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Factors Affecting Vietnam's International Economic Integration

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Abstract

International integration enables countries to cooperate, utilizing shared resources for mutual benefit, and promoting global prosperity. There are three levels of integration: global, regional, and bilateral. Economic integration involves joining organizations, signing trade agreements, and facilitating cross-border flows of goods and capital, enhancing market access and productivity. Technology, trade liberalization, and financial openness are major drivers, with AI as a future growth catalyst. Vietnam's integration has bolstered its economy, increasing GDP and export capacity. However, challenges like competitive pressures, dependency on foreign resources, and regional disparities exist. To navigate these, Vietnam needs policies that balance growth, reduce dependency, and preserve cultural identity, ensuring inclusive and sustainable development.

Keywords: International Integration, Economic Growth, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), Vietnam's Global Position

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Introduction

International integration is a form of cooperation between countries, allowing all to benefit from shared resources based on common interests, objectives, values, resources, and capabilities. This approach aims to make the world a better place and provide benefits to all participating nations. Countries that engage in international integration contribute to the prosperity and development of the world while also benefiting their own nations. To participate in international organizations or institutions, these countries must adhere to rules and regulations similar to those of other nations.

There are three main levels of integration: global, regional, and bilateral. International economic integration is the process by which countries open up and connect their economies to the global economy through trade, investment, and economic cooperation. This process includes joining international economic organizations, signing free trade agreements (FTAs), and promoting the flow of goods, services, capital, and labor across borders. Economic integration enables countries to access larger international markets, allowing them to expand their production and consumption capacities. By doing so, countries can achieve economies of scale, which reduces production costs and improves efficiency. Additionally, integration facilitates the flow of goods, services, and capital, making it easier for countries to specialize in industries where they hold a comparative advantage. This specialization contributes to higher productivity and economic growth, as resources are allocated more effectively. Countries can also exchange knowledge, technology, and best practices through cooperation, gradually modernizing their production processes and business methods. Ultimately, this enhances overall economic efficiency and deepens trade relationships between nations, promoting a more interconnected and prosperous global economy. International integration creates a more competitive business environment, compelling countries and companies to innovate and improve. By exposing domestic firms to global competition, integration encourages the adoption of advanced scientific and technological achievements, which are crucial for maintaining a competitive edge. This competitive pressure drives firms to enhance their product and service quality, adopt new technologies, and optimize management practices. Moreover, integration fosters economic restructuring, as industries adjust to focus on the most competitive sectors. This process not only strengthens the resilience of the economy but also promotes continuous innovation and improvement. As firms adapt to the global

market's standards, they become better equipped to compete with international counterparts, contributing to a more dynamic and robust economy.

Vietnam has seen significant economic growth in recent decades, much of which is attributed to its increasing integration into the global economy. Analyzing the factors influencing this integration can shed light on how Vietnam can sustain and enhance its economic growth. For Vietnam to maximize the benefits of global economic integration, understanding influential factors can guide the development of effective policies that promote sustainable trade, foreign direct investment, and international partnerships.

Literature Review

In general, factors influencing the integration process are often classified into broad groups: economic, political, technological, and social factors. These factors affect both the trend and pace of integration (Mussa, 2000; Naz and Ahmad, 2018).

Technological factors include advances in information technology, communications, and transportation, significantly reducing the costs of information transfer and goods transportation—an essential condition for fostering integration (Bauernfeind, 2006; Garrett, 2000; Mussa, 2000). Notably, artificial intelligence (AI) development is expected to be the key driver of future economic growth, as demonstrated by the correlation between AI patents and economic growth (Gonzales, 2023). Generally, new technologies provide a competitive advantage for businesses participating in global value chains; technological advantages allow businesses to penetrate deeply into these chains, accelerating overall economic integration.

The literature also highlights economic and political factors such as trade liberalization and financial liberalization through policy removal (Bauernfeind, 2006; Garrett, 2000; Mussa, 2000). Studies indicate that liberalization, enhanced economic openness, and regional trade agreements significantly and sustainably impact FDI attraction, economic growth rates, and both intra- and extra-regional trade volumes (Bekaert et al., 2005; Frankel and Romer, 1999; Nguyen, 2019; Nguyen and Nguyen, 2023; Wacziarg and Welch, 2008). Financial liberalization facilitates smooth capital flows, allowing countries to access foreign capital easily, diversify investments, and mitigate risks through increased foreign capital inflows (Kose et al., 2009; Quinn and Toyoda, 2008). However, caution is needed in financial liberalization; without strong institutional

frameworks, continuous capital inflows and outflows could shorten economic cycles, triggering frequent booms and busts, thereby destabilizing the economy (Stiglitz, 2000).

Lastly, social factors include individual and societal demands for goods, as well as the skills or educational levels of human resources, particularly in developing economies (Bryant and Javalgi, 2014). Human resource development is the foundation for innovation, technological improvement, and competitive advantage formation, and thus it also serves as a catalyst for economic integration (Lucas, 1998; Romer, 1990). Studies show that the correlation between FDI and economic growth is only observed in countries with certain levels of human resource development (Borensztein et al., 1998). In other words, FDI only stimulates economic growth if the country's labor force can absorb advanced technology. Human resource quality is the most accurate indicator of this capacity (Coe and Helpman, 1995). Research also highlights the connection between educational attainment or investment in education and the effectiveness of the integration process (Hanushek and Woessmann, 2008; Krueger and Lindahl, 2001). This connection is evident in Asian economies that successfully transitioned from low- to high-income, such as South Korea, Taiwan, and Singapore (Kim and Lau, 1994), or inversely, in Sub-Saharan African countries, where low education levels hindered effective participation in international markets (Schultz, 1999).

Advances in computer science now allow researchers to quantify the specific importance of each factor for the integration process. For example, Akbari et al. (2020) used random forest regression (RFR) algorithms to conclude that international trade and population control capabilities are among the most critical factors enabling some emerging economies to reach integration levels comparable to developed countries. In contrast, slow financial development and high investment risk were leading reasons preventing other emerging economies from achieving high integration levels.

The substantial changes in the global economic integration landscape require each country's policymakers to reassess the factors influencing their integration process, identifying particularly impactful factors given the current economic situation. For Vietnam, especially since the COVID-19 pandemic, there is a need for comprehensive studies on factors specifically influencing economic integration under the new economic conditions and analyses of the impacts of these factors.

Assessing the Impact of Integration on Vietnam's economic

1. Impact of Integration on Economic Growth

International economic integration has contributed to strengthening national synergy, absorbing the essence of human civilization, improving people's living standards, reinforcing the confidence of all social classes, and conveying a message of friendliness from the Vietnamese people to the international community. This effort supports the development and renewal of the country, contributes to safeguarding independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, and elevates Vietnam's position on the international stage.

International economic integration has significantly impacted growth, fostering socio-economic development, enhancing production capacity, and expanding markets in specific sectors such as industry, commerce, and services. It promotes the restructuring of the economy, particularly in shifting the production structure in a positive direction, aligning with the goal of modern-oriented industrialization, focusing more on high-value, technologically advanced, and high-value-added manufactured goods.

In recent years, Vietnam's international economic integration has achieved specific successes, contributing to the country's socio-economic development. Economic reforms since 1986, combined with favorable global trends, have quickly helped Vietnam transition from one of the poorest countries in the world to a lower-middle-income country. Per capita GDP has increased sixfold in less than 40 years, from below USD 600 per person in 1986 to nearly USD 3,700 (PPP 2015). The poverty rate (based on the USD 3.65/day standard, PPP 2017) decreased from over 14% in 2010 to 4.2% in 2020.

During the 2018-2023 period, Vietnam's economy experienced various fluctuations and challenges but still achieved encouraging results:

- In 2018-2019: Vietnam's economy maintained a high growth rate, with GDP growth of 7.1% and 7.0%, respectively. The industrial, service, and agricultural sectors all developed strongly.

- In 2020: The COVID-19 pandemic severely impacted the global economy, and Vietnam was no exception. GDP growth only reached 2.91%, the lowest in many years, due to social distancing measures and supply chain disruptions.

- In 2021-2022: The economy began to recover with a growth rate of 2.58%, thanks to effective disease control measures and government support. In 2022, GDP growth reached 8.02%, the highest in this period, driven by a strong recovery in the industrial and service sectors, along with increased exports.

- In 2023: Economic growth is estimated at 5.05%, with contributions from agriculture, forestry, and fisheries (up 3.83%), industry and construction (up 3.74%), and services (up 6.82%).

Economic growth is expected to reach 5.5% in 2024, up from 5% in 2023, thanks to increasing global demand and renewed domestic consumer confidence. Real GDP growth is projected to recover over the next three years, returning to pre-pandemic averages by 2026.

Overall, despite facing numerous challenges, Vietnam's economy has maintained stability and shows positive signs of recovery. Economic integration has also created favorable conditions for Vietnam to attract a significant amount of foreign direct investment (FDI). This influx has facilitated technology transfer, generated jobs, and improved labor productivity. Since the Foreign Investment Law came into effect in 1988, FDI in Vietnam has increased in terms of projects, registered capital, and the number of countries and territories involved. The implementation of international economic integration commitments, particularly WTO accession commitments, has helped refine and make Vietnam’s legal system more transparent, enhancing the country's attractiveness to foreign investors.

From 1995 to 2022, Vietnam attracted 39,313 projects with a total registered capital of USD 541,149.4 million and actualized capital of USD 269,227.4 million (accounting for 49.75% of total registered capital). The period from 2001 to 2010 marked an FDI boom in Vietnam, with total registered capital exceeding USD 168.6 billion and implemented capital above USD 58.4 billion. This period also saw a shift of FDI into capital-intensive, high-tech industries, reflecting increasing investor confidence in Vietnam’s foreign investment policies and the country’s consistent policies toward open economic development. The number of projects and implemented capital showed an upward trend during this period, rising from 415 projects with an implemented capital of USD 7,925.2 million in 1995 to 2,169 projects with an implemented capital of USD 22,396 million in 2022. FDI into

Vietnam accounts for 22.87% of total social investment capital, contributes 18.16% to GDP, and represents 54.82% of the country's goods export turnover.

The FDI sector has developed significantly, becoming one of the most dynamic areas of the economy. FDI has made a substantial contribution to increasing Vietnam's production and export capacity. Currently, the FDI sector accounts for about 25% of the total social investment capital and over 70% of the country's total export turnover. The FDI sector has also contributed to budget revenue growth, created jobs for the population, and stabilized the social situation. In 2023, as of the end of the year, total registered FDI capital reached nearly USD 36.6 billion, up 32.1% from 2022, while implemented capital reached approximately USD 23.18 billion, a 3.5% increase.

In recent years, FDI projects have become one of the key channels for technology transfer, helping elevate our economy's technological level. The technology spillover effect of the FDI sector is evident through production linkages between FDI enterprises and domestic firms, providing domestic businesses with opportunities to access technology transfer activities.

FDI is also crucial and has become a "bright spot" in the Vietnamese economy. It has contributed to promoting economic structural transformation. Currently, FDI generates over 50% of industrial production value, contributing to the establishment of several key industries such as telecommunications, oil and gas, electronics, and information technology. This serves as an essential foundation for long-term growth as well as for accelerating the process of industrialization and modernization of the country.

Globalization and international economic integration have also promoted the liberalization of financial and international investment activities, such as relaxing credit controls, liberalizing interest rates, allowing free participation in banking and financial services worldwide, and liberalizing the movement of international capital flows.…

2. The impact of integration on trade

The two waves of international integration marked a turning point, highlighting Vietnam's proactive and positive engagement in global trade. The implementation of international commitments, such as reducing tariffs, improving the customs management system to meet international standards, and lowering trade barriers, has positively impacted imports and exports.

Economic integration in the trade sector has contributed significantly to economic growth and brought about essential changes to domestic production. It has fostered economic restructuring, oriented towards industrialization and modernization, increased export and import turnover, and expanded export and import markets for various goods. Consequently, the scale of merchandise trade increased by 53.67 times from 1995 to 2022, rising from USD 13,604.3 million in 1995 to USD 730,206.1 million in 2022, with an average annual growth rate of 16.61%.



Figure 1: Vietnam's import and export turnover in the period 1995-2022

Source: GSO, 2022

In 2021, Vietnam's exports reached USD 336.8426 million, an increase of 18.94% compared to 2020. In 2022, Vietnam's total export value reached USD 371.85 billion, a 10.6% increase compared to the same period in 2021. As a result, Vietnam's export turnover ranked second among the ASEAN-6 countries. Compared with some ASEAN countries in 2019, Vietnam's import turnover reached USD 220 billion, higher than Thailand (USD 215 billion) but lower than Malaysia (USD 263 billion) and Singapore (USD 320 billion).

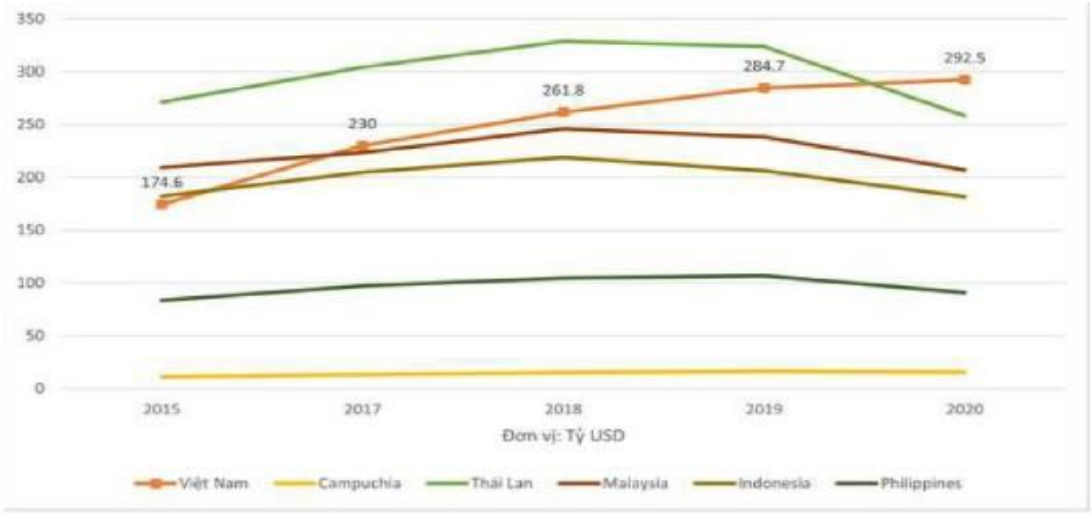


Figure 2: Vietnam's import and export turnover compared to some ASEAN countries in 2021

Source: GSO, 2022

In terms of goods exports alone, Vietnam's export turnover is ranked 2nd in ASEAN-6, above Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Indonesia and the Philippines in 2022. Along with that, Vietnam's export turnover (371.5 billion USD) is higher than Thailand (287.07 billion USD) and the Philippines (78.84 billion USD) combined.

The process of actively and proactively participating in international economic integration in recent times has helped Vietnam expand its export market based on its competitive advantages: abundant resources, abundant and cheap labor resources, and political and socio-economic stability... Thanks to that, export activities have continuously grown in both scale and speed, as well as key export products, and have become the main and important driving force for the development of the national economy.

Along with the rapid increase in export turnover, import turnover has also increased steadily over the years (except for 2009), from 5,448.90 million USD in 1995 to 360.65 billion USD in 2022. The rapid increase in the scale of imported goods shows that the openness of the economy, as well as the level of socio-economic development of Vietnam, is increasingly high. This contributes significantly to the country's industrialization and modernization process through the import of modern machinery, equipment, and spare parts to serve production.... The improved trade balance, along with a number of other factors, has contributed to improving the balance of payments,

increasing foreign exchange reserves, and increasing the country's financial security and liquidity.

Vietnamese goods have continued to exploit traditional markets and expand their search and development to many new markets. By signing and implementing 15 FTAs, import and export goods enjoy incentives from 60 countries (including most of Vietnam's major trading partners). Vietnamese enterprises and export goods are gradually increasing the level of taking advantage of tariff incentives in FTA markets. The turnover of preferential C/O increased from 2,269.8 million USD (accounting for 8.31% of the total export turnover of goods to FTA markets) in 2008 to 16,640.04 million USD (32.34%) in 2012, to 46,115.7 million USD (40.82%) in 2018 and up to 78,276.9 million USD (33.61%) in 2022.



Figure 3: Vietnam's export turnover of goods taking advantage of incentives from FTAs in the period 2008 – 2022

Source: General Department of Customs and Ministry of Industry and Trade, 2023

FTAs with high preferential utilization rates in 2022 include AIFTA (66.85%), VCFTA (64.57%), VN-EAEU FTA (54.44%), AFTA (39.21%), ACFTA (29.34%), AJCEP (26.93%)... Goods with high preferential utilization rates include footwear, plastics and plastic products, textiles, seafood, rubber and rubber products, pepper, and coffee.

3. The impact of integration on international relations

International economic integration is not simply about opening up the economy but also an important tool for Vietnam to strengthen and expand diplomatic relations. This process has had profound impacts on Vietnam's international relations. Participation in international organizations: Vietnam has become a member of many major international economic organizations such as WTO, APEC, ASEAN, FTA, etc., thereby enhancing its position and influence in the international arena. Vietnam proactively negotiates, signs and implements FTAs, especially new-generation FTAs and assumes the role of APEC Chair (2006 and 2017), ASEAN Chair (2010 and 2020) ... helping Vietnam promote its voice in multilateral frameworks, participating with partners in the process of shaping structures and building economic and trade laws in line with common interests. The 2018 WEF ASEAN in Vietnam is considered the most successful regional conference in the 27-year history of the World Economic Forum; The 2nd US-North Korea Summit and many specific cooperation initiatives at multilateral forums clearly demonstrate Vietnam's increasing role and position in the region and the world

Expanding partnerships: Economic integration has created conditions for Vietnam to establish and strengthen partnerships with many countries in the world, especially major trade partners. To date, Vietnam has established strategic partnerships with 18 countries, of which 7 are comprehensive strategic partners. Strategic partnerships and comprehensive partnerships continue to be promoted and developed, bringing into play positive aspects. Vietnam has promoted and deepened relations with partners, especially partners of strategic importance to the development and security of the country. Concretize and bring the established framework into depth and substance, creating interweaving and connection between the interests of Vietnam and other countries.

Economic integration has an impact on enhancing the position and image of Vietnam in the international arena:

Success in economic integration has helped Vietnam build the image of a dynamic, open and responsible country. In addition, international economic integration has made an important contribution to expanding and deepening our country's relations with partners, creating a situation of intertwined interests, contributing to maintaining a peaceful and stable environment for national development; maintaining independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of the Fatherland, protecting political security and social order and safety; promoting the image of the country and Vietnamese people, enhancing the prestige and position of our country in the international arena.

Vietnam has made many positive contributions to international forums such as the United Nations and APEC. Economic integration has helped Vietnam enhance its position in the international community. Vietnam is now a member of many international organizations, such as ASEAN, WTO, and APEC, thereby increasing its political and economic influence. It can be seen that Vietnam has become one of the leading investment destinations in the region, thanks to its open-door policy and economic reform.

International economic integration has an impact on diversifying Vietnam's foreign relations

Economic integration has enabled Vietnam to strengthen and expand its relationships with both traditional and new partners across the globe. In terms of traditional partnerships, integration has provided opportunities for Vietnam to consolidate its historical ties with countries like Russia, the former Soviet Union, and Eastern European nations. These relationships, built over decades, have been revitalized through economic, political, and cultural exchanges, allowing Vietnam to enhance its influence and cooperation with these longstanding allies.

Alongside this, Vietnam has successfully established and developed partnerships with many new countries, particularly focusing on advanced economies in Europe and the Americas, as well as dynamic, emerging markets in Asia. This expansion into new territories has not only increased Vietnam's economic reach but also allowed for the exchange of ideas, technologies, and innovations that are crucial for sustainable development. By engaging with these developed and emerging nations, Vietnam gains access to new markets, investment flows, and advanced technological resources, which play a vital role in its modernization efforts.

Moreover, the scope of Vietnam's foreign relations has diversified beyond mere economic cooperation, extending into various fields such as culture, education, and science

and technology. Cultural exchanges have enriched Vietnam's society, promoting mutual understanding and fostering a more positive image of the nation worldwide. Educational partnerships have facilitated the exchange of knowledge and expertise, helping Vietnam improve its educational standards and produce a skilled workforce capable of meeting global demands. In the realm of science and technology, collaborations with international partners have enabled Vietnam to stay abreast of the latest advancements, applying innovative solutions to local challenges in fields ranging from agriculture to healthcare. These multifaceted forms of cooperation highlight Vietnam's commitment to building a comprehensive network of international relations that goes beyond trade, aiming for a balanced development that benefits all sectors of society.

International economic integration has an impact on enhancing international cooperation:

Vietnam has been actively involved in international cooperation to address global issues, recognizing that challenges like climate change, terrorism, and epidemics require a collective response. By joining international efforts, Vietnam demonstrates its commitment to finding solutions that not only benefit itself but also contribute to global stability and sustainability. For instance, in the fight against climate change, Vietnam has been working closely with other countries to adopt sustainable practices and reduce carbon emissions, recognizing the shared responsibility in mitigating environmental damage.

In addition to these efforts, economic integration has opened new opportunities for Vietnam in science and technology. Through partnerships with international organizations and countries, Vietnam has gained access to advanced technologies that boost productivity, enhance research capabilities, and improve infrastructure. Collaborations with international experts have allowed Vietnamese scientists and researchers to learn and adopt global best practices, fostering innovation and technological advancement within the country. These scientific exchanges have been beneficial for various sectors, including agriculture, healthcare, and energy, where modern techniques and knowledge have improved outcomes.

Moreover, these partnerships have helped Vietnam keep pace with the rapid technological advancements seen worldwide. By cooperating in areas like artificial intelligence, biotechnology, and renewable energy, Vietnam not only advances its own technological landscape but also strengthens its position as a collaborative and forward-looking nation. This integration into global scientific and technological networks is crucial

for Vietnam's development, positioning the country as a proactive member in addressing both regional and global challenges while improving the quality of life for its people.

Cooperation in human resource training: Vietnam has strengthened cooperation with developed countries to train high-quality human resources. With the expansion of foreign economic relations in the integration process, our country is increasingly active in absorbing science and technology, and management skills, contributing to training a team of managers and business staff. International economic integration creates opportunities for Vietnam to diversify investment partners, especially investors with potential in capital and technology. Previously, investment partners in Vietnam were mainly countries from Asia with little capital and labor-intensive... However, since Vietnam proactively integrated into the economy, Vietnam has attracted more and more partners from European and American countries.…

Challenges for Vietnam in international economic integration

International economic integration brings many development opportunities for Vietnam but poses many challenges. Below are some of the main challenges that we need to pay attention to:

Fierce competition: Vietnamese enterprises face intense competition from foreign companies with greater financial and technological resources. The presence of high-quality products and services from developed countries at competitive prices puts significant pressure on local businesses. This strong competition can lead to challenges for various industries, making it hard for some companies to survive. Many Vietnamese businesses may struggle to keep up as foreign brands enter the market with advanced technology and efficient processes. This competitive environment could lead to difficulties, reduced market share, and, in some cases, even bankruptcy for local enterprises.

The demand for high-quality human resources is rising, pushing Vietnam to enhance training and human resource development to stay competitive globally. Market liberalization adds pressure, as opening the market increases competition, requiring Vietnamese businesses to boost their competitiveness. While foreign investments offer significant benefits, they also bring potential risks, such as transfer pricing and environmental and social impacts. This competitive environment means Vietnam must

carefully manage these challenges to ensure sustainable growth and maintain social stability while advancing economic development and attracting quality investments.

Adapting to international standards poses a significant challenge for Vietnam as it pursues economic integration. Vietnamese products and services must meet increasingly rigorous technical requirements to compete in the global market. This shift calls for substantial improvements to Vietnam's legal framework, aligning it with international commitments and creating a conducive business environment for both local and foreign enterprises. Additionally, there is a risk of economic imbalance stemming from a heavy reliance on foreign markets. When global economic fluctuations occur, this dependence can expose Vietnam to heightened risks, potentially leading to trade deficits without a well-defined export strategy. Such imbalances make the economy more susceptible to regional and global economic crises.

Another major concern is the reliance on foreign capital and technology, which could undermine the country's economic autonomy and its path to sustainable development. Over-dependence on external resources may limit Vietnam's ability to make independent economic decisions and innovate from within. Moreover, global economic and political instabilities, such as international conflicts, financial crises, and health pandemics, present ongoing risks to Vietnam's economic stability. These external factors, often beyond the control of individual nations, can have far-reaching negative impacts on Vietnam, affecting everything from trade and investment flows to overall economic growth. Therefore, while integration into the international economy brings many growth opportunities, Vietnam must carefully navigate these challenges to build a resilient and sustainable economy.

International economic integration brings numerous social challenges, impacting different regions, the environment, state power, and cultural identity. One of the primary issues is regional imbalance; as countries integrate economically, wealth and development tend to be unevenly distributed, widening the gap between richer and poorer regions. This inequality arises because integration does not equally share the benefits and risks among all countries and social groups, creating disparities between nations and social classes. Additionally, environmental pollution becomes a significant concern with increased industrial production. Without stringent regulations, industrial activities may lead to severe environmental degradation. Developing and underdeveloped nations, in particular, risk

becoming dumping grounds for industrial waste from developed countries, which could have long-lasting adverse effects on their ecosystems. Another challenge posed by international economic integration is the pressure it places on state sovereignty. Traditional concepts of state power are often tested, as global agreements and economic dependencies may limit a nation's ability to act independently. Furthermore, cultural identity faces potential threats; as foreign cultures and values enter through integration, there is a risk that national identity and traditional customs could be overshadowed, leading to a loss of cultural heritage. Alongside these concerns, integration may also heighten the risk of international terrorism, smuggling, transnational crime, and epidemics. Open borders and increased mobility can facilitate illegal immigration and make it easier for these threats to cross national boundaries. Therefore, while economic integration brings opportunities for growth and development, it also requires careful management to address these social, environmental, and security challenges.

Conclusion

International economic integration is an inevitable trend in today's globalized world, offering various opportunities but also presenting numerous challenges, especially for developing countries like Vietnam. As Vietnam integrates further into the global economy, it faces challenges such as widening income gaps, intense competition, dependency on and potential dominance by developed nations, rising inequality, and an increase in social issues. These challenges pose significant risks but highlight the importance of understanding and leveraging the benefits of integration. By strategically utilizing the opportunities from international economic integration, Vietnam can foster sustainable development and enhance its standing on the global stage. To navigate this path successfully, Vietnam must clearly define its perspective and establish effective policies promoting proactive integration. In the coming years, as international integration deepens, Vietnam will need to implement policies that balance economic growth with social welfare, mitigate dependency on stronger economies, and protect its cultural identity. This balanced approach will help Vietnam to not only thrive economically but also to safeguard its sovereignty and ensure that all social groups benefit from the integration process. With well-planned and thoughtful integration strategies, Vietnam can enhance its influence in the global arena while fostering an inclusive and resilient economy that benefits all its citizens.

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