vol. 29/1: 110-130.

Nguyen, T.Q., **Nguyen, KG.** (2020) The impacts of civil society and inequality on the extractive capacity of authoritarian regimes: a conceptual model and the case study of Vietnam. *Constitutional Political Economy* Vol. 31: 489–508.

Nguyen K.G. (2020). Succession politics and authoritarian resilience in Vietnam. in *Southeast Asian Affairs 2020*. Singapore: ISEAS–Yusof Ishak Institute: 411-426.

Nguyen, D.T.; Pham, V.L.; **Nguyen, K.G** (2020). Governance for Urban Services in Vietnam. In Cheerma, S. (ed), *Governance for Urban Services: Access, Participation, Transparency, Accountability*, Singapore: Springer: 255-279.

Nguyen, K.G., Nguyen, Q.T. and Nguyen, T.T. (2017). Does Growth in Non-Profit Institutions Improve Government Transparency? A Case Study from Vietnam. *Asia & the Pacific Policy Studies*, Vol. 4 (2): 286–295.

Nguyen K.G. (2016). Ho khai in the media, policy discussions, and citizen perceptions. In *Vietnam's Household Registration System*, World Bank report. ISBN: 978-604-948-153-6.

Dinh T.M., Nguyen D.T., **Nguyen K.G.**, Nguyen Q.T., Do T.H. (2016). Xây dựng nhà nước một đảng thống lĩnh thân thiện với thị trường và xã hội dân sự ở Việt Nam [Building a dominant party system compatible with market economy and civil society in Vietnam]. In Dinh T.M., Pham T.A. (eds), *Từ nhà nước điều hành đến nhà nước kiến tạo phát triển [From command state to developmental state]*. Hanoi: Hong Duc Publishing House: 31-100. [in Vietnamese].

Nguyen K.G. (2016). Mạng xã hội và xu hướng phát triển ở Việt Nam [Social Media and its Development Trends in Vietnam]. In Pham, H.C. and Bui, T.H. (2016). *Social media [Mạng xã hội]*. Hanoi: World Publishing House. [in Vietnamese]

Nguyen K.G. (2015). The impacts of social media on the media landscape in Vietnam. *Vietnam National University Journal of Science: Social Science and Humanities*, Volume 31 (1) (2015): 12-19.

Book review

Fishers, Monks and Cadres: Navigating State, Religion and the South China Sea in Central Vietnam. By Edyta Roszko, *Contemporary Southeast Asia* Vol. 43/1 (April 2021).

Selected non-refereed publications

Further writings can be found at my columns:

Fulcrum | <https://fulcrum.sg/contributors/nguyen-khac-giang/>

East Asia Forum | <https://eastasiaforum.org/author/nguyen-khac-giang/>

VnExpress | <https://vnexpress.net/tac-gia/nguyen-khac-giang-97.html>

(2024). Anti-Corruption Politics and Shifts in Central-Local Relations in Vietnam. [*ISEAS Perspective*](#).

(2023). What Drives Vietnam's Tightened Public Sphere? (with Dien Nguyen An Luong). [*ISEAS Perspective*](#).

(2023). Vietnam's Anti-corruption Campaign: Economic and Political Impacts. [*ISEAS Perspective*](#).

(2023). Nguyen Phu Trong's Dominance in Vietnamese politics: Far-reaching Implications. [*Fulcrum*](#).

(2022). The Vietnamese Maritime Militia: Myths and Realities. [IDSS Paper](#), S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, NTU.

(2022). The Vietnam-Japan Strategic Partnership in the Context of China's Rise. In *Japan's Role for Southeast Asia Amidst the Great Power Competition*. (p.51-62). [Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung \(KAS\)](#) research report.

(2022). U.S.-Vietnam Partnership Goes Beyond Strategic Competition with China. [United States Institute of Peace \(USIP\)](#).

(2021). Vietnam's 13th Congress: Institutional Resilience or Institutional Decay? [The Diplomat](#).

(2021). Vietnam's tug of war with China over Laos. [East Asia Forum](#).

(2020). Vietnam rejects Chinese aggression in the South China Sea. [East Asia Forum](#).

(2020). Vietnam's virtual charm offensive. [The Diplomat](#).

(2019). The Mekong region is caught in a tug-of-war. [East Asia Forum](#).

(2019). How Vietnam trade war triumph could turn sour. [Southeast Asia Globe](#).

(2019). Is Vietnam Creeping into a Succession Crisis? [The Diplomat](#).

(2018). China is making Mekong friends. [East Asia Forum](#).

(2018). Is Vietnam going the way of China? [The Diplomat](#).

(2016). New rule-based order needed to save the Mekong. [East Asia Forum](#).

(2016). Vietnam under Doi Moi Policy: Thirty years of change. [The Mekong Review](#).

Translation work

Francis Fukuyama (2011). *The Origins of Political Order: From Prehuman times to the French Revolution*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux. Translated into Vietnamese with (with Nguyen Quang Thai), *Nguồn Gốc Trật Tự Chính Trị: Từ Thời Tiền Sử Tới Cách Mạng Pháp* (2021, Omega Plus).

Francis Fukuyama (2018). *Identity: The Demand for Dignity and the Politics of Resentment*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux. Translated into Vietnamese with (with Nguyen Quang Thai and Nguyen Bao Linh), *Bản Sắc - Nhu Cầu Phẩm Giá Và Chính Trị Phần Nợ* (2021, Omega Plus).

Referee Services

Contemporary Southeast Asia, Journal of Cold War Studies, Asian Journal of Comparative Politics, Journal of East Asian Studies, Humanities and Social Sciences Communications, China: An International Journal, Political Science, Asian Politics & Policy, Foreign Affairs.

Teaching experiences

Victoria University of Wellington (2019-2022), teaching assistant:

Foreign Policy Analysis, Professors Roberto Rabel and Malcolm McKinnon (2022)

International Politics of Environment, Dr Pauline Keating (2022)

International Politics of China, Associate Professor Jason Young (2021)

Introduction to Political Ideas, AProf Xavier Marquez and Dr Emily Beausoleil (2021)

Revolutions, Dictators, and Ideology, Associate Professor Xavier Marquez (2019 and 2020)

Power and Influence, Professors Roberto Rabel and Malcolm McKinnon (2020)

International Political Economy, Tim Groser (2020).

Vietnam Academic of Journalism and Communications (2015-2018): Visiting lecturer on media and politics.

Guest lecturer:

Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam (DAV) (August 2018)
MBA executive programme, Thammasat University (Thailand), Hanoi study tour (2018)
Cass Business School (UK), Cass Executive MBA study tour in Hanoi (2018).

Conferences and Seminar presentations

Invited talks

China and Southeast Asia, Chatham House, London, UK (September 2024)
CSIS Indonesia workshop, Bali, Indonesia (August 2024)
Vietnam's Elite Politics and Implications for Leadership Transition (ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, April 8, 2024)
SEB Nordic CEO Conference, Hanoi, Vietnam (February 2024)
Indian Firstpost Defence Summit, New Delhi, India (February 2024)
Vietnam's Leadership Reshuffle: Dynamics, Implications and Prospects (ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, April 18, 2023)
Politics in Action: Political updates from across Southeast Asia, Sydney, Australia (University of Sydney, May 6, 2022).
Grey-zone Conflict Strategies in the South China Sea, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, (March 1, 2022)
Standing in The Future: New Zealand and The Indo-Pacific Region, Wellington, NZ (the New Zealand Institute of International Affairs, July 14, 2021)
Mainland Southeast Asia: power, protest and participation (Centre for Strategic Studies, VUW, March 23, 2021).
Vietnam's 13th Party Congress: Political Significance and Implications (ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Feb 9, 2021)

Conference presentations

2024 Neutrality Conference: Reimagining Neutrality and its Research (Kyoto University, October 2024)
24th New Zealand Asian Studies Society (NZASIA) Biennial International Conference 2021 (New Zealand, December 2021)
Southeast Asia Research Initiative (SEARI) workshop (University of Canterbury, November 27, 2020)
New Zealand Political Studies Association Annual Conference (University of Canterbury, November 2019).

Professional trainings and membership

Member of Training for International Diplomats program, German Federal Foreign Office, 2015 – present.
Summer School for Young Global Leaders, United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, August 24 – 31, 2013.
Advanced Economic and Financial Reporting, International Institute for Journalism, GIZ, February – April 2011
International Conflict Resolution in the Age of New Media, Freie Universität Berlin, July 14 – 27, 2011.

Stipends and Awards

The 2022 Sir Desmond Todd Memorial Prize for the best PhD thesis in Political Science and International Relations
First Prize winner of the 2021 NZASIA Conference Postgraduate Prize, 2021
Victoria University of Wellington Doctoral Scholarship, 2019 – 2022
Researcher of the Year, Vietnam Institute for Economic and Policy Research, 2017
Erasmus Mundus Scholarship, European Union, 2012 – 2014

Media Appearances

Frequent commentator on Vietnam affairs on international news media, including the Economist, New York Times, Financial Times, Reuters, BBC, AP, and the South China Morning Post. See more at: <https://khacgiang.com/media-appearance/>

Podcast appearances:

Dialogues at Fulcrum Podcast: [Parsing the Future of Vietnam Under New Leadership](#) (August 2024)

Straight Talk Southeast Asia: [Political Turmoil in Vietnam](#) (April 2024)

Vietnam Weekly Podcast: [The Impact of the Anti-Corruption Campaign](#) (March 2024)

Asia Matters Podcast: [How Corruption Scandals Are Shaking Vietnamese Politics](#) (April 2023) and [What to Expect from Vietnam's New Leaders](#) (February 2021).

Sydney Southeast Asia Center Podcast: [Vietnam and China - Strange Bedfellows in the Era of Strategic Competition](#) (Sep 1, 2022)

Languages

Vietnamese (native), English (fluent), Chinese (beginner).

References

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Head of School

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International Relations, Victoria University of Wellington

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Wellington, 6012, New Zealand

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Victoria University of Wellington

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