

Dien Nguyen An Luong

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Professional Experience

Visiting Fellow

ISEAS - Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore | September 2024 - Present

- Deliver key research papers on Vietnam's youth engagement, online censorship, and online nationalism
- Present findings at regional conferences

Graduate Student Instructor

University of Michigan, United States | August 2024 - Present

- Design and lead weekly discussion sections for 75 students
- Provide guidance and mentoring to students on critical communication analysis

Associate Fellow

ISEAS - Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore | August 2023 - August 2024

- Conducted research and published studies on Vietnam's digital repression and media landscapes

Visiting Fellow

ISEAS - Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore | August 2020 - July 2023

- Produced research on Southeast Asian information controls and state-media dynamics

Assistant Managing Editor

Zing News, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam | March 2018 - May 2020

- Led content strategy to ensure high-quality, impactful reporting on pressing societal issues

Managing Editor

VnExpress International, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam | July 2016 - December 2017

- Managed editorial content and wrote long-form editorial pieces on regional geo-politics and corruption, environmental trade-off, speech freedom and social inequality in Vietnam

Deputy Managing Editor

Thanh Nien News, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam | August 2007 - July 2015

- Developed, wrote and edited articles on the lingering aftermaths of the Vietnam War, corruption, environmental and health issues, the education crisis, police brutality and same-sex marriages

Freelance Journalist

2015 – 2020

- Published articles in The New York Times, Washington Post, Al Jazeera, Nikkei Asia, and other publications

Education

- University of Michigan
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), Communication and Media Studies | August 2023 - Present
- Columbia University – Graduate School of Journalism
Master's Degree in Journalism | 2015 - 2016
- University of Education, Ho Chi Minh City
Bachelor's Degree in English | 2004 - 2007

Publications

Book Chapters

- “The US Media on the Vietnam War and Beyond: In the Name of Objectivity” (September 2022), Journalism and Foreign Policy: How the US and UK Media Cover Official Enemies, co-authored by Dien Nguyen An Luong and Hong Tien Vu, edited by Jesse Owen Hearn-Branaman and Tabe Bergman.
- “Social Media’s Challenge to the Vietnamese State Information Controls” (October 2020), From Grassroots Activism to Disinformation: Social Media in Southeast Asia, edited by Aim Sinpeng and Ross Tapsell.

Monographs

- Justifying Digital Repression via “Fighting Fake News”: A Study of Four Southeast Asian Autocracies (August 2022), co-authored by Janjira Sombatpoonsiri and Dien Nguyen An Luong, ISEAS - Yusof Ishak Institute.
- A Study of Vietnam’s Control over Online Anti-State Content (February 2022), ISEAS - Yusof Ishak Institute.
- The Growing Salience of Online Vietnamese Nationalism (June 2021), ISEAS - Yusof Ishak Institute.

Policy Briefs

- “Flexing Censorship Muscles and Leveraging Public Sentiments: How The Vietnamese State Scrambles to Sanitise Its Image Online” (July 2023), ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute.
- “What Drives Vietnam’s Tightened Public Sphere?” (June 2023), co-authored by Nguyen Khac Giang and Dien Nguyen An Luong, ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute.
- “The Russia-Ukraine War: Unpacking Online Pro-Russia Narratives in Vietnam” (April 2022), co-authored by Hoang Thi Ha and Dien Nguyen An Luong, ISEAS - Yusof Ishak Institute.
- “Restoring Public Trust in Vietnam’s Pandemic Response: A Bumpy Road Ahead” (November 2021), ISEAS - Yusof Ishak Institute.

- “Comparing Vietnamese Responses to Chinese and American Public Diplomacy Efforts on Social Media” (August 2021), ISEAS - Yusof Ishak Institute.
- “Placate the Young and Control Online Discourse: The Vietnamese State’s Tightrope” (April 2021), ISEAS - Yusof Ishak Institute.
- “How The Vietnamese State Uses Cyber Troops to Shape Online Discourse” (March 2021), ISEAS - Yusof Ishak Institute.
- “How Hanoi is Leveraging Anti-China Sentiments Online” (October 2020), ISEAS - Yusof Ishak Institute.

Selected Newspaper Articles

- “As West draws closer to Vietnam, Hanoi gets more like Beijing” – Nikkei Asia, March 26, 2024.
- “It’s Time for South Korea to Acknowledge Its Atrocities in Vietnam” – Foreign Policy, December 31, 2022.
- “U.S. will have to work hard to win over Vietnam's conservatives” – Nikkei Asia, May 11, 2022.
- “Vietnamese love the US, and China cannot change that” – Nikkei Asia, September 13, 2021.
- “Who is winning the US-China battle for the hearts and minds of Vietnam's cybersphere?” – South China Morning Post, August 24, 2021.
- “Vietnam may not want China's Covid-19 vaccines, but how long can it stay immune to them?” – South China Morning Post, May 20, 2021.
- “Why the #MilkTeaAlliance movement has little appeal to Vietnamese youth” – South China Morning Post, April 16, 2021.
- “Vietnam's Internet is in trouble” – Washington Post, February 19, 2018.
- “Vietnam Wants to Control Social Media? Too Late.” – New York Times, November 30, 2017.
- “American dream lives on in Vietnam despite the past” – Al Jazeera, November 10, 2017.
- “Trump faces hard sell on new Asia policy at APEC summit” – Al Jazeera, November 10, 2017.
- “55 Years After Agent Orange Was Used In Vietnam, One Of Its Creators Is Thriving Here” – Huffington Post, August 30, 2016.
- “No justice for victims of US air strike in Afghanistan” – Al Jazeera, May 1, 2016.
- “Why Vietnam Loves the Trans-Pacific Partnership” – The Diplomat, March 16, 2016.
- “US Jews struggle in the fight for Palestinian rights” – Al Jazeera, January 18, 2016.
- “Vietnam's rush to develop risks damaging its natural attractions” – The Guardian, August 1, 2015.

Awards and Fellowships

- COMPASS Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania | June 2024 - July 2024
Fellow at the United States Agency for Global Media through the Consortium on Media Policy Studies (COMPASS).
- Non-Resident Fellowship, Harvard Ash Center for Democratic Governance | 2021
- Fulbright Scholarship, U.S. Department of State | 2014

Public Engagement

- **Speaker**, Decrypting Digital Authoritarianism Conference, October 2024, Florence, Italy
- **Speaker**, EuroSEAS Conference, July 2024, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- **Speaker**, Association for Asian Studies, March 2024, Seattle, the United States
- **Speaker**, EuroSEAS Conference, July 2022, Paris, France

Key Skills

- Research: Media studies, digital communication, Southeast Asia politics
- Writing: Journalism, academic publications, policy briefs
- Leadership: Editorial management, strategic content planning
- Public Speaking: Conference presentations, webinars, media interviews