TRUNG TÂM TRỌNG TÀI THƯƠNG NHÂN VIỆT NAM
VIETNAM TRADERS ARBITRATION CENTRE

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2024



International Cooperation Review 2024

Guided by our core values encapsulated in "RAPID" – Respect, Alternative, Prestige, Intelligence, and Dedication – VTA is committed to continuously improving arbitration procedures to meet international standards.

PHẠM XUÂN SANG, The President of VTA



Content

1 **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF VTA**

Firmly committed to our philosophy, VTA pledges to continue supporting arbitration centers and the arbitration community in promoting ADR methods in Vietnam.

2 **HIGHLIGHTS OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES**

The year 2024 marks the beginning of VTA's international cooperation strategy for the 2024–2026 period.

3 **INTRODUCTION ABOUT VIETNAM TRADERS ARBITRATION CENTRE**

The Vietnam Traders Arbitration Centre (VTA) is dedicated to administering and coordinating business dispute resolution in accordance with the Vietnam Law on Commercial Arbitration and Vietnam's commitments under the 1958 New York Convention

Message from the President of VTA

PHẠM XUÂN SANG
President of VTA



Dear Readers,

Over nearly 40 years of Đổi Mới, Vietnam has achieved remarkable milestones, transforming into a dynamic, developing economy that is deeply integrated into the global landscape. Alongside this transformation, commercial arbitration has affirmed its role as an effective, transparent, and internationally aligned method of dispute resolution.

The Vietnam Traders Arbitration Centre (VTA) was established by seasoned lawyers deeply connected to the growth of the private economic sector during the nation's Đổi Mới journey. These invaluable experiences have laid the foundation for VTA to create a trusted dispute resolution mechanism, grounded in respect, adherence to the law, and responsibility towards businesses and society. VTA's efforts not only support domestic enterprises in enhancing their positions when collaborating with foreign investors but also provide reassurance to international partners through transparent and efficient arbitration processes.

Guided by our core values encapsulated in "RAPID" – Respect, Alternative, Prestige, Intelligence, and Dedication – VTA is committed to continuously improving arbitration procedures to meet international standards.

The year 2024 marks the beginning of VTA's international cooperation strategy for the 2024–2026 period. Our primary goal is to enhance VTA's capacity for handling cross-border disputes, aligning with the rising trend of dispute resolution in Asia. Asia itself is forecasted to become the global hub for dispute resolution in the coming decades. VTA's partnerships with regional leaders such as the Indian International Arbitration Centre (IIAC) and various arbitration institutions in China represent our initial steps toward deeper engagement in cross-border mediation and arbitration, starting with Asia.

Firmly committed to our philosophy, VTA pledges to continue supporting arbitration centers and the arbitration community in promoting ADR methods in Vietnam. These efforts aim to contribute to stable economic growth and build trust among nations during global integration.

We sincerely thank you for your trust and support in our journey to realize VTA's mission.

Sincerely,



Highlights of International Cooperation Activities

Our primary goal is to enhance VTA's capacity for handling cross-border disputes, aligning with the rising trend of dispute resolution in Asia. Asia itself is forecasted to become the global hub for dispute resolution in the coming decades.

1

Collaboration with the Beihai Asia International Arbitration Centre (BAIAC)



On 17 April 2024, in Ho Chi Minh City, VTA and BAIAC signed a Strategic Cooperation Agreement to promote Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) in the region.

BAIAC, headquartered in Singapore, is a leading arbitration center specializing in international commercial dispute resolution across Asia and the ASEAN+6 trade network. This collaboration paves the way for the two organizations to jointly organize seminars and conferences on international arbitration in Ho Chi Minh City and Singapore, provide facilities for arbitration proceedings, and foster greater connections among arbitrators from both institutions.



This marks an important milestone in enhancing VTA's capacity to handle international disputes, contributing to a sustainable and collaborative trade environment in Vietnam and the broader Asian region.

BAIAC
BEIHAI ASIA INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION CENTRE
北海亚洲国际仲裁中心

16 Raffles Quay, #17-03
Hong Leong Building, Singapore 048581
www.baiac.org



2

Participation in the Asia ADR Summit 2024

On 26–27 July 2024, VTA participated in the Asia ADR Summit 2024 held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The conference, themed "Beyond Boundaries: Asia's Rise in Global Dispute Resolution," was jointly organized by the Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution (AIADR), the International Arbitration and Mediation Centre (IAMC), and the China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission (CIETAC).

The event brought together over 100 leading ADR experts to advance Asia's role in global dispute resolution. Mr. Pham Xuan Sang, President of VTA, and Ms. Dang Dieu Phuong, VTA's Director of External Relations, attended the conference and engaged in meaningful discussions with ADR professionals regarding arbitration in Vietnam.

VTA is honored to be a supporting partner in this prestigious event, contributing to international networking efforts and enhancing Vietnam's dispute resolution capacity within the Asian region.

ASIA ADR SUMMIT

26 & 27 July 2024
Bangunan Sulaiman, Kuala Lumpur
Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolutions (AIADR)

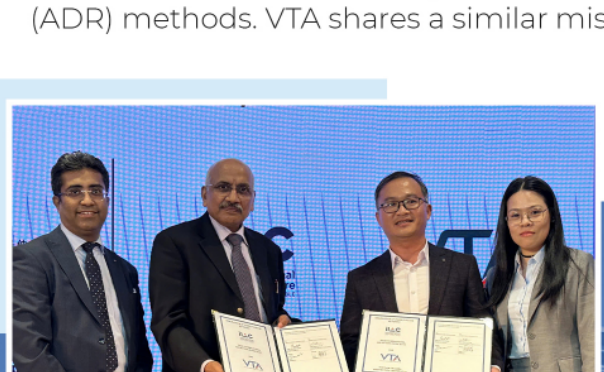
3

Collaboration with the Indian International Arbitration Centre (IIAC)

On 26 July 2024, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, within the framework of the Asia ADR Summit 2024, VTA and IIAC signed a Cooperation Agreement. The signing ceremony was witnessed by the Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution (AIADR) and international ADR experts.

IIAC was established under the Indian Parliament Act of 2019 with the aim of becoming a leading institution in arbitration and other Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) methods. VTA shares a similar mission of providing a prestigious and effective commercial dispute resolution mechanism to serve the Vietnamese business community.

This agreement seeks to foster the development of ADR methods in Vietnam, India, and across Asia, including organizing seminars, training programs, and experience-sharing activities in international dispute resolution. This significant step further strengthens the roles of both VTA and IIAC within the global ADR network.





India International Arbitration Centre
GLOBAL • EFFICIENT • CREDIBLE

Plot no 6, Vasant Kunj Institutional Area,
New Delhi, Delhi 110070
www.indiaiac.org





4 Cross-Border Cooperation on Mediation and Arbitration between Guangxi (China) and Vietnam

On 2 August 2024, in Nanning, Guangxi, China, VTA participated in the Cross-Border Cooperation Signing Ceremony with the presence of representatives from the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) Guangxi Sub-Council, Baise Arbitration Commission, and the Hanoi Mediation Centre.

The cooperation agreement aims to promote fair and transparent resolution of commercial disputes between Vietnamese and Chinese enterprises. The primary goal of this Tripartite Cooperation Agreement is to leverage each party's unique strengths, foster mutual trust and friendship, and facilitate fair and transparent dispute resolution for businesses in both countries.

Following the signing ceremony, representatives visited the Joint Secretariat Offices of CCPIT Guangxi Sub-Council, Baise Arbitration Commission, VTA, and the Hanoi Mediation Centre, located in the China-ASEAN Business Centre at No. 10 Pingle Avenue, Liangqing District, Nanning City, Guangxi Province, China.





Visit to CCPIT Guangxi Sub-Council and Address at the Cross-Border Cooperation Signing Ceremony on Mediation and Arbitration between China and Vietnam

5

On 2 August 2024, Mr. Pham Xuan Sang, President of VTA, along with the delegation, visited the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) Guangxi Sub-Council. Together with leaders from CCPIT Guangxi, the Standing Committee of the Guangxi People's Congress, Baise City Government, and Guangxi University for Nationalities, they attended the Cross-Border Cooperation Signing Ceremony on Mediation and Arbitration between Guangxi (China) and Vietnam.

In his speech, the President of VTA emphasized the significance of international cooperation in the field of arbitration and mediation, particularly between Guangxi—a region bordering four Vietnamese provinces—and Vietnamese enterprises. He also highlighted the role of the 1958 New York Convention in recognizing and enforcing arbitral awards between the two nations, facilitating cross-border commercial dispute resolution.

Quoting the saying, "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step," the VTA President expressed his belief that VTA's participation in this signing ceremony marks the beginning of a strategic, trustworthy, and meaningful partnership in mediation and arbitration between China and Vietnam.







6 Collaboration with the Indonesian Dispute Board (IDB)

On 9 October 2024, in Ho Chi Minh City, VTA and IDB signed a Cooperation Agreement to promote business dispute resolution in Vietnam, Indonesia, and the broader Asian region.

IDB, also known as Dewan Sengketa Indonesia, is an independent organization providing arbitration, mediation, and dispute resolution services in Indonesia. This collaboration encompasses key activities such as: Inclusion of arbitrators from both institutions into each other's panels; Joint organization of seminars and training programs; Research and publication of materials on international arbitration; and Facility and venue support for arbitration hearings in both Vietnam and Indonesia.

This agreement signifies a shared commitment to enhancing the effectiveness of commercial dispute resolution, contributing to a transparent, efficient, and fair business environment across the region. VTA and IDB emphasize initiatives aimed at supporting Vietnamese and Indonesian businesses in resolving disputes effectively.

Jl. Prof. Dr. Hamka No. 3, RT.01 RW.010, Gaga,
Larangan District, Tangerang City, Banten 15154, Indonesia
www.dewansengketa.id

7 Participation in the Hainan Free Trade Port Legal Week

From October 17–20, 2024, VTA, led by Ms. Dang Dieu Phuong, Vice President of VTA, participated in the Hainan Free Trade Port Legal Week in Haikou, China. The event brought together legal experts and international arbitration organizations, providing opportunities to share knowledge and promote commercial cooperation across regions.

During the event, VTA engaged in discussions on legal services and commercial dispute resolution mechanisms, including ad hoc arbitration, and explored collaboration with the eBRAM International Online Dispute Resolution Centre (Hong Kong). Additionally, VTA visited the Hainan International Arbitration Court (HIAC) and held meetings with Jingshi Law Firm and Eastgos Law Firm, paving the way for potential legal cooperation and practical arbitration opportunities between the two countries.







the Hainan Free Trade Port Legal Week
October 17 to 20, 2024
Haikou City, Hainan, China

8 Collaboration with the Hainan International Arbitration Court (HIAC)





On 18 October 2024, in Hainan Province, China, VTA and HIAC signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), marking the beginning of a strategic partnership between the two institutions.

HIAC, restructured from the Hainan Arbitration Commission, aims to support the development of the Hainan Free Trade Port and position Hainan as an international arbitration hub targeting the Pacific and Indian Ocean regions. During the signing ceremony, Mr. Wang Xuelin, President of HIAC, welcomed Ms. Dang Dieu Phuong, Vice President of VTA, and the delegation.

Both parties emphasized the role of arbitration in building a sustainable legal business environment.

Under the MOU, VTA and HIAC commit to cooperating on: Nomination and recognition of arbitrators; Organizing international arbitration activities; Sharing facilities and resources; and Establishing a joint arbitration mechanism.

This partnership paves the way for long-term cooperation, enhancing the capacity to resolve commercial disputes between Vietnam and China.

HIAC 海南国际仲裁院 HAINAN INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION COURT

Floors 11-12, Penghui International Mansion,
No. 20,Heping Avenue,Haikou, Hainan Province China
www.hnac.org.cn

Collaboration with the Hainan Arbitration Association (HNAA)

9





On 19 October 2024, as part of the Hainan Free Trade Port Legal Week 2024, VTA signed a Cooperation Agreement with the Hainan Arbitration Association (HNAA). The signing ceremony was attended by Ms. Dang Dieu Phuong, Vice President of VTA, along with arbitrators Pham Viet Tuan, Tian Jian, and Liao Xiaomin. Representing HNAA were Mr. Daojun Liu, President of the Association, and its members. Both sides acknowledged that China and Vietnam are significant trade and investment partners with vast potential for further collaboration.

The agreement aims to promote the resolution of commercial disputes through arbitration in Vietnam and Hainan. Key areas of cooperation include: Training and information exchange; Sharing arbitration knowledge; Promoting awareness of each institution's activities; and Introducing arbitration candidates.

This partnership represents a meaningful step in advancing commercial arbitration and strengthening ties between Vietnam and Hainan.

5th Floor, Wenhang International Office Building, No. 88 Wendong Road, Wencheng Town, Wenchang City, Hainan Province
www.ftp-hnaa.com

HNAA

10

Participation in the International Arbitration & Corporate Crime Summit 2024

On 30 October 2024, at the New World Saigon Hotel, VTA participated as a supporting partner in the International Arbitration & Corporate Crime Summit 2024. The event brought together leading experts in arbitration and corporate legal matters, with VTA represented by two international arbitrators, Elijah Putilin and Djamel El Akra.

In the third discussion session, arbitrator Elijah Putilin delivered a presentation on expedited arbitration procedures and interim emergency measures, emphasizing their role in resolving disputes quickly and effectively. In the fourth session, VTA representative and arbitrator Djamel El Akra shared insights on best practices for managing cross-border disputes involving shareholders and directors, highlighting the importance of understanding legal frameworks and strategic planning.



The summit provided valuable insights into legal governance and corporate crime prevention, with notable contributions from VTA's arbitrators. This event reaffirms VTA's commitment to enhancing dispute resolution capacity and supporting businesses in navigating complex legal challenges.



LEGALPLUS
Event Management & Consultants

Vietnam: International Arbitration & Corporate Crime Summit 2024
October 30, 2024 - 9:00 am - 5:30 pm
New World Saigon Hotel

11

VTA's International Arbitrators Engage with Law Students at UEH



On 31 October 2024, Vice President Dang Dieu Phuong and VTA's international arbitrators participated in a seminar at the Faculty of Law, University of Economics Ho Chi Minh City (UEH), as part of the program "Reaching New Heights". The event aimed to provide law students with insights into commercial arbitration.

Arbitrator Tuan Pham discussed domestic arbitration, while arbitrator Djamel El Akra covered international standards. The discussion, led by arbitrators Tuan, Djamel, Roger Ni, and Vice President Phuong, highlighted the advantages of arbitration proceedings and the skills essential for lawyers.

The seminar encouraged students to be confident and innovative, creating opportunities to connect with industry experts and explore career paths in arbitration. This initiative underscores VTA's commitment to nurturing future legal professionals and fostering an understanding of commercial arbitration among the next generation of lawyers.



UEH UNIVERSITY

"Reaching New Heights"
31 October 2024
the Faculty of Law, University of Economics Ho Chi Minh City (UEH)

12

Strengthening Cooperation Opportunities with SHIAC

On 25 November 2024, VTA's delegation led by Vice President Dang Dieu Phuong, along with Mr. Tian Jian, Director of Cooperation Development (in charge of Greater China), and Mr. Roger Ni, Arbitrator, visited the Shanghai International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission (SHIAC). This visit followed a meeting in June between VTA President Pham Xuan Sang and SHIAC representatives. During the meeting, VTA and SHIAC explored potential opportunities for cooperation and expressed a strong commitment to further information and delegation exchanges.

VTA also shared its insights on Vietnam's commercial landscape, emphasizing its unique strengths and advantages compared to other arbitration centers in the region. This visit marks a significant step in VTA's efforts to build international partnerships and enhance its role within the global arbitration community, paving the way for further collaborative initiatives and shared development.



SHIAC

7-8F, Jingling Mansion, 28 Jinling Road(W),
Shanghai 200021, P.R.China
www.shiac.org



Highlights

In conversation with Mr Pham Xuan Sang, the President of Vietnam Traders Arbitration Centre (VTA)

Mr Pham Xuan Sang

Q: Could you share Vietnam's achievements after nearly 40 years of Doi Moi (Renovation), and the role of the private sector in Vietnam's development?

A: Well, after 40 years of Doi Moi —also known as "Renovation"—Vietnam has truly transformed itself. Doi Moi was a series of transformative economic and political reforms launched in 1986, aimed at transitioning from a centralized, state-controlled model to a socialist-oriented market economy. These reforms opened up the country to market mechanisms, encouraged private enterprise, and deepened Vietnam's integration into the global economy.

For perspective, GDP has risen from approximately $26.3 billion in the early days of Doi Moi to $430 billion by 2023, with GDP per capita reaching around $4,300. And you know, the private sector's been at the heart of this change. As of 2024, there are over 930,000 businesses operating across the country—that's more than 10 times the number back in 2004, when we had only about 92,000. The private sector now accounts for more than 40% of our GDP, employs 85% of the workforce, and contributes over 30% of total social investment. The government has supported this transformation by enacting legal reforms, simplifying procedures, and fostering a more transparent and fair business environment. Clearly, the private sector is driving innovation, boosting productivity, and creating jobs.

Q: How has commercial arbitration developed in Vietnam, especially after the implementation of the Law on Commercial Arbitration?

A: Arbitration in Vietnam actually goes way back, starting in the 1960s along with the economic contract regime. Back then, state-run arbitration not only resolved disputes but also managed economic contracts. But from 1994, as we entered the Doi Moi era and opened up internationally, arbitration was redefined as a professional-social organization solely focused on dispute resolution—it no longer had any state management role.

The Ordinance on Commercial Arbitration in 2003 and the Law on Commercial Arbitration in 2010 were major milestones. These laws made arbitration a more attractive option for traders, enterprises, especially foreign investors. Joining the New York Convention in 1995 was a game-changer—it meant that arbitral awards made in Vietnam would be recognized internationally, which boosted trust and assurance for foreign investors.

13

VTA President's Dialogue with the Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution (AIADR)

On 1 December 2024, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Mr. Pham Xuan Sang, President of VTA, engaged in an in-depth dialogue with AIADR.

The discussion focused on the development of commercial arbitration in Vietnam as the country's economy continues its transformation nearly 40 years after Đổi Mới. The interview, led by Mr. Sagar Kulkarni, Chairman of ESC, AIADR, was featured in AIADR's publication, "ADR Centurion".

During the exchange, the VTA President shared VTA's strategic directions for enhancing the position of Vietnam's commercial arbitration on the international stage. He also reiterated VTA's commitment to advancing Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) methods.

This event marks a significant milestone in positioning VTA as a trusted partner within the Asian arbitration community.

ASIAN INSTITUTE OF ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION
Delivering Excellence in ADR

14

Strategic Partnership with the Institutional Innovation Bureau of the Kunming Pilot Free Trade Zone

On 9 December 2024, VTA signed a Strategic Cooperation Agreement with the Institutional Innovation Bureau of the Kunming Pilot Free Trade Zone in Yunnan Province, China.

The agreement aims to promote commercial dispute resolution between Vietnam and Yunnan, laying the groundwork for sustainable cooperation between the two regions. This event is part of the activities implementing the Vietnam–China Joint Statement issued during Chinese Premier Li Qiang's visit to Vietnam in October 2024.





The agreement emphasizes strengthening experience exchange, providing facility support, training arbitrators, and developing cross-border commercial arbitration mechanisms. This strategic step allows VTA to expand its capacity and reinforce its position in the international arbitration landscape.

15

Welcoming Law Students from Southwest University of Political Science and Law, China



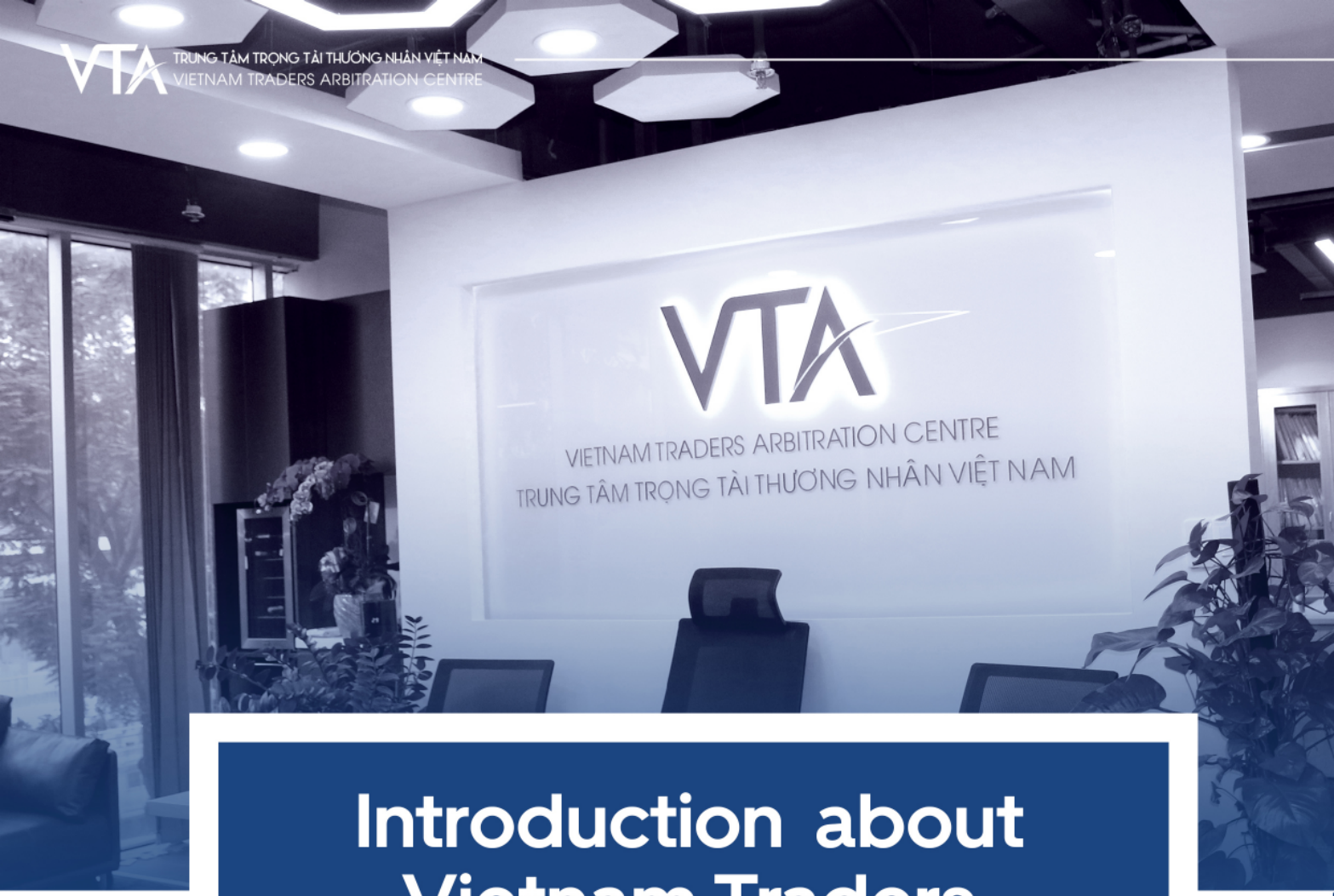
On 20 December 2024, VTA had the honor of welcoming a delegation of law students from the Southwest University of Political Science and Law (SWUPL), China. Representing VTA were Ms. Dang Dieu Phuong, Vice President, and Mr. Tian Jian (田吉安), Director of Cooperation Development (in charge of Greater China).

The visit provided an opportunity for the students to gain insights into Vietnam's commercial arbitration landscape and the operations of VTA. The delegation engaged in discussions with VTA's representatives, focusing on practical arbitration procedures, case management, and cross-border dispute resolution.

The exchange reflects VTA's commitment to fostering international legal education and strengthening connections between future legal professionals in Vietnam and China.

西南政法大学
Southwest University of Political Science & Law

No. 301, Baosheng Ave, Yubei District,
Chongqing Municipality, People's Republic of China
www.swupl.edu.cn



Introduction about Vietnam Traders Arbitration Centre (VTA)

The Vietnam Traders Arbitration Centre (VTA) is dedicated to administering and coordinating business dispute resolution in accordance with the Vietnam Law on Commercial Arbitration and Vietnam's commitments under the 1958 New York Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards.

VTA was officially established under License No. 20/BTP/GP issued by the Ministry of Justice on June 11, 2018. Its inception was driven by the Vietnamese business community's expectations for a professional institution to address disputes arising from production, business operations, corporate governance, management, and commercial activities. VTA is committed to its development through a deep understanding of culture, the business environment, and the application of the highest standards in international dispute resolution.

Our Philosophy

Vision

To become the leading trusted arbitration institution for resolving business disputes.

Mission

VTA provides a reputable and effective mechanism for resolving commercial disputes, founded on respect, adherence to the highest legal standards, and a commitment to the business community and society.

Core Values

"**RAPID**" is created by a combination of 05 elements: **Respect – Alternative – Prestige – Intelligence – Dedication**. VTA pursues the "**RAPID**" value in all activities, especially arbitration proceedings so that based on the trust of entrepreneur community and society, VTA shall reach its vision and mission in the near future.

Model Arbitration Clause

To proactively and efficiently address potential disputes in the future, VTA recommends including the following arbitration clause in contracts:

English version:

"Any dispute arising out of or in relation with this contract shall be resolved by arbitration at the Vietnam Traders Arbitration Centre (VTA) in accordance with its Rules of Arbitration".

Vietnamese version:

"Mọi tranh chấp phát sinh từ hoặc liên quan đến hợp đồng này sẽ được giải quyết bằng trọng tài tại Trung tâm Trọng tài Thương nhân Việt Nam (VTA) theo Quy tắc tố tụng trọng tài của Trung tâm này".

VTA was established in response to the expectations of the Vietnamese business community for a dispute resolution mechanism that comprehends the cultural and business environments of each nation, while adhering to international dispute resolution standards.



VIETNAM TRADERS ARBITRATION CENTRE

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