

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
AND TRAINING**

**HO CHI MINH NATIONAL ACADEMY
OF POLITICS**

ACADEMY OF JOURNALISM AND COMMUNICATION

DAO DINH KHOA

**THE LEADERSHIP OF PROVINCIAL PARTY COMMITTEES OVER
LOCAL PRESS WORK IN THE RED RIVER DELTA TODAY**

**PHD THESIS MAJORING IN
PARTY BUILDING AND STATE GOVERNMENT**

SUMMARY OF PHD THESIS

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***Advisor:* Assoc.Prof.Dr. Pham Minh Son**

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INTRODUCTION

1. The urgency of the topic

Press work is an organic and integral part of the operational apparatus of the Communist Party of Vietnam, constituting a core element of ideological and theoretical activities. The Party leads press work by providing orientation for the planning, development, and management of the press system; setting ideological and political direction for media content; overseeing the training and placement of personnel; monitoring and inspecting the activities of press agencies and journalists; and leading the enhancement of state management over the press while emphasizing the institutionalization of the Party's guidelines and viewpoints through the State's policies and laws.

Upholding the Party's revolutionary tradition and recognizing the critical role of journalism in the revolutionary cause as well as the Party's leadership in press affairs, the Provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta have in recent years consistently paid close attention to and firmly directed local press work. As a result, press agencies in the region have grown significantly; their quality and professionalism have improved across all forms of traditional and modern journalism, including print, radio, television, online platforms, and multimedia communication. Press agencies and journalists in the Red River Delta provinces have always been a vanguard force on the ideological-cultural front, making substantial contributions to both local and regional development.

However, alongside these achievements, the leadership of the Provincial Party Committees over local press work in the Red River Delta still reveals certain limitations and shortcomings.

Stemming from this reality, and based on my professional position, I have decided to choose and carry out the topic "**The leadership of provincial Party Committees over local press work in the Red River Delta today**" as my doctoral thesis in the field of Party and State Building, with the aspiration of contributing to further strengthening the leadership of Provincial Party Committees over local press work in this region under the new circumstances.

2. Research purpose and tasks

2.1. Research purpose

Based on clarifying theoretical and practical issues regarding the leadership of provincial Party Committees over local press work in the Red River Delta, and analyzing the current situation, the thesis proposes orientations and key solutions to strengthen the leadership of provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta over local press work in the coming period.

2.2. Research tasks

- To provide an overview of research works related to the thesis topic; summarize the findings of relevant studies to serve as a foundation for inheritance and development, while identifying areas that require further clarification in the thesis.

- To explain and clarify theoretical and practical issues related to the leadership of provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta over local press work; develop core and instrumental concepts for the thesis; establish the theoretical framework of the thesis.

- To investigate and assess the current state of leadership by provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta over local press work from 2015 to the present;

identify strengths, limitations, and analyze the causes of those strengths and limitations, as well as draw lessons learned.

- To analyze favorable and challenging factors affecting the leadership of provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta over local press work; propose orientations and solutions to strengthen this leadership in the future.

3. Study subjects and scope of the thesis

3.1. Study subjects

The current leadership of provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta over local press work.

3.2. Scope of the thesis

- *Spacial scope*: The thesis surveys the current state of leadership by provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta over local press work, including: the newly formed Bac Ninh Provincial Party Committee (merging the former Bac Ninh and Bac Giang Provincial Party Committees), the newly formed Hung Yen Provincial Party Committee (merging the former Hung Yen and Thai Binh Provincial Party Committees), the newly formed Ninh Binh Provincial Party Committee (merging the former Nam Dinh, Ha Nam, and Ninh Binh Provincial Party Committees), as well as the Quang Ninh, Hai Duong (former), and Vinh Phuc (former) Provincial Party Committees.

- *Time scope*: The thesis investigates and analyzes the leadership of provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta over local press work from 2015 to the present; the proposed orientations and solutions are intended to be applicable in the upcoming period.

4. Theoretical, practical basis and research methods of the thesis

4.1. Theoretical basis

The theoretical foundation of the thesis is Marxism-Leninism, Ho Chi Minh's thought, and the views of the Communist Party of Vietnam on ideological and press work, as well as its leadership over the press and press-related activities.

4.2. Practical basis

The practical foundation of the thesis is the current state of leadership by provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta over local press work from 2015 to the present.

4.3. Research methods

The thesis is researched based on the methodological foundation of Marxism-Leninism. It applies a combination of political science and interdisciplinary research methods, including: systematization; combined analysis and synthesis; logic combined with historical method; theoretical research and practical review; inductive and deductive methods; statistical and comparative methods; and sociological investigation.

5. Scientific contributions of the thesis

- The thesis develops the conceptual framework, content, and modes of leadership by provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta over local press work.

- The thesis identifies five key lessons learned from the actual leadership of local press work by provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta. A central issue among these is the emphasis on personnel organization, particularly the selection, appointment, training, and development of leaders in press agencies and press management bodies.

- The thesis proposes solutions to strengthen the leadership of provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta over local press work in the coming period. A

breakthrough solution highlighted is the restructuring and enhancement of the quality of press agencies, and the development of a team of press officials, journalists, and press managers that can meet the requirements of Party leadership in the local press sector.

6. Theoretical and practical significance of the thesis

- The research results contribute theoretically by initially clarifying the concept of leadership by provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta over local press work, including the content and leadership methods applied.

- The findings may serve as a reference for provincial Party Committees and Party organizations in the Red River Delta to enhance leadership in local press work in the current context.

- The results may also be used as teaching and learning material for the subject of Party Building at provincial political schools and within the Party school system, as well as reference materials for press-related training courses organized by the Academy of Journalism and Communication and Party Committees across the Red River Delta.

7. Structure of the thesis

In addition to the introduction, conclusion, list of the author's related published works, references, and appendices, the thesis consists of four chapters with a total of nine sections.

Chapter 1

OVERVIEW OF AVAILABLE RESEARCH RELATED TO THE TOPICS

1.1. RESEARCH OUTSIDE VIETNAM

1.1.1. Research works related to journalism, journalistic activities, press work, and press agencies

Victor Afanasiev (1995), *The Fourth Power and Four Generations of General Secretaries*, National Political Publishing House, Hanoi.

A.A. Grabennikov (2003), *Journalism in a Market Economy*, News Agency Publishing House, Hanoi.

Michael Schudson (2003), *The Power of News*, National Political Publishing House, Hanoi.

Daniel C. Hallin, Paolo Mancini (2004), *Comparing Media Systems: Three Models of Media and Politics (Communication, Society and Politics)*, Cambridge University Press.

G.V. Lazutina (2004), *Foundations of Journalistic Creativity*, News Agency Publishing House, Hanoi.

A.A. Chertushkin (2004), *Genres of Journalism*, News Agency Publishing House, Hanoi.

Mark Deuze (2010), *Managing Media Work*, SAGE Publications, Inc.

John Lloyd (2016), *Journalism in an Age of Terror: Covering and Uncovering the Secret State*, I.B. Tauris.

Claes de Vreese, Frank Esser, David Nicolas Hopmann (2016), *Comparing Political Journalism (Communication and Society)*, Routledge. Anthony Adornato (2017), *Mobile and Social Media Journalism: A Practical Guide (First Edition)*, CQ Press.

Gene Foreman, Daniel R. Biddle, Emilie Lounsberry, Richard G. Jones (2022), *The Ethical Journalist: Making Responsible Decisions in the Digital Age*, Wiley-Blackwell.

1.1.2. Research works related to press leadership, press management, and leadership over press work

George Sylvie, Jan Wicks LeBlanc, C. Ann Hollifield, Stephen Lacy, Ardyth Sohn Broadrick (2007), *Media Management: A Casebook Approach (4th Edition)*, Routledge.

Anne-Marie Brady (2009), *Marketing Dictatorship: Advocacy and Thought Work in Contemporary China (1st Edition)*, Rowman & Littlefield Publishers.

Catherine McKinley (2009), *Press and Corruption: How the Vietnamese Press Reports on Corruption and How to Improve Press Coverage*, United Nations Development Programme in Vietnam.

David A. Levy, Rasmus Kleis Nielsen (2010), *The Changing Business of Journalism and Its Implications for Democracy*, Peter Lang Publishing Inc.

Pablo J. Boczkowski, Eugenia Mitchelstein (2013), *The News Gap: When the Information Preferences of the Media and the Public Diverge*, Oxford University Press, USA.

Lucy Küng (2015), *Innovators in Digital News*, I.B. Tauris.

Vilaythong Sisanonh (2018), *General Overview of Press Work in the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Laos-Vietnam Cooperation in Journalism Human Resource Training*, *Journal of Political Theory and Communication*, 6, pp. 3–8.

Lucy Küng (2023), *Strategic Management in the Media: Theory to Practice (Third Edition)*, SAGE Publications Ltd.

1.2. RESEARCH IN VIETNAM

1.2.1. Related studies on journalism, journalistic activities, press work, and press agencies

Ta Ngoc Tan, Dinh The Huynh (2007), *Theoretical Foundations of Journalism*, National Political Publishing House, Hanoi.

Luong Khac Hieu (Principal Investigator) (2009), *The Role of Journalism and Public Opinion in the Fight Against Corruption in Vietnam Today*, Ministry-level Research Project, Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics and Public Administration, Hanoi.

Nguyen Van Dung (2011), *Journalism and Public Opinion*, Labor Publishing House, Hanoi.

Nguyen Thi Truong Giang (2011), *Online Newspapers: Fundamental Issues*, Political-Administrative Publishing House, Hanoi.

Nguyen Ba Sinh (2012), *The Appeal of Party Newspapers in Vietnam in the Current Period*, PhD Dissertation in Journalism, Academy of Journalism and Communication, Hanoi.

Nguyen Van Minh (2014), *The Social Criticism Function of the Press in Vietnam Today*, PhD Dissertation in Political Science, Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics, Hanoi.

Luu Van An (Principal Investigator) (2017), *The Relationship Between Journalism–Communication and the Current Vietnamese Political System*, Ministry-level Research Project, Academy of Journalism and Communication, Hanoi.

Nguyen Tien Vu (2017), *Development Trends of Local Journalism in Vietnam in the Context of Multimedia Communication*, PhD Dissertation in Journalism, Academy of Journalism and Communication, Hanoi.

Nguyen Van Dung (2017), *Journalists and the Issue of Oversight and Social Criticism*, Political Theory Journal, 6.

Nguyen Viet Anh (2017), *Local Party Newspapers in Preserving and Promoting Traditional Cultural Values*, PhD Dissertation in Journalism, Academy of Journalism and Communication, Hanoi.

Cao Thi Dung (2019), *The Role of the Press in Anti-Corruption Efforts in Vietnam Today*, PhD Dissertation in Political Science, Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics, Hanoi.

Nguyen Thuy Van Anh (2020), *Professional Qualities of Vietnamese Journalists Today – An Approach from Ho Chi Minh’s Ideology*, PhD Dissertation in Journalism, Academy of Journalism and Communication, Hanoi.

Nguyen The Ky (2020), *Vietnamese Journalism and Media – Some Theoretical and Practical Issues*, Information and Communications Publishing House, Hanoi.

Nguyen Xuan Phong (2021), *Basic Requirements for the Press and Media in the Fight Against Wrongful and Hostile Views in Vietnam Today*, Political Theory and Communication Journal, 2, pp. 13–16.

Nguyen Quang Hoa (2021), *Journalistic Reporting – Theory, Skills, and Experience*, Information and Communications Publishing House, Hanoi.
Mach Le Thu, Cung Thi Ngoc (2021), *Indian Press Writing About President Ho Chi Minh*, Ho Chi Minh Studies Journal, 5, pp. 61–66.

Le Thanh Binh (2022), *Mass Media Management in Contemporary China and Lessons for Vietnam’s Press Development*, Political Theory and Communication Journal, 10, pp. 53–58.

Ho To Luong, Nguyen Thi Phuc (2022), *The Party’s Press and Advocacy Work (1934–1941)*, Party History Journal, 1, pp. 66–71.

Vu Van Ha (2022), *Press and Media in the Era of Digital Transformation*, Advocacy Journal, 2, pp. 35–39.

Nguyen Thi Thuy Van, Nguyen Thi Hong Ngoc, Nguyen Thi Thu Hoa (2022), *Solutions for Digital Transformation in the Journalism–Communication Sector*, State Management Journal, 6(317), pp. 9–13.

Tran Thi Huong, Do Thi Diep (2023), *Digital Journalism and Policy Communication in Vietnam Today*, Journal of Political Theory and Science Information, 1, pp. 3–8.

Tran Thanh Lam (2023), *Promoting the Role of the Press and Publishing in Protecting the Party’s Ideological Foundation and Countering Wrongful and Hostile Views*, National Defense Journal, 1, pp. 37–40, 80.

Mai Duc Ngoc (2023), *Building Ethical Standards for Journalists and Party Members in Press Agencies*, Political Theory Journal, 1(539), pp. 69–75.

Nguyen Thang Loi (2023), *The Press Participating in Power Oversight in Cadre Work Today*, Political Theory Journal, 11(549), pp. 63–69.

Hoang Le Thuy Nga (2024), *Policy Communication on Higher Education in Vietnamese Online Newspapers Today*, PhD Dissertation in Journalism, University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Vietnam National University, Hanoi.

Truong Thi Kien (2025), *Vietnam’s Revolutionary Press in the New Era*, Political Theory and Communication Journal, 2, pp. 37–42.

Phan Van Kien (2025), *Multi-Platform Journalism in the Context of Modern Communication and Vietnam's New Era of Development*, Political Theory Journal, 6(568).

Ho Quang Loi (2025), *Humanistic Journalism Based on Ethics and Law*, Political Theory Journal, 6(568).

Hoang Phuc Lam (2025), *Promoting the Role of Vietnam's Revolutionary Press in the Nation's New Era of Development*, Political Theory Journal, 6(568).

1.2.2. Related studies on leadership, press management, and leadership of press work

Nguyen Vu Tien (2003), *The Leadership of the Party over the Press During the Renovation Period*, PhD Dissertation in Political Science, Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics and Public Administration, Hanoi.

Nguyen Duy Bac (2009), *The Communist Party of Vietnam Leading Press and Publishing Work During the Renovation Period*, Ministry-level Research Project, Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics, Hanoi.

Nguyen The Ky (2012), *Leadership and Management of the Press During 25 Years of the Renovation Cause*, National Political Publishing House, Hanoi.

Nguyen Huy Ngoc (2014), *The Communist Party of Vietnam Leading Electronic Press in the Current Period*, PhD Dissertation in Party Building, Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics, Hanoi.

Do Quy Doan (2014), *Management and Development of Press Information in Vietnam*, Information and Communications Publishing House, Hanoi.

Luu Dinh Phuc (2016), *Renewing the Party's Leadership Methods Over the Press in the Current Period*, National Political Truth Publishing House, Hanoi.

Nguyen Thi Mai Anh (2016), *State Management of the Press in Vietnam Today*, PhD Dissertation in Public Administration, National Academy of Public Administration, Hanoi.

Doan Thi Thuan (2017), *Management of Electronic Press in Vietnam in the Current Period*, PhD Dissertation in Journalism, Academy of Journalism and Communication, Hanoi.

Central Theoretical Council (2018), *Strengthening the Party's Leadership Over Press and Communication Work in the New Situation*, National Political Publishing House, Hanoi.

Duong Kieu Linh, Ta Chau Phu (2019), *Ho Chi Minh City Party Committee Leading Press Work*, Political Science Journal, 5, pp. 84–88.

Ta Minh Thang (2019), *State Management of Electronic Press in Vietnam Today*, PhD Dissertation in Law, Academy of Social Sciences, Hanoi.

Central Propaganda Department (2020), *Strengthening Party Building Work in Press Agencies*, National Political Truth Publishing House, Hanoi.

Dinh Thi Thu Hang (2021), *The Capacity of Press and Media Leaders and Managers*, Political Theory and Communication Journal, 6.

Le Thi Nha (2021), *Requirements for the Qualities and Capacities of Press and Media Agency Leaders and Managers in the Current Context*, Political Theory and Communication Journal, 5.

Pham Chien Thang, Ta Thi Nguyet Trang (2022), *Comparative Study of Press Management Models in Vietnam and China*, China Research Journal, 1(245), pp. 26–34.

Pham Truyen Thong (2022), *The Ho Chi Minh City Party Committee Leading Press and Media Work Today*, PhD Dissertation in Party and State Governance, Academy of Journalism and Communication, Hanoi.

Hoang Thi Lan Anh, Phan Hong Van (2022), *Strengthening the Party's Leadership Role Over Vietnam's Revolutionary Press in the Context of the Fourth Industrial Revolution*, Journal of Political Theory and Science Information, 6, pp. 17–21.

Pham Quy Trong (2022), *Appointment, Dismissal, Commendation, and Disciplinary Action of Leaders of Press Agencies Must Be Practical*, Advocacy Journal, 10, pp. 3-7.

Tran Thanh Lam (2023), *New Regulations on Responsibilities, Authorities, and the Appointment, Dismissal, Commendation, and Discipline of Press and Publishing Agency Leaders*, Advocacy Journal, 4, pp. 3-6.

Pham Minh Son (2025), *Continuing the Mission of Vietnam's Revolutionary Press in the New Context*, Political Theory and Communication Journal, 1, pp. 44–49.

Ngo Dong Hai (2025), *Merging Local Party Newspapers with Local Radio and Television Stations: A Right Policy of the Party in Restructuring Press Agencies*, Political Theory Journal, 6(568).

1.3. OVERVIEW OF THE RESEARCH FINDINGS OF RELATED WORKS AND ISSUES ADDRESSED BY THE THESIS

1.3.1. Overview of the research findings of related works

Studies related to the press, press activities, press work, press agencies, and the leadership and management of the press, as well as leadership over press work, have approached the topic from various angles and perspectives, achieving numerous important theoretical and practical results, which can be summarized as follows:

Firstly, many studies have comprehensively and fundamentally addressed the position and role of the press, the content of press activities, the content of press work, and the organization and operation of press agencies. These studies have also examined and clarified the leadership role of the Party and the management role of the State over the press and press work. Many have specifically analyzed the leadership and management of the press by Party committees and authorities at various levels, including the content and methods of leading press work.

Secondly, several studies have reviewed, analyzed, and assessed the current state of Party and State leadership and management of the press, as well as the leadership of Party committees at different levels in practice. Some books, dissertations, and academic articles have begun to clarify the theoretical and practical foundations for the leadership of Party committees over press work, and have evaluated the current status of such leadership in certain localities. Some studies have identified experiences in the Party's leadership of the press and press work at various levels of the Party organization.

Thirdly, a number of studies have proposed solutions, recommendations, and suggestions to strengthen the leadership of Party committees over press work in certain localities. Notable among these are solutions concerning awareness, the role and responsibilities of Party committees, Party organizations, political system entities, and Party members. Some works have addressed ways to overcome limitations and weaknesses in Party committee leadership over press work, while also offering recommendations on specific aspects and content areas aimed at enhancing the leadership of Party committees over this work.

1.3.2. Issues addressed by the thesis

Although a number of studies have addressed the leadership of Party Committees over press work, there has not yet been a systematic, in-depth, and comprehensive study - both theoretically and practically - on the current leadership of provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta over local press work. Therefore, the doctoral candidate has chosen this topic for their thesis research, which meets theoretical and practical needs and is closely linked to their assigned duties and responsibilities.

The thesis will focus on addressing the following issues:

Firstly, clarifying the theoretical and practical foundations for the leadership of provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta over local press work. This includes further clarifying concepts such as journalism and local journalism, thereby categorizing and identifying the functions, tasks, roles, and characteristics of local journalism in the Red River Delta provinces. The thesis will define the concept and content of local press work in these provinces. Particularly, it will develop a theoretical framework for the leadership of provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta over local press work, identifying the main actors, targets, and participating forces in this leadership, and presenting a basic and systematic analysis of the content and methods of leadership by these Committees.

Secondly, providing an objective analysis and evaluation of the current situation of local press work in the Red River Delta provinces. The thesis will focus on surveying and analyzing the strengths and limitations in the leadership of provincial Party Committees over local press work, examining the underlying causes, and drawing lessons from the leadership practices of these Committees.

Thirdly, forecasting favorable and challenging factors affecting the leadership of provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta over local press work; and proposing orientations and comprehensive, feasible solutions - including breakthrough measures - to strengthen the leadership of provincial Party Committees over local press work in the time ahead.

Chapter 2

THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL ISSUES REGARDING THE CURRENT LEADERSHIP OF PROVINCIAL PARTY COMMITTEES OVER LOCAL PRESS WORK IN THE RED RIVER DELTA

2.1. PROVINCES, PROVINCIAL PARTY ORGANIZATIONS, PROVINCIAL PARTY COMMITTEES, THE PRESS, AND LOCAL PRESS WORK IN THE PROVINCES OF THE RED RIVER DELTA

2.1.1. The provinces, provincial Party organizations, provincial Party Committees, and Standing Committees of the provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta today

2.1.1.1. Natural, economic, political, cultural, social, national defense, and security conditions of the provinces in the Red River Delta

** Natural conditions*

According to the 2024 mid-term population and housing census released by the General Statistics Office, this is the most densely populated region in the country with 24 million people, accounting for 23.7% of the national population, with a total area of nearly 21,300 km².

** Economic conditions*

The provinces in the Red River Delta have effectively exploited their potentials and advantages in economic development, maintaining a high and stable annual growth rate, contributing significantly to the socio-economic development of Vietnam.

** Political conditions*

After the mergers of provinces and cities, the political system was reorganized and operated according to a two-tier model (provincial and communal levels), implementing a comprehensive reform of the organizational apparatus, staffing, and renewal of operational methods, promising to strongly promote the role of the political system in the development and stability of each province and city in the Red River Delta in the coming years.

** Cultural and social conditions*

During the renovation period, the cultural values of the people in the provinces and cities have been respected and strongly developed, playing a role in the comprehensive development of each locality and making an important contribution to the promotion of the Red River Delta's cultural values.

** National defense and security conditions*

At present, political security in the provinces and cities of the Red River Delta is stable; social order and safety are ensured; and the peaceful life of the people is increasingly improved and enhanced.

2.1.1.2. The provincial Party organizations, provincial Party Committees, and Standing Committees of the provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta – concepts, functions, tasks, powers, responsibilities, working relationships, and roles

** Provincial Party organizations in the Red River Delta*

Each province in the Red River Delta corresponds to a provincial Party organization. The Party organizations of newly established communes and wards are directly under the provincial Party Committees.

** Provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta – concepts, functions, tasks, and powers*

The provincial Party Committee in the Red River Delta is the leading body of the provincial Party organization between two congresses of the provincial Party organization, elected by the congress; it operates based on collective leadership and individual responsibility. Its functions include: leadership; proposing and recommending policies. Regulation No. 10-QĐ/TW, dated December 12, 2018, of the Politburo, stipulates that provincial-level Party Committees have eight tasks and powers.

** Standing Committees of the provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta – concepts, functions, tasks, and powers*

The Standing Committee of the provincial Party Committee in the Red River Delta is the leading body of the provincial Party organization between two plenary meetings of the provincial Party Committee. It is elected by the provincial Party Committee after the provincial Party congress according to the Party's election regulations, from among members elected at the congress. It operates based on collective leadership and individual responsibility. Its functions include: leadership; proposing and recommending policies; and coordination. Regulation No. 10-QĐ/TW states that the Standing Committee of a provincial-level Party Committee has ten tasks and powers.

** Specialized advisory and assisting agencies, public administrative units; responsibilities and working relationships of the provincial Party Committee and its Standing Committee in the Red River Delta*

According to Regulation No. 294-QĐ/TW, dated May 26, 2025, of the Central Committee on implementing the Party Charter, the provincial-level Party Committee establishes specialized advisory and assisting agencies and public administrative units. These include: the Office of the Provincial Party Committee, the Organization Commission, the Inspection Commission, the Advocacy and Mass Mobilization Commissions, and the Internal Affairs Commission. Public administrative units include: the provincial political school, the Party's provincial-level newspaper, and radio and television stations.

The provincial Party Committee in the Red River Delta is responsible to the Central Committee, the Politburo, the Secretariat, the provincial Party organization, and the people for all local matters and its decisions. Its working relationships include: with the Central Committee, the Politburo, the Secretariat; with Party Committees and Party organizations under central agencies; with the Military Region Party Committee and Border Guard Party Committee; with subordinate Party Committees and specialized advisory and assisting agencies.

** The role of the provincial Party Committee and its Standing Committee in the Red River Delta*

Firstly, they are one of the decisive factors in implementing the Party's guidelines, policies, and the State's laws, as well as the resolutions of the provincial Party congress and the decisions, directives, and conclusions of the provincial Party Committee; ensuring effective operations of political-social and social organizations in the province. *Secondly*, they ensure the continuous operation of the provincial Party organization in accordance with the plans and working programs of the provincial Party Committee. *Thirdly*, they are responsible for building a high-quality cadre contingent in the province, effectively performing assigned tasks; improving the quality of Party inspection, supervision, and discipline work; and strengthening the close relationship

between the Party and the local people, contributing to the success of renovation tasks and objectives. *Fourthly*, they make important contributions to building and improving the Party's guidelines and the State's policies and laws, enhancing the leadership quality of the Central Committee, the Politburo, and the Secretariat over the province. *Fifthly*, they are a source of cadres to supplement the contingent of officials in central agencies, ministries, and sectors, contributing to improving the quality of the central cadre force.

2.1.2. Local press and local press work in the provinces of the Red River Delta

2.1.2.1. Concept, classification, functions, duties, powers, roles, and characteristics of local press in the provinces of the Red River Delta

** Concept and classification of local press in the provinces of the Red River Delta and its relationship with communication*

Local press in the provinces of the Red River Delta includes newspapers and magazines such as print newspapers, radio, television, and electronic newspapers affiliated with provincial-level Party Committees, governments, socio-political organizations, socio-political-professional organizations, and scientific institutions that are licensed by competent provincial authorities to operate within the province under the leadership and direction of the provincial Party Committee and the state management of the provincial government. These are informational products about events and issues in social life, presented through text, images, and sound, created and published periodically and distributed or transmitted to the general population in the province and interested readers in other provinces, cities nationwide, and in some countries around the world. Currently, press work in the provinces is very diverse and abundant, comprising many types. There are various ways to classify local press, and depending on the classification, there are corresponding types of press. Local press in the provinces of the Red River Delta is closely linked to communication in the region and is an important component of the communication system.

** Functions and duties of local press in the provinces of the Red River Delta*

Local press in the provinces of the Red River Delta performs functions of information dissemination, opinion expression, and serving as a forum. The tasks and powers of the local press include: truthful reporting; advocacy and dissemination; reflection and guidance; identifying and showcasing examples; contributing to the preservation and development of the Vietnamese language and the languages of ethnic minorities in the province; and promoting mutual understanding.

** Roles and characteristics of local press in the provinces of the Red River Delta*

The roles of the local press in the provinces of the Red River Delta are:

Firstly, contributing to the successful implementation of the Party's guidelines and policies, State laws, especially the resolutions of the provincial Party Congress and decisions, directives, and conclusions of the provincial Party Committee and government. *Secondly*, contributing to the success of Party-building and the political system of the provincial Party Committee, ensuring the effectiveness of these organizations in fulfilling their functions and duties. *Thirdly*, being one of the key elements in enhancing the political awareness, knowledge, and spiritual life of the provincial population, thereby improving the implementation of the Party's and State's lines and policies, as well as the resolutions and decisions of the provincial Party Committee and government during the renovation period. *Fourthly*, serving as an important force in the external communication work of the provincial Party Committees

in the Red River Delta, promoting the innovation activities of the Party Committees, the political system, cadres, Party members, and the people of the province; and introducing the culture, traditions, and virtues of the local population to people across the country and in other nations.

The characteristics of the local press in the Red River Delta provinces are:

Firstly, local press in these provinces has developed rapidly during the renovation period, particularly in recent decades, becoming more diverse in format and increasing in scale. *Secondly*, the professional capacity, skills, and competencies of the leadership, managers, editors, reporters, and journalists in the provincial newspapers and magazines have improved significantly, better meeting the requirements of each press type's function, task, and purpose. *Thirdly*, local press agencies in the provinces have undergone mergers, reorganization, and consolidation in line with the merging of provincial and commune-level administrative units and the dissolution of the district level. This may cause certain operational difficulties in the short term but is expected to bring long-term benefits by streamlining leadership and management structures, functional and professional departments, and improving operational quality and efficiency. *Fourthly*, the local press operates in areas with long-standing cultural and historical traditions and among populations with some of the highest educational levels in the country. However, the limitations of village-based cultural traditions and kinship relations in many areas still significantly influence the activities of many cadres and Party members.

** Press agencies, governing bodies, leadership agencies, and state management agencies of local press in the provinces of the Red River Delta*

Local press agencies in the provinces are the mouthpieces of provincial agencies and organizations, operating in one or several press formats such as print, radio, television, and electronic media, with one or multiple products in these formats. They play a critical role in determining the quality of all press activities in the province. The governing body of the local press in the provinces is the agency or organization that applies for a press operation license and is approved by a competent authority. It directly manages the local press agencies in accordance with State regulations. The provincial Party Committee, directly and regularly through the provincial Party Committee and the provincial Party Standing Committee, is the leadership body of local press in the provinces of the Red River Delta in all aspects. The provincial government, directly through the provincial People's Committee, serves as the state management agency for local press in the provinces. The specialized advisory and assisting agencies of the provincial Party Committee, with the core being the provincial Advocacy and Mass Mobilization Committees, and related departments such as the Organization Commission, Department of Home Affairs, Department of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Department of Finance, and the Office of the Provincial Party Committee participate in the management of personnel, finance, etc., of the provincial Party Committee's press and broadcasting agencies.

2.1.2.2. Local press work in the provinces of the Red River Delta today - Concept and content

** Concept of local press work in the provinces of the Red River Delta*

Local press work in the provinces of the Red River Delta encompasses all activities of local press agencies under the direction of the governing body, the state management of the provincial government, the involvement of relevant organizations

and local people, and under the overall leadership of the Provincial Party Committee. It includes the formulation and implementation of decisions, programs, and activity plans for each type of newspaper or magazine of the province; the inspection and supervision of their implementation; the establishment of organizational structures, staffing, journalists, civil servants, and public employees of each press agency; and ensuring the necessary conditions for the successful execution of these decisions, programs, and plans.

** Content of local press work in the provinces of the Red River Delta*

Firstly, based on the guidelines, resolutions, and decisions of the Provincial Party Committee and the provincial government, the provincial Party press and radio - television agencies develop and issue decisions regarding the operations of the province's press and radio - television agencies. *Secondly*, organize the dissemination of decisions made by the provincial Party press and radio - television agencies among press agency staff, editorial boards, officials, civil servants, and journalists; develop programs and plans to implement these decisions. *Thirdly*, restructure and consolidate the organizational apparatus; build a streamlined, effective, and efficient team of officials, civil servants, and journalists for the newspapers and magazines; strengthen the Party committees, Party organizations, and socio-political organizations within press agencies to meet the demands of their assigned duties. *Fourthly*, inspect and supervise the implementation of decisions issued by the provincial Party press and radio - television agencies. *Fifthly*, conduct preliminary and final reviews, drawing lessons from the implementation of these decisions. *Sixthly*, ensure necessary conditions and modernize the equipment to support the activities of officials and civil servants.

2.2. PROVINCIAL PARTY COMMITTEES IN THE RED RIVER DELTA LEADING LOCAL PRESS WORK - CONCEPT, CONTENT, METHODS, AND ROLE

2.2.1. Concept of provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta leading local press work

The Provincial Party Committee in the Red River Delta leads local press work as all activities of the Provincial Party Committee, the Provincial Party Committee Standing Committee with the participation of Party Committees at all levels, the Fatherland Front, socio-political organizations, social organizations, socio-professional organizations and people in the province in thoroughly grasping the Party's guidelines, resolutions, directives and conclusions on press and communication work; developing and promulgating resolutions, directives and conclusions of the Provincial Party Committee, the Provincial Party Committee Standing Committee on press work of the province; leading and directing the implementation; inspecting and supervising, aiming to successfully implement those resolutions, directives and conclusions.

2.2.2. Content of the leadership of provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta over local press work

Firstly, the Provincial Party Committees lead the dissemination of the Party's resolutions, decisions, directives, and conclusions on press and communication work, and develop and issue resolutions, decisions, directives, and conclusions to concretize these documents in accordance with provincial conditions. *Secondly*, they lead subordinate Party Committees in implementing the Provincial Party Committees' and Standing Committees' resolutions, decisions, directives, and conclusions, as well as

those of the provincial government regarding local press work. *Thirdly*, they lead the restructuring and streamlining of the organizational structure of provincial press agencies to ensure operational efficiency and effectiveness; improve the quality of the staff at press agencies and press management agencies; and build a team of capable journalists who fulfill their assigned responsibilities well. *Fourthly*, the Provincial Party Committees lead the coordination among political system organizations and agencies involved in press work in the province. *Fifthly*, they lead and direct the review, summarization, and extraction of lessons learned from the implementation of resolutions, decisions, directives, and conclusions of the Provincial Party Committees and their Standing Committees on local press work.

2.2.3. Methods of leadership by provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta over local press work

Firstly, leadership through issuing resolutions, decisions, directives, and conclusions by the Provincial Party Committees and their Standing Committees on provincial press work. *Secondly*, leadership through advocacy, persuasion, and mobilization of organizations, officials, Party members, public employees, and the people in the province to implement the resolutions, decisions, directives, and conclusions on press work. *Thirdly*, leadership by promoting the role of the provincial government in performing state management functions over press activities in the locality. *Fourthly*, leadership through the organization and staffing of provincial press agencies. *Fifthly*, leadership through Party organizations and members, and the exemplary conduct of Party members in provincial press agencies in implementing the Provincial Party Committees' and Standing Committees' resolutions, decisions, directives, and conclusions on local press work. *Sixthly*, leadership by promoting the role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front, political–social organizations, social organizations, and the people in participating in the implementation of resolutions, decisions, directives, and conclusions on press work. *Seventhly*, leadership through inspection and supervision of Party organizations, officials, and Party members in the Provincial Party Committee regarding the implementation of resolutions, decisions, directives, and conclusions on local press work.

2.2.4. Role of the leadership of provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta over local press work

Firstly, it is a critical factor ensuring that provincial press types operate in accordance with the Party's viewpoints and guidelines, the State's policies and laws, and their established principles and purposes, promoting the role of local press in the renewal period, especially in the early years of the nation's new development era. *Secondly*, it mobilizes and strongly promotes the overall strength of the political system, social organizations, armed forces, and the people in the province to effectively participate in improving the quality and effectiveness of provincial press activities. *Thirdly*, it contributes to the overall leadership of the Party over press and communication work nationwide, strongly promoting the role of Vietnam's press and communication in the renewal period.

Summary of Chapter 2

Chapter 2 focuses on clarifying the following key contents: *Firstly*, it provides an overview of the natural, economic, cultural, social, national defense, and security conditions of the provinces in the Red River Delta; and an overview of the provincial

Party organizations, Provincial Party Committees, and Standing Committees of the Provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta. *Secondly*, it examines and clarifies the concepts, classification, functions, tasks, authority, roles, and characteristics of local journalism in the provinces of the Red River Delta; as well as the concept and content of local press work in these provinces. *Thirdly*, based on the clarification of the concepts, content, and methods of leadership over local press work by the Provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta, the thesis delves into the core theoretical issues: the concept of Provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta leading local press work, and the methods of such leadership.

Chapter 3

CURRENT LEADERSHIP OF PROVINCIAL PARTY COMMITTEES OVER LOCAL PRESS WORK IN THE RED RIVER DELTA – REALITY, CAUSES, AND EXPERIENCES

3.1. CURRENT SITUATION OF THE LEADERSHIP OF PROVINCIAL PARTY COMMITTEES IN THE RED RIVER DELTA OVER LOCAL PRESS WORK TODAY

3.1.1. Strengths

3.1.1.1. Strengths in the content of leadership over local press work by Provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta

Firstly, the provincial Party Committees have clearly demonstrated leadership and direction in thoroughly grasping and concretizing the Party's resolutions, decisions, directives, and conclusions on press and communication work. *Secondly*, the provincial Party Committees have focused on leading subordinate Party Committees in implementing the resolutions, decisions, directives, and conclusions of the provincial Party Committee, the provincial Standing Committee, and the provincial government on local press work. *Thirdly*, the provincial Party Committees have paid attention to leading the consolidation of the organizational structure of press agencies in the direction of streamlining, efficiency, and effectiveness; while also improving the quality of press workers, press managers, and local journalists. *Fourthly*, the provincial Party Committees have effectively led and directed coordination among political system organizations and functional agencies in press work, creating unity and consistency in implementing political tasks through communication activities. *Fifthly*, the provincial Party Committees have paid attention to leading and directing the review, summary, and experience-drawing processes during the implementation of resolutions, decisions, directives, and conclusions of the provincial Party Committee and Standing Committee on local press work.

3.1.1.2. Strengths in the Leadership Methods over Local Press Work by Provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta

Firstly, the provincial Party Committees have effectively led local press work through the issuance of a system of specialized resolutions, decisions, directives, and conclusions, clearly demonstrating orientation, viewpoints, and strategic vision for the press sector in each stage. *Secondly*, the provincial Party Committees have promoted leadership through communication, persuasion, and mobilization of political organizations, officials, Party members, public servants, and the people to actively implement resolutions, decisions, directives, and conclusions related to local press work. *Thirdly*, the provincial Party Committees have effectively exercised leadership by

directing provincial governments to proactively and consistently carry out state management of the press in line with political orientation. *Fourthly*, the provincial Party Committees have led through personnel and organizational work related to provincial press agencies, contributing to the gradual streamlining of organizational structures and improving operational efficiency, while developing a press workforce with political qualities, professional ethics, and competence. *Fifthly*, the provincial Party Committees have exercised effective leadership through Party organizations and members in press agencies, using the exemplary actions of Party members as a core for spreading strict implementation of Party resolutions and directives on press work. *Sixthly*, the provincial Party Committees have promoted the roles of the Fatherland Front, socio-political organizations, social organizations, and the public in participating in the implementation of resolutions and directives on local press work. *Seventhly*, the provincial Party Committees have focused on leading inspection and supervision of Party organizations, officials, and Party members across the provincial Party organization regarding the implementation of directives on local press work.

3.1.2. Limitations

3.1.2.1. Limitations in the content of leadership over local press work by provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta

Firstly, the leadership and direction in grasping and concretizing the Party's directives on press and communication are sometimes formalistic and lack flexibility. *Secondly*, leadership by subordinate Party Committees in implementing resolutions and directives on local press work remains insufficiently assertive, coordinated, or thorough. *Thirdly*, the leadership of consolidating press agency structures and improving the quality of press personnel in some areas remains confused and underdeveloped. *Fourthly*, coordination among political system organizations and related units in press work is occasionally ineffective. *Fifthly*, the leadership in summarizing, reviewing, and drawing lessons from the implementation of directives on local press work is sometimes irregular, unstructured, or lacks sufficient depth.

3.1.2.2. Limitations in the leadership methods over local press work by provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta

Firstly, leadership through resolutions and directives still reveals certain limitations - lacking systemic, consistent, and practical alignment. *Secondly*, the work of communicating, persuading, and mobilizing officials, Party members, and the public remains limited in depth and lacks widespread influence throughout the political system. *Thirdly*, the leadership in promoting the role of provincial governments in state management of the press still shows shortcomings, affecting the effectiveness and efficiency of press governance at the local level. *Fourthly*, the leadership in organizing and staffing press agencies still reveals deficiencies that affect the performance and information quality of local press. *Fifthly*, leadership through Party organizations and members, including promoting exemplary behavior among Party members in press agencies, still shows gaps and does not fully achieve the intended effectiveness. *Sixthly*, the involvement of the Fatherland Front, socio-political organizations, social organizations, and the public in implementing directives remains limited and has not truly become an effective support and monitoring channel in local press activities. *Seventhly*, inspection and supervision over the implementation of press-related directives within Party organizations, officials, and members is still lacking in depth, consistency, and timeliness in addressing deviations in leadership, management, and journalistic practices.

3.2. CAUSES AND LESSONS LEARNED

3.2.1. Causes

3.2.1.1. Causes of the strengths

Firstly, the Party's correct viewpoints, policies, and guidelines on press work have served as a consistent orientation foundation for the provincial Party Committees in leading local press activities. *Secondly*, the Red River Delta region has favorable political, socio-cultural conditions, a high intellectual level, and revolutionary traditions, providing a solid basis for the leadership of local press work. *Thirdly*, the teams of officials directly involved in leading, directing, and managing press work in the provinces of the region possess relatively uniform and stable qualifications, political resolve, and practical organizational capacity, which are continuously improving. *Fourthly*, coordination among agencies within the political system has been organized in a synchronized, smooth, and effective manner, contributing to the enhancement of the quality and effectiveness of local press leadership. *Fifthly*, the positive impact of globalization, international integration, and the explosion of the internet and digital media.

3.2.1.1. Causes of the Limitations

Firstly, some officials and Party members - particularly those in advisory roles - have not fully or correctly understood the necessity of the leadership role of provincial Party Committees over local press work in the Red River Delta provinces. *Secondly*, certain Party organizations within press agencies have not effectively fulfilled their comprehensive leadership roles over their respective agencies and units; Party activities are still formalistic and not closely aligned with political tasks and the professional demands of the press sector. *Thirdly*, several local press agencies face significant difficulties in terms of finance, technical infrastructure, and human resources amidst intense competition from central-level press agencies and social media. *Fourthly*, the negative effects of the market economy mechanism and the increasingly sophisticated and complex sabotage activities of hostile forces against the Party and the State have adversely impacted press activities and the effectiveness of local press leadership. *Fifthly*, shortcomings still exist in the direction and management of the press, notably a lack of input information for decision-making, leading to directives that are not closely aligned with actual developments and delays in responding to hot-button issues of public concern.

3.2.2. Lessons learned

Firstly, Party Committees at all levels - especially the provincial Party Committees and Standing Committees - must regularly prioritize and consider the leadership of press work as part of the overall ideological and political leadership tasks of the Party. *Secondly*, it is necessary to pay attention to personnel organization work, particularly the selection, placement, training, and development of leadership teams for press agencies and press management bodies. *Thirdly*, strengthen inter-agency coordination mechanisms among: the provincial Party Committee's advocacy and mass mobilization departments, the Department of Culture, Sports and Tourism, the Journalists' Association, the Fatherland Front, political-social organizations, and the press agencies. *Fourthly*, focus on conducting mid-term and final reviews and seriously evaluating press leadership work to promptly draw lessons.

Summary of Chapter 3

In recent years, the provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta have consistently paid attention to leading local press work and have achieved many important results. However, alongside these achievements, their leadership over local press work still reveals certain limitations and shortcomings, both in terms of content and leadership methods. This thesis has analyzed the causes of the strengths and limitations, and has drawn four key lessons regarding how the provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta consistently prioritize the leadership of local press work.

Chapter 4

ORIENTATIONS AND SOLUTIONS TO STRENGTHEN THE LEADERSHIP OF PROVINCIAL PARTY COMMITTEES IN THE RED RIVER DELTA OVER LOCAL PRESS WORK IN THE COMING PERIOD

4.1. FORECAST OF FAVORABLE AND CHALLENGING FACTORS AND ORIENTATIONS FOR STRENGTHENING THE LEADERSHIP OF PROVINCIAL PARTY COMMITTEES IN THE RED RIVER DELTA OVER LOCAL PRESS WORK IN THE COMING PERIOD

4.1.1. Forecast of favorable and challenging factors affecting the leadership of provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta over local press work in the coming period

4.1.1.1. Favorable factors

Firstly, the tremendous achievements with historical significance of the renovation process under the leadership of the Party over the past 40 years, with contributions from the provinces in the Red River Delta - especially the significant role of local press - continue to encourage provincial Party Committees to strengthen their leadership over local press work effectively. *Secondly*, the Party's orientations, missions, and solutions on journalism and communication stated in official documents serve as a crucial foundation for provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta to develop resolutions, decisions, directives, and conclusions on local press work and to lead and direct their implementation. *Thirdly*, the major outcomes of Party building and rectification nationwide, particularly in the Red River Delta, including efforts to prevent and reverse degradation and negativity, and to safeguard the Party's ideological foundation - with substantial contributions from the local press - form a new driving force for effective leadership over local press work. *Fourthly*, the merging of provinces in the Red River Delta will create new conditions for vigorous development; the provincial Party Congresses following the mergers will adopt sound missions and solutions, and elect capable new Party Committees with more effective leadership across all areas, including local press work. *Fifthly*, post-merger streamlining of the organizational apparatus and personnel of local press agencies, along with a reinforced structure and strong advances in science and technology, will create favorable conditions for local press development - presenting great advantages for provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta to enhance their leadership over local press work.

4.1.1.2. Challenging factors

Firstly, degeneration and negativity among officials and Party members have not been fundamentally addressed, with many disciplined or criminally prosecuted, including some high-ranking officials - dampening the enthusiasm of certain journalists

involved in combating corruption and degradation. *Secondly*, newly merged provinces face highly sensitive organizational and personnel issues; new Party Committees will need time to adapt to their roles, presenting significant challenges to leadership, including over local press work. *Thirdly*, press and broadcasting agencies in newly merged provinces must focus on consolidating organizational structures and leadership, editorial, and reporting staff - hindering their ability to operate efficiently in the short term. *Fourthly*, deficiencies in skills and capacity—especially in utilizing modern technology for journalistic work—and recent violations or misconduct by segments of journalists are major obstacles to strengthening leadership over local press work in the coming years. *Fifthly*, leading local press work during the ongoing renovation period in Vietnam remains a novel and complex task for provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta, with many theoretical issues still unresolved.\

4.1.2. Orientations for strengthening the leadership of provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta over local press work in the coming period

Firstly, fundamentally transform awareness and responsibility among all levels of Party Committees, Party organizations, officials, Party members, leadership, editorial staff, and journalists in local press agencies and across the political system - especially within the Party Committees, authorities, and Party members of local press bodies - regarding the need to strengthen Party leadership over local press work. *Secondly*, stabilize the provincial Party Committees, Standing Committees, and specialized advisory and supporting bodies, along with the provincial People's Committees post-merger, to meet leadership demands for local press work. *Thirdly*, consolidate and stabilize Party organizations, improve the quality of Party members in local press agencies, strengthen the leadership, management, and editorial staff, and prevent and eliminate tendencies that deviate from journalistic principles or reflect moral and professional degradation. *Fourthly*, effectively mobilize organizations, forces, and the public within the province to participate in strengthening the Party Committee's leadership over local press work. *Fifthly*, intensify inspection and supervision of Party Committees, officials, and Party members regarding their implementation of provincial Party resolutions, decisions, and conclusions on local press work.

4.2. SOLUTIONS FOR STRENGTHENING THE LEADERSHIP OF PROVINCIAL PARTY COMMITTEES IN THE RED RIVER DELTA OVER LOCAL PRESS WORK IN THE COMING PERIOD

4.2.1. Raising awareness and responsibility of the provincial Party Committee, subordinate Party Committees, organizations in the political system, press agencies, officials, Party members, and the people in the province regarding strengthening the leadership of the provincial Party Committee over local press work

Firstly, the provincial Party Committee continues to focus on leading and directing the thorough understanding and enhancement of awareness and responsibility among organizations in the political system, relevant organizations, officials, Party members, and the people in participating in implementing the Party's and State's guidelines, tasks, and solutions on journalism, and the resolutions, decisions, directives, and conclusions of the provincial Party Committee and its Standing Committee on local press work. *Secondly*, the provincial Party Committee focuses on leading the Party Committee of the Provincial People's Committee and the Party Committees within the provincial press and radio–television agencies, raising awareness and responsibility - first and foremost among key officials and journalists - regarding strengthening the

leadership of the provincial Party Committee over local press work. *Thirdly*, it is necessary to improve the quality of organizing conferences to thoroughly understand the Party's resolutions, directives, conclusions on journalism and those of the provincial Party Committee and its Standing Committee on local press work and to build and implement corresponding action programs. *Fourthly*, various appropriate and effective forms and methods should be flexibly applied to enhance the awareness and responsibility of Party Committees at all levels, organizations in the political system, local press agencies, officials, Party members, relevant organizations, and the people regarding local journalism and strengthening the provincial Party Committee's leadership over local press work. *Fifthly*, the provincial Party Committee must prioritize leading local press agencies to fulfill their functions and tasks effectively in contributing to raising awareness and responsibility among Party Committees, Party organizations, officials, Party members, political and social organizations, and the people in participating in the enhancement of local press leadership by the provincial Party Committee.

4.2.2. Building the provincial Party Committee, its Standing Committee, and specialized advisory and assisting agencies, with a focus on the Advocacy and Mass Mobilization Commissions, to meet the requirements of strengthening the provincial Party Committee's leadership over local press work

4.2.2.1. Building the provincial Party Committee and its Standing Committee to meet the requirements of strengthening the provincial Party Committee's leadership over local press work

Firstly, concretize the standards for members of the provincial Party Committee and the Standing Committee in the Red River Delta according to Directive No. 45-CT/TW dated April 14, 2025, by the Politburo "on Party Congresses at all levels towards the 14th National Party Congress," serving as the foundation for building and improving the quality of the provincial Party Committee and its Standing Committee. *Secondly*, focus on successfully leading the organization of the 2025–2030 provincial Party Congress and electing a quality provincial Party Committee in accordance with the Party's election regulations to ensure successful implementation of the Congress's resolutions, including enhanced leadership over local press work. *Thirdly*, renew and improve the quality of all stages of the cadre work to build a provincial Party Committee and Standing Committee capable of meeting leadership tasks in the post-merger provincial development context. *Fourthly*, promote self-study and self-improvement among each provincial Party Committee member, Standing Committee member, subordinate Party Committees, officials, Party members, the Fatherland Front, political and social organizations, and the people in enhancing the quality of the provincial Party Committee and its Standing Committee.

4.2.2.2. Improving the quality of the provincial Party Committee's specialized advisory and assisting agencies, with an emphasis on the Advocacy and Mass Mobilization Commissions, to meet the leadership requirements over local press work

Firstly, the provincial Party Committee focuses on leading Party organizations, officials, and Party members - especially those in specialized advisory and assisting agencies - to thoroughly grasp Regulation No. 329-QD/TW dated June 13, 2025, by the Secretariat "on the functions, tasks, powers, and organizational structure of the specialized advisory and assisting agencies of provincial and municipal Party

Committees under the Central Government.” *Secondly*, the provincial Party Committee strengthens leadership and direction over these agencies, formulates criteria for staff positions in each agency based on job positions, creating a solid basis for effective personnel work, with an emphasis on the Advocacy and Mass Mobilization Commissions. *Thirdly*, the Standing Committee leads and directs fundamental improvements in the quality of personnel work stages, thereby building a high-quality staff for the specialized advisory and assisting agencies of the provincial Party Committee to fulfill assigned tasks successfully. *Fourthly*, the provincial Party Committee leads and directs the development and strict implementation of coordination regulations among its specialized advisory and assisting agencies in advising and proposing to the provincial Party Committee on policy directions and solutions for overall provincial leadership, including leadership over local press work.

4.2.3. Improving the quality of developing and leading the implementation of resolutions, decisions, directives, and conclusions of the Provincial Party Committee and its Standing Committee on local press work

4.2.3.1. Improving the quality of developing resolutions, decisions, directives, and conclusions of the Provincial Party Committee and its Standing Committee on local press work

Firstly, develop a plan for drafting and issuing resolutions, decisions, directives, and conclusions of the Provincial Party Committee and its Standing Committee on local press work, with emphasis on thematic resolutions. *Secondly*, the Standing Committee of the Provincial Party Committee should lead and direct the drafting of high-quality draft resolutions to facilitate effective discussions and decisions. *Thirdly*, improve the quality of Provincial Party Committee and Standing Committee meetings in discussing and deciding on resolutions on local press work.

4.2.3.2. Improving the leadership and direction of the Provincial Party Committee and its Standing Committee in implementing the resolutions, decisions, directives, and conclusions on local press work

Firstly, lead and direct the thorough dissemination, concretization, and institutionalization of the contents of resolutions, decisions, directives, and conclusions. *Secondly*, assign responsible officers for each content and task in implementing the documents and strengthen inspection and supervision. *Thirdly*, emphasize “pilot implementation” and the creation of exemplary models, followed by evaluation and expansion. *Fourthly*, the Standing Committee of the Provincial Party Committee should strengthen leadership and guidance for preliminary and final reviews, drawing lessons, especially on implementing resolutions on local press work.

4.2.4. Restructuring, consolidating, and improving the quality of press agencies; building the contingent of journalists and press managers in the Red River Delta to meet the requirements of enhanced leadership by the Provincial Party Committee

4.2.4.1. Restructuring, consolidating, and improving the quality of press agencies to meet leadership requirements

Firstly, effectively implement the merger of provincial and communal levels as directed, stabilize the organization and personnel of the provincial Party’s press and broadcasting agencies, and ensure effective post-merger operation. *Secondly*, these agencies should deeply study and grasp their new functions and tasks as defined by the Party, and formulate and execute appropriate action plans. *Thirdly*, the Standing

Committee should lead and direct the determination and building of the organizational structure of each press agency for immediate and effective operation. *Fourthly*, the Committee should lead and direct the development and enforcement of working regulations for each agency.

4.2.4.2. Building the contingent of press staff and journalists in the provinces to meet leadership requirements

Firstly, specify job position-based standards, especially for leadership and managerial positions in local press agencies. *Secondly*, the Standing Committee should ensure effective implementation and oversight of personnel tasks and encourage participation from political and social organizations. *Thirdly*, encourage and facilitate the self-learning and self-training of press staff and journalists and prioritize attracting and employing talented individuals.

4.2.5. Promoting the role of press governing bodies, state management agencies, the Fatherland Front, socio-political organizations, and the people in strengthening the leadership of the Provincial Party Committee over local press work

4.2.5.1. Promoting the role of press governing bodies and state management agencies

Firstly, the Standing Committee should address post-merger issues of governing bodies and the provincial People's Committee, stabilize their organizational structure, and ensure effective operation. *Secondly*, further disseminate and understand the functions and duties of these bodies and plan their operations accordingly. *Thirdly*, the Committee should lead personnel work effectively post-merger to ensure capable staff. *Fourthly*, it should lead the coordination between governing bodies and the provincial People's Committee to fulfill press management tasks.

4.2.5.2. Encouraging the Fatherland Front, socio-political organizations, and the people to participate in strengthening leadership

Firstly, raise awareness among Party committees, leaders, and staff of relevant organizations about the role of the Fatherland Front and the people. *Secondly*, complete the organizational structure and enhance staff training post-merger for effective participation. *Thirdly*, ensure coordination between the Fatherland Front, organizations, and the People's Committee in contributing to local press leadership.

4.2.6. Strengthening inspection and supervision by the Provincial Party Committee; enhancing oversight by the Politburo, Secretariat, and support from central agencies to improve the effectiveness of provincial press leadership

4.2.6.1. Strengthening inspection and supervision by the Provincial Party Committee

Firstly, the Standing Committee should effectively merge Inspection Commissions post-merger to form a capable new commission. *Secondly*, conduct inspections per Party regulations and focus on implementing press-related documents. *Thirdly*, integrate Party inspections with audits, legal enforcement by the People's Committee, and supervision by the Fatherland Front and the people.

4.2.6.2. Enhancing oversight by the Politburo, Secretariat, and central support

Firstly, the Politburo and Secretariat should guide successful mergers of provincial political organizations and the organization of the next provincial Party congress. *Secondly*, they should improve the quality of Party documents on press and communications and support provincial adaptation and implementation. *Thirdly*,

enhance inspection and support for provincial implementation and resolve difficulties. *Fourthly*, central agencies should provide necessary support to provincial leadership over local press work.

Summary of Chapter 4

To strengthen the leadership of Provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta over local press work in the coming period, it is necessary to synchronously and effectively implement the solutions proposed in the thesis. Among these, special attention should be given to successfully implementing the breakthrough solution: restructuring, consolidating, and improving the quality of press agencies; building a contingent of press officials, journalists, and press managers in the Red River Delta provinces that meets the requirements for enhancing the leadership of the Provincial Party Committees over local press work.

CONCLUSIONS

Local journalism in the provinces of the Red River Delta plays a particularly important role in the comprehensive development of each locality and in ensuring a prosperous and happy life for the local people. It significantly contributes to the overall progress and strength of the nation and to the firm safeguarding of the Fatherland. However, local journalism in these provinces can only clearly demonstrate and affirm its role when it is under the proper leadership of the Provincial Party Committees in the region, within the broader leadership of the Party over press work. As the political tasks of provincial Party organizations in the Red River Delta are constantly evolving, so too is local press work - this necessitates a strengthened leadership role from the Provincial Party Committees over local press work. This is an urgent issue, especially in the current era of national advancement.

The leadership of the Provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta over local press work refers to all leadership activities by the Provincial Party Committees and their Standing Committees, with the participation of local governments, the Fatherland Front, political-social organizations, social organizations, relevant agencies, and the people. These activities include thoroughly disseminating the Party's guidelines, resolutions, decisions, directives, and conclusions on journalism and communication; formulating and issuing the Provincial Party Committees' own resolutions, decisions, directives, and conclusions on local journalism; leading and directing the organization and implementation of these documents; and inspecting and supervising their enforcement to ensure successful outcomes.

In recent years, the Provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta have always placed great importance on leading local press work and have achieved notable results that have contributed to the provinces' comprehensive reform efforts. However, there remain certain limitations and shortcomings in this leadership. The Provincial Party Committees have identified the underlying causes and are actively seeking remedies.

To strengthen their leadership over local press work in the coming period, the Provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta need to simultaneously implement multiple measures. The following solutions proposed by the thesis may be studied and applied: *firstly*, raising the awareness and sense of responsibility among Provincial Party Committees, lower-level Party Committees, organizations within the political system, press agencies, officials, Party members, and the public regarding the need to strengthen

Party leadership over local press work; *secondly*, building strong Provincial Party Committees, their Standing Committees, and specialized advisory bodies - especially the Advocacy and Mass Mobilization Commissions - to meet leadership demands in local press work; *thirdly*, improving the quality of drafting, leading, and directing the implementation of resolutions, decisions, directives, and conclusions of the Provincial Party Committees and their Standing Committees on local press work; *fourthly*, restructuring, consolidating, and improving the quality of local press agencies; building a contingent of press officials, journalists, and press managers in the Red River Delta provinces to meet the leadership requirements of the Provincial Party Committees; *fifthly*, promoting the role of press-governing bodies, state management agencies for journalism, the Fatherland Front, political-social organizations, and the local population in strengthening Party leadership over local press work; and *sixthly*, enhancing inspection and supervision by the Provincial Party Committees; increasing oversight by the Politburo and the Secretariat; and fostering support from central agencies, departments, and political-social organizations to enable the Provincial Party Committees to lead local press work more effectively.

AUTHOR'S PUBLICATIONS RELATED TO THE THESIS TOPIC

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