

Vietnam National Day Special

Mutual ties span more than four centuries

PHAM QUANG HIEU
AMBASSADOR OF VIETNAM



On Sept. 2, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam will mark its 81st anniversary. Throughout 81 years of a history marked by both hardship and glory, the Vietnamese people have steadfastly

defended their independence and national unity while building the country, gradually realizing the aspirations set forth by President Ho Chi Minh on this date in the Declaration of Independence issued in 1945: independence, freedom and happiness.

Rising from a nation devastated by war and embargoes, and driven by a spirit of autonomy, self-reliance and resilience, the Vietnamese people have strived to move forward and successfully implemented the “Doi Moi” (“Renewal”) process.

Today, Vietnam has emerged as a dynamic Asian economy and a vital link in international supply and value chains. For 2026, Vietnam aims to achieve double-digit economic growth and drive a significant transformation in the scale, quality and competitiveness of its economy, all while striving to build an independent, autonomous and modern economy that is deeply integrated with the global community. This reflects a strong determination and a powerful aspiration for development, aiming to propel Vietnam into a new phase of rapid and sustainable growth.

The core element shaping Vietnam’s strength and identity is its people. Vietnamese people are renowned for their resilience, hospitality, adaptability and love of learning. These qualities are exemplified by the community of nearly 700,000 Vietnamese living, studying and working in

Japan. These people contribute to Japan’s socioeconomic development, but they also serve as “cultural ambassadors,” fostering friendship and mutual understanding between the nations.

The bond between Vietnam and Japan can be traced back to trade exchanges at the port town of Hoi An in the 17th century and has grown increasingly strong over time. Currently, the relationship is at its best stage in history, having been elevated to the level of a comprehensive strategic partnership for peace and prosperity following the official visit by Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi in May.

Japan has consistently been Vietnam’s largest partner in official development assistance as well as a leading investor and a trusted trade partner. Thousands of Japanese enterprises operating in Vietnam bring not only capital and advanced technology, but also management know-how and training programs, enhancing the competitiveness of Vietnamese businesses. High mutual trust, the complementary nature of the two economies and cultural and familial similarities form a solid foundation for an enduring friendship.

In this new phase of development, Vietnam’s goal of achieving double-digit growth opens numerous new opportunities for cooperation with Japan. Vietnam is committed to vigorously improving its investment environment, accelerating institutional reforms and promoting green development, the circular economy and sustainable growth. Vietnam welcomes and looks forward to deeper cooperation with Japanese enterprises, organizations and citizens in pioneering sectors such as semiconductors, artificial intelligence, renewable energy, digital transformation, strategic infrastructure and job training. With strengths in technology, capital investment, management and a high-quality workforce, Japan will be a crucial part-



Ambassador Pham Quang Hieu (left) poses with Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi at the 19th Japan International Manga Award ceremony on March 4 in Tokyo.

EMBASSY OF VIETNAM

ner in helping Vietnam realize its development goals.

Vietnam’s National Day is not only an occasion for the Vietnamese people to reflect on their proud history, but also an opportunity to express gratitude to Japanese friends who have consistently stood by and shared the journey with them.

I am confident that, with the determination and efforts of both sides — coupled with the new opportunities arising from Vietnam’s high growth targets — the Vietnam-Japan relationship will continue to achieve new milestones, delivering tangible benefits to the people of both nations while actively contributing to peace, stability and prosperity in the region and the world.

May the friendship between Vietnam and Japan continue to flourish!

This content was compiled in collaboration with the embassy. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of the newspaper.



Far left: Ha Tinh province is known for its rolling hills and abundant natural beauty. Left: Hieu meets Vietnamese workers at Fujikin’s factory in Iwate Prefecture.

EMBASSY OF VIETNAM

Congratulations
on the National Day of the
Socialist Republic of Vietnam



<https://fptsoftware.com/>



Congratulations
to the People of
the Socialist Republic of
Vietnam
on the Occasion of
Their National Day



Sojitz Corporation

<https://www.sojitz.com/en/>