

Research Article

The Role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in Ho Chi Minh City in Building and Promoting Socialist Democracy Through Participation in Party and State Building

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Abstract

The article “The Role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in Ho Chi Minh City in Building and Promoting Socialist Democracy through Participation in Party and State Building” takes a systematic approach that integrates theoretical analysis with practical insights. It aims to clarify the Front’s role in advancing socialist democracy through social supervision, criticism, and the promotion of citizens’ participatory rights. Two primary research methods are employed: (1) the analysis and synthesis of theoretical documents, Party resolutions, State policies, and reports from the Front; and (2) field surveys collecting feedback from officials, Party members, and local residents in Ho Chi Minh City. The study finds that the Front has played an active role in commenting on draft laws and Party Congress documents, organizing voter engagement sessions, and facilitating dialogue between the government and the people—thereby enhancing transparency and accountability. Nonetheless, the article highlights certain limitations, including inconsistent capacities for social criticism across Front levels, occasional inefficiencies in consolidating grassroots feedback, and slow response mechanisms from government authorities. To address these issues, the author recommends enhancing the political and civic engagement skills of Front personnel, strengthening coordination with Party and State institutions, and expanding the use of technology in supervision and criticism—thereby contributing to the continued promotion of socialist democracy in Ho Chi Minh City.

Keywords

The Role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front, Ho Chi Minh City, Building and Promoting Democracy and Socialism, Participating in Building the Party and State

1. Ask the Problem

The Vietnam Fatherland Front in Ho Chi Minh City plays a crucial role in building and advancing socialist democracy by actively participating in the development of the Party, the State, and the broader political system. As an umbrella organization representing the people’s will and aspirations, the

Vietnam Fatherland Front serves as a vital link connecting the Party, the State, and the people across all levels of governance. Through this connection, it safeguards citizens’ legitimate rights and interests, while enhancing the functions of social supervision and constructive criticism—two key mechanisms

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for ensuring accountability and transparency in public affairs.

One of the core responsibilities of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in Ho Chi Minh City is contributing to Party and State building. This contribution is realized through the mobilization of the masses in patriotic emulation movements, which not only foster national solidarity but also reinforce public participation in political decision-making processes. Furthermore, the Vietnam Fatherland Front fulfills its oversight role by monitoring policy implementation and offering constructive feedback on proposed laws and regulations. This function directly improves the quality of policy design and supports the realization of democracy at the grassroots level.

Given Ho Chi Minh City's status as a major socio-economic hub, democratic mechanisms-especially grassroots democracy regulations - have been widely applied. In this context, the Vietnam Fatherland Front has assumed a leading role in implementation. It has organized various dialogue forums and public consultations between the government and citizens, helping ensure people's access to information and promoting public input into policymaking. These participatory activities not only enhance the effectiveness of state governance but also reinforce public trust in the political system.

Despite these achievements, the Vietnam Fatherland Front in Ho Chi Minh City continues to face several challenges. Propaganda and public mobilization efforts have yet to reach the depth and breadth required to significantly improve political awareness among the general population, particularly concerning sensitive or complex political issues. Additionally, its supervision and social criticism functions are sometimes delayed or insufficient in addressing urgent or emerging public concerns.

In conclusion, the Vietnam Fatherland Front in Ho Chi Minh City plays an indispensable role in constructing and promoting socialist democracy through its contributions to Party and State building. To fully realize this role, it is essential to further innovate operational methods, enhance the effectiveness of supervision and criticism, and strengthen community-based propaganda and mobilization efforts. These improvements will help deepen democratic practices and ensure that the voice of the people continues to shape the policies that affect their lives.

2. Theoretical Perspective

2.1. Looking Back at Previous Research Works

In the current context, promoting the role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in participating in building the Party and State, promoting people's foreign affairs activities is an important factor in order to consolidate the great unity of the whole nation, strengthen social consensus and contribute to the solid defense of the Fatherland. Do Thi Thuy Trang (2023) in "Promoting the strength of the great unity of the whole people in Quang Ngai province in the current period" [1],

Huynh Dam (2009) with "The Vietnam Fatherland Front contributes to strengthening and promoting the strength of the great unity of the whole nation" [2], and Nguyen Phu Trong (2024) in the work "Raising the banner of the great unity of the whole nation, promoting patriotic traditions, the core political role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front, determined to build our country more and more rich, prosperous, civilized and happy" [3] all emphasized that the Vietnam Fatherland Front is not only a bridge between the people and the Party, The State also plays a key role in mobilizing the strength of the great unity of the whole people to firmly protect the political foundation and strengthen the people's confidence in the political system. At the same time, the research of Nguyen Huu Dung and Le Mau Nhiem (2022) in "Promoting the role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front - For building the great national unity bloc in the new situation" [4] also affirms that through people's foreign affairs activities, the Front contributes to expanding international cooperation, improve Vietnam's position in the international arena, thereby creating a favorable environment for building and defending the Fatherland. In the article "Promoting the strength of the great unity of the whole people in Quang Ngai province in the current period", the author Huynh Dam (2009) has delved into the role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in participating in building the Party and the socialist rule of law State. Through the application of methods of analysis, synthesis and practical evaluation, the study has highlighted the important contributions of the Vietnam Fatherland Front to the process of planning and implementing policies and laws. In particular, the author emphasized: "The Vietnam Fatherland Front strengthens the mobilization of people at all levels to exercise their right to ownership, participate in building the Party, build a clean and strong socialist state under the rule of law, contributing to building a close relationship between the people and the Party and the State. The Fatherland Front at all levels has actively participated in formulating and planning the Party's guidelines and policies, the State's policies and laws, and propagating and mobilizing people from all walks of life to implement them" [2]. This viewpoint emphasizes the important bridging role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in strengthening the close relationship between the people and the Party and the State, thereby contributing to consolidating and promoting the strength of the great unity of the whole nation, and at the same time promoting the building of a strong political system. Efficient operation.

In the process of building the State under the rule of law and promoting democracy, the Vietnam Fatherland Front plays an important role in social supervision and criticism, contributing to consolidating consensus and improving the efficiency of state management. Studies such as "Performing the social critical function of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in Hoa Binh province in the current period" by Nguyen Thi Thanh Hai (2011) [5], "The social critical role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in Nam Dinh province today" by Nguyen Van Nghia (2017) [6], "Performing the social criticism func-

tion of the Vietnam Fatherland Front (Through research in Thanh Tri district, Hanoi city)" by Nguyen Duy Dat (2014) [7], "Improving the quality of social criticism of the current Central Committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front" by Nguyen Phuc Quynh (2014) [8], and "Social criticism in the process of building the Rule of Law State in Vietnam" by Le Thi Thieu Hoa (2021) [9] has clarified this function, and at the same time proposed solutions to improve the quality of social criticism, thereby contributing to improving the state apparatus and strengthening the great national unity. In particular, Nguyen Van Nghia's research has focused on clarifying the social critical role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in Nam Dinh province, emphasizing the task of participating in building the Party and the government, in order to promote the role of the people in contributing to the improvement of the political system. The thesis is carried out on the basis of research methods such as history, logic, analysis, synthesis, statistics, systematic methods, practical summaries, comparisons and expert methods, thereby providing a comprehensive and scientific view of the construction of the Party and the government of the Vietnam Fatherland Front. The author said: "With the responsibility to participate in building the Party and the government, the provincial Vietnam Fatherland Front Committee has organized many conferences, collected opinions from member organizations and people to contribute to the draft political report to be submitted to the Party Congress at all levels. contributed thousands of opinions to the Party organization" [6]. This viewpoint emphasizes the important role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in promoting democracy, creating a channel of connection between the people and the Party, and affirms the great contribution of the Fatherland Front in building lines and policies in line with the reality and aspirations of the people.

Hoang Thi Thu Hoai in the work "Promoting the role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in Nghe An province in building a new countryside" focused on analyzing the role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in Nghe An province in building a new countryside, using the methodology of dialectical materialism combined with surveys, analysis and synthesis of practice. The study emphasizes the important role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in gathering and mobilizing the masses to participate in new rural construction movements, considering this as a key task not only contributing to socio-economic development but also improving the quality of people's life. The author affirmed that "The Fatherland Front and its members need to constantly strive in mobilizing and propagating members to participate in the construction of a new countryside, not only contributing to the construction of a new countryside but also consolidating in terms of organization, innovating methods of operation, activities" [10] (p.76). This viewpoint highlights the role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front not only as a gathering force and promoting the strength of great solidarity but also as a factor in innovating, perfecting the organization and mode of operation to suit practical requirements. meeting the legitimate aspirations and interests of

the people.

The work "Renewing the Party's leadership mode for the Fatherland Front and people's mass organizations in the new period - Synthesis of sociological survey results" by Do Quang Tuan [11], Tu Luong with "The Communist Party of Vietnam leads the Vietnam Fatherland Front to perform the function of social supervision and criticism today" [12] and Le Hoai Trung in the work "The Party's foreign relations in 2022 continue to promote the role of an important pillar of the Vietnam Foreign Front" [13] has emphasized the role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in participating in building the Party and State as well as promoting people's foreign affairs activities. These studies affirm that the Party's foreign affairs continue to be an important pillar in Vietnam's foreign front, contributing to strengthening the country's position, strengthening international relations and protecting national interests in the context of globalization. The study emphasizes the role of the Fatherland Front in participating in the building of the Party, the State and the people's external activities. The "expansion of forms of fundraising, mobilization of union members and members to participate in contributing working days to perform some tasks in the works" [11] (p.65) is considered an important solution to strengthen the resources and operational efficiency of the Front in serving the common interests and sustainable social development.

Thus, it can be seen that, although there have been many studies on the role of the Fatherland Front in building and promoting socialist democracy through participation in the building of the Party and the State, there has not been a single study that fully and comprehensively evaluates from theory to practice. as well as analyzing factors affecting the Front's work. This is an important issue that needs to be continued to be studied in order to improve the efficiency of the Fatherland Front's activities in the new context, contributing to the good implementation of the Party's guidelines on promoting democracy through Party and State building in Ho Chi Minh City.

In terms of approaches, previous works have used many different perspectives to solve research problems, from the science of Party building, the science of state management to the science of sociology. Many studies have used both quantitative and qualitative methods but have not yet delved into the analysis of the operational practices of the Vietnam Fatherland Front at the grassroots. Therefore, this study will approach the problem from the perspective of Party building science, philosophy and social science, and apply practical summarization, quantitative and qualitative analysis methods to provide a more comprehensive and objective picture.

Thus, the overview is not only aimed at detecting research gaps that need to be clarified, but also helping to inherit achievements and lessons from previous works, avoiding repeating the content that has been studied.

2.2. Research Methods

To clarify the research subject, this dissertation employs the

following research methods:

Application of the philosophical methodology of Marxism-Leninism: The primary focus lies in the fundamental principles of dialectical materialism and historical materialism. This method provides a solid theoretical foundation for scientifically analyzing and addressing research problems. It elucidates the laws of movement and development of the research subject within the specific context of Ho Chi Minh City, and applies theoretical insights to practical realities, thereby generating scientifically grounded arguments and conclusions. According to the Philosophical Dictionary edited by M. M. Rosenthal, this methodology emphasizes several core propositions:

First, in terms of ontology, Marxist-Leninist philosophy asserts that the research subject-specifically, the role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in building and promoting socialist democracy-must be studied as it objectively exists in reality, not merely as one wishes it to be. This implies that throughout the processes of investigation, fieldwork, and analysis, researchers must adhere to the principle of objectivity. They should avoid distorting, exaggerating, or denying facts, and instead focus on identifying essential, recurring elements, rather than incidental, temporary, or isolated phenomena.

Second, from the perspective of epistemology, dialectical and historical materialism contend that objective reality not only exists but also develops according to specific laws, making it possible for humans to grasp its essence. The process of cognition involves two fundamental stages: from “vivid sensory experience to abstract thinking,” and then from “abstract thinking back to practice” for validation. This approach allows theories and concepts to be clarified and confirmed in practice. Scientific research, therefore, must go beyond mere description or classification of phenomena to deeply analyze the essence of the subject, uncover underlying laws, and develop new theoretical insights. This process requires placing the research subject within its specific historical context and ensuring it is not detached from the socio-economic conditions that shape its existence.

Third, in the relationship between social being and social consciousness, Marxist-Leninist theory maintains that social being determines social consciousness-not vice versa. Nevertheless, social consciousness, possessing a relative autonomy, can exert reciprocal influence on social being through intermediate factors such as the state, legal systems, and political institutions.

Documentary research method: This method involves analyzing and synthesizing theoretical concepts, methodologies, and content drawn from both domestic and international research, as well as utilizing statistical data from local sources. Specifically, this study draws on the following sources: (1) Books, printed newspapers, academic journals, online news platforms, and research papers presented at national and international academic conferences; (2) Official documents of the Communist Party of Vietnam and the Ho Chi Minh City Party Committee, socio-economic reports, and legal texts

relevant to the research subject; (3) Summary reports of past terms, as well as reports on supervisory and social criticism activities of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Committee of Ho Chi Minh City.

Other methods: In addition to the primary methods of data collection, this research also employs several fundamental scientific methods, including analysis and synthesis, deduction and induction, abstraction and generalization, as well as logical, historical, and comparative approaches.

2.3. Research Questions and Research Hypotheses

2.3.1. Research Questions

How is the role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in Ho Chi Minh City in building and promoting socialist democracy expressed through the current activities of participating in the building of the Party and governments at all levels? What factors are hindering the full and effective implementation of this role in the context of rapid urbanization, far-reaching social transformation and the need for innovation in national leadership and governance? What specific solutions are needed to strengthen the role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in Ho Chi Minh City in participating in building the Party and State, thereby contributing to building a substantive and sustainable socialist democracy?

2.3.2. Research hypothesis

The role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in Ho Chi Minh City in building and promoting socialist democracy through participation in Party and State building is currently taking place at a relatively good level. However, there are limitations such as the aspirations of the people have not been implemented synchronously and effectively, due to the limitations of the capacity of the Front's cadres, the lack of a mechanism for close coordination with the political system, and the lack of support institutions suitable to the context of urbanization. strong social transformation. The consolidation of political and professional capacity for the Front's cadres, the completion of the interdisciplinary coordination mechanism, along with the establishment of a transparent and effective supervision and criticism system, with specific evaluation of effectiveness, will be an important premise to promote the role of the Front in the Party building. The State and practicing socialist democracy in a substantive way.

2.4. Manipulation

According to the article “The role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in Ho Chi Minh City in building and promoting socialist democracy through participation in Party and State building”, the author concretizes the concepts as follows: 1) Vietnam Fatherland Front; 2) Building and promoting democracy; 3) Socialism; 4) Participating in the building of the Party and the State and (5) The role of the Vietnam Fatherland

Front in Ho Chi Minh City in building and promoting socialist democracy through participating in the building of the Party and the State.

Vietnam Fatherland Front: The Vietnam Fatherland Front is identified as the political foundation of the people's government. It represents and protects the lawful and legitimate rights and interests of the people; gathers and promotes the strength of great national unity; implements democracy and fosters social consensus. In addition, it performs functions of social supervision and criticism, participates in Party and State building, engages in people's external relations, and contributes to national construction and defense [14].

Building and Promoting Democracy: This refers to the process of institutionalizing the people's rights through the formulation of concrete mechanisms, policies, and institutions that ensure public ownership across all areas of social life. Democracy building does not end with the issuance of legal documents—it also entails creating substantive conditions for people to participate in state management, policy critique, power supervision, and self-organization of community activities. This inclusive participation enhances public trust in political institutions and improves the quality of social governance.

Socialism: Socialism is defined as a socio-political system in which the people hold ownership and sovereignty. It is based on progressive and equitable production relations and is

oriented toward the comprehensive development of human beings. Under the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam, the socialist orientation aims to build a rich, strong, democratic, equitable, and civilized society. Notably, socialist democracy serves as both the fundamental goal and the driving force for the development of a socialist rule-of-law state.

Participation in Building the Party and the State: This is considered a vital political task of the Vietnam Fatherland Front. It contributes to enhancing the purity and operational effectiveness of the political system. This participation includes: Making recommendations on policy formulation and guideline development; Identifying and reporting institutional shortcomings and violations; Supervising the conduct of cadres and Party members; Introducing qualified candidates to participate in the government apparatus at various levels; and Mobilizing the people's involvement in building a clean, strong, effective, and efficient Party organization and State apparatus.

Synthesizing the above components, the author formulates the central concept of the article: "The role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in Ho Chi Minh City in building and promoting socialist democracy through participation in building the Party and the State." This central concept is further concretized in Figure 1 of the article, which illustrates the logical and functional relationship among the five outlined elements:

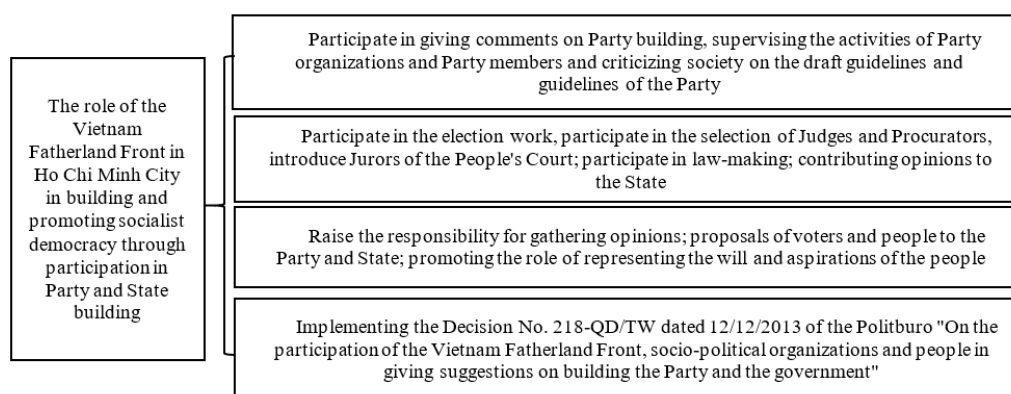


Figure 1. The role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in Ho Chi Minh City in building and promoting socialist democracy through participation in Party and State building.

3. Results of Research and Discussion

3.1. Research Results

Participating in Party building, State building, this is an activity that contributes to the protection of the superstructure, activities carried out by the Vietnam Fatherland Front in Ho Chi Minh City and its members in order to promote socialist democracy, exercise the rights and responsibilities of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in Ho Chi Minh City, contributing to making the Party and

State clean and strong, improving the Party's leadership and ruling capacity, improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the State's operations, strengthening the close relationship between the Party, the State and the People. Through creative and flexible ways, the Vietnam Fatherland Front in Ho Chi Minh City contributes many opinions on regulations to help Party committees and authorities at all levels develop and complete draft documents on guidelines, policies and laws, contributing to creating consensus in society. building a socialist State ruled by the People, by the People, for the People. All these activities are implemented in the spirit of Decision No. 218-QD/TW dated

12/12/2013 of the Politburo on the participation of the Vietnam Fatherland Front, socio-political organizations and people in giving suggestions on building the Party and the government.

For suggestions on Party building, the Vietnam Fatherland Front Committee of Ho Chi Minh City and socio-political organizations at all levels in the city have promoted their active role in giving suggestions on Party building. The focus is to comment on the draft documents of the City Party Committee, give suggestions to the party organization in the performance of functions, tasks and powers, on building the organizational apparatus of cadres, the implementation of local decisions in the city that are directly related to legitimate rights and interests, the People's legitimacy, giving suggestions to cadres and Party members on promoting their exemplary pioneering role in the implementation of the Party's regulations and the State's legal policies; in terms of political qualities, ethics, lifestyle, especially the head of the Party committee and organization, the relationship between Party members and the People... help the Party committee level to constantly improve the quality of leadership, direction, and strengthen the people's confidence in the leadership of the Party. Specifically, every year, the City Vietnam Fatherland Front Committee has participated in commenting on more than 400 draft legal documents of the City People's Council and the City People's Committee drafted by the City Departments, and the proposals and recommendations of the City Vietnam Fatherland Front have been seriously absorbed by the drafting agencies to supplementing and adjusting the draft document [15].

For suggestions on building the government, the Vietnam Fatherland Front of Ho Chi Minh City and socio-political

organizations have closely followed the directing and guiding documents of the central and local governments, well performed the task of giving suggestions on building the city government by organizing extraordinary comments on draft documents when the government and proposed branches; proactively capture and synthesize the opinions and proposals of union members, members, the People and the situation of the people's thoughts and aspirations to reflect through notices of participation in government building at meetings of the People's Councils at all levels. In the past period, the Vietnam Fatherland Front Committee of Ho Chi Minh City and socio-political organizations have actively participated in building the government through comments with 07 contents (including: the draft Resolution stipulating the level of support for the cost of renting temporary housing for households and individuals while waiting for the arrangement of houses and residential land for resettlement in the city; the draft scheme on temporary use of roads and pavements in Ho Chi Minh City; the draft planning on outdoor advertising in the city street to 2030; draft Law on Social Insurance (amended); the draft Decision of the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City promulgating regulations on conditions for separation of land plots, conditions for consolidation of land plots and the minimum area to be separated from land plots in Ho Chi Minh City; the draft Master Plan for the arrangement of district-level and commune-level administrative units for the period of 2023 - 2030 of Ho Chi Minh City; draft Decision on adjustment of Decision No. 02/2020/QĐ-UBND dated 16/01/2020 of the City People's Committee regulating the Land Price List in the City) [15].

Table 1. Building and promoting socialist democracy through participation in Party building and State building according to cadres, civil servants, public employees and people.

Building and promoting socialist democracy through participation in Party building and State building	Cadres, civil servants, public employees and people					
	Cadres, civil servants and public employees		People		Sum	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Participate in giving suggestions on Party building, supervising the activities of Party organizations and Party members and making social criticism of draft guidelines and guidelines of the Party	479	84,9	542	83,8	1021	84,3
To participate in the election work, to participate in the selection of judges and procurators, to recommend jurors of the People's Courts; participate in law-making; contributing opinions to the State	368	65,2	438	67,7	806	66,6
To raise the responsibility for gathering opinions; proposals of voters and people to the Party and State; promoting the role of representing the will and aspirations of the people	401	71,1	459	70,9	860	71,0
Implementing the Decision No. 218-QĐ/TW dated 12/12/2013 of the Politburo "On the participation of the Vietnam Fatherland Front, so-	375	66,5	470	72,6	845	69,8

Building and promoting socialist democracy through participation in Party building and State building	Cadres, civil servants, public employees and people					
	Cadres, civil servants and public employees		People		Sum	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
cio-political organizations and the people in giving suggestions on building the Party and the government”						
Sum	564	100,0	647	100,0	1211	100,0

(Source: Survey of the thesis)

Currently, the issue of “Participating in giving suggestions on Party building, supervising the activities of Party organizations, Party members, and social criticism of the draft guidelines and guidelines of the Party” is highly appreciated, with a response rate of 84.3%. Among these, cadres, civil servants, and public employees have a participation rate of 84.9%, while the general public stands at 83.8%. These figures not only represent practical needs and expectations but also reflect the growing level of social trust in the Vietnam Fatherland Front’s ability to represent and connect with both the Party organizations and the State apparatus.

In practice, the Vietnam Fatherland Front in Ho Chi Minh City has been consolidating its role as a key intermediary between the Party and the people. This role is evident not only in its capacity to receive and synthesize voters’ opinions but also in actively gathering and systematically reflecting the thoughts, aspirations, and recommendations from people of various social strata. These opinions are particularly centered on issues related to the organizational apparatus, the capacity of cadres, and the development policies and management practices of the political system. By implementing forms of representative and direct democracy—such as organizing social criticism conferences, collecting public opinions, and overseeing the work of cadres and candidates—the Front has solidified its role as a voice for the people. In addition, it has actively contributed to mechanisms that control power within the political system, thus strengthening the principle of “State of the people, by the people, for the people” on the foundation of socialist democracy.

However, despite these positive outcomes, the activities of the Front still face a number of challenges and limitations that need to be addressed. In some areas, the implementation of social criticism and supervisory activities remains somewhat formal, with no significant impact on Party building, administrative reform, or the prevention and control of corruption. Additionally, the capacity of the Front’s cadres—especially at the grassroots level—remains insufficient in terms of political theory, supervision, and criticism skills. This gap in competency leads to an operational efficiency that does not meet expectations. Furthermore, the coordination mechanisms

between the Front, Party agencies, local authorities, and socio-political organizations are not fully synchronized. The lack of binding regulations and clear criteria for evaluating results sometimes means that the Front’s role in providing recommendations and criticisms is not always given the consideration it deserves.

Moreover, in the context of rapid urbanization and an increasingly complex and stratified social structure, understanding the diverse thoughts and aspirations of the people has become more challenging. This necessitates that the Front innovate its operational methods, enhance the professionalism of its organization, and improve the effectiveness of its activities.

Therefore, it can be affirmed that the Vietnam Fatherland Front in Ho Chi Minh City serves as a specific intermediary institution, contributing to the realization of socialist democracy through its role in Party and State building and promoting the people’s right to ownership. However, in order to fully and effectively fulfill this role in the future, the city needs to focus on improving the quality of the Front’s human resources, perfecting the interdisciplinary coordination mechanism, and establishing a quantitative evaluation system to assess the effectiveness of social criticism and people’s supervision. Only through these measures will the Front truly become a core force in consolidating political trust, strengthening social consensus, and promoting the power of national unity in this period of profound transformation and comprehensive development.

3.2. Discuss the Issues Raised

Based on the achieved results, it can be affirmed that the role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in Ho Chi Minh City in participating in the construction of the Party and the government is both essential and increasingly recognized. This contribution is crucial in promoting socialist democracy and strengthening the great unity of the nation. However, through surveys and practical analysis, several challenges have emerged that need to be fully addressed and promptly resolved in order to enhance the efficiency of the Front’s func-

tions and tasks during the country's new development phase.

Firstly, the formal nature of social supervision and criticism remains a concerning issue in some areas and units. Many critical opinions fail to address the core issues and, in general, lack theoretical and practical weight. As a result, these opinions struggle to persuade and are not adequately absorbed by the authorities. This situation has led to the devaluation of the Front's role in offering criticism and policy recommendations, with some instances where these contributions are neglected or merely seen as procedural.

Secondly, the quality of the Front's cadres, particularly at the grassroots level, remains a significant bottleneck. The political theory, professional capacity, and skills in supervision and criticism of many cadres do not meet the growing demands of an increasingly complex social environment. The shortage of cadres who are both well-versed in laws and policies and possess strong socio-political analysis skills has caused the Front's activities in certain areas to fall behind the country's new development requirements. This has diminished the effectiveness of representing the people's voice and interests.

Thirdly, the coordination mechanism between the Front and Party agencies, authorities, and socio-political organizations remains insufficiently tight and synchronous. In many instances, this coordination has been limited to organizing activities in a professional manner, without establishing a regular, in-depth process with clear mechanisms for evaluating results. The lack of binding regulations and specific sanctions has resulted in some proposals and recommendations from the Front being ignored or receiving delayed responses, thereby reducing their effectiveness and diminishing public trust.

Fourth, the challenge of approaching and synthesizing the thoughts and aspirations of people from diverse backgrounds, particularly in the context of urbanization and deepening social differentiation, is considerable. The social structure in large cities like Ho Chi Minh City is becoming increasingly diverse, with rapid growth in the immigrant workforce, middle class, self-employed workers, and young entrepreneurs. Meanwhile, the Front's content and modes of operation still lack flexible innovation, failing to meet the emerging needs of listening to and reflecting on new issues that arise in modern urban social practices.

Fifth, there is an absence of a system of quantitative evaluation indicators to measure the effectiveness of the Front's supervision, criticism, and policy recommendations. The lack of scientific measurement and evaluation tools makes it difficult for social criticism to gauge its actual impact and the degree to which it influences policy-making and implementation. This deficiency undermines transparency, effectiveness, and efficiency in contributing to the construction of the Party and the government, while also hindering the preliminary analysis, summarization, replication, and innovation of the Front's operational methods.

In conclusion, the issues identified in the Vietnam Fatherland Front's operations in Ho Chi Minh City, particularly in its

role in building the Party and the government, not only reflect internal limitations but also highlight the urgent need for innovative thinking, improved institutional frameworks, and enhanced quality of organizational structures and personnel. Effectively addressing these limitations will provide a solid foundation for the Front to continue fulfilling its role as a center of solidarity—a strong link between the Party, the State, and the people. This will further strengthen political trust, enhance social consensus, and contribute to the successful realization of the goal of building a socialist state governed by the rule of law, for the people, by the people, and of the people.

4. Conclusion

The research results indicate that the role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in Ho Chi Minh City in participating in building the Party and the State is currently being effectively promoted, as reflected in its activities such as supervision, social criticism, gathering and reflecting the aspirations of the people, etc. These contributions have affirmed the Front's unique socio-political position within the Vietnamese political system. The proactive, diverse, and in-depth participation of the City Front in the construction of the Party and the government has made tangible contributions to the practice of socialist democracy, strengthened the great unity of the people, and enhanced public trust in the Party and the State.

However, the process of implementing this role also faces several challenges. On the one hand, rapid social differentiation and fluctuations due to urbanization and social restructuring have created new and complex demands regarding people's livelihoods, requiring the Front to adapt both in terms of organizational structure, personnel, and activities. On the other hand, there are internal limitations, such as uneven political capacity, expertise, and skills among the Front's cadres. Additionally, the coordination mechanism with other agencies in the political system lacks cohesion and synchronization. The absence of supporting institutions for effective supervision and criticism has partially reduced the timeliness, depth, and ability of the Front to influence policy. As a result, while the legitimate aspirations of the people are heard, they are not always implemented effectively and systematically in state management and public policy-making processes.

In this context, to enhance the Front's role in building and promoting socialist democracy in a substantive and sustainable manner, it is necessary to implement strategic solutions synchronously: (1) Consolidate and improve the political and professional capacity, skills in supervision, criticism, and mass mobilization for the Front's cadres at all levels, especially at the grassroots level; (2) Improve the coordination mechanism between the Front and Party organizations, authorities, and socio-political organizations by establishing a clear coordination process, binding responsibilities, time limits for feedback, and specific sanctions; (3) Establish a transparent system for social monitoring and criticism, with a

mechanism for quantifying results, evaluating practical effectiveness, and measuring the level of responsiveness to critical opinions, thereby enhancing the persuasiveness and policy impact of the Front.

By effectively implementing the above strategies, the Vietnam Fatherland Front in Ho Chi Minh City can continue to affirm its central role in promoting the people's right to ownership, contributing to building a clean and strong Party and State, and gradually achieving the goal of a prosperous people and a strong, democratic, fair, and civilized nation, in the context of a socialist-oriented market economy and deeper international integration.

Abbreviations

QĐ	Decision
TW	Central Committee
UBND	People's Committee

Author Contributions

Dinh Van Chi is the sole author. The author read and approved the final manuscript.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

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