

No. 19739

**GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
and
VIET NAM**

**Treaty of friendship and co-operation. Signed at Hanoi on
4 December 1977**

Authentic texts: German and Vietnamese.

*Registered by the German Democratic Republic and Viet Nam on 13 April
1981.*

**RÉPUBLIQUE DÉMOCRATIQUE ALLEMANDE
et
VIET NAM**

**Traité d'amitié et de coopération. Signé à Hanoi le
4 décembre 1977**

Textes authentiques: allemand et vietnamien.

*Enregistré par la République démocratique allemande et le Viet Nam
le 13 avril 1981.*

[TRANSLATION¹—TRADUCTION²]

TREATY³ OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM AND THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

The Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and the German Democratic Republic,

Proceeding from the relations of firm fraternal friendship, the close solidarity, the multiform cooperation and mutual assistance between the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and the German Democratic Republic on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism,

On the basis of the fine traditional relations which have closely bound the peoples of the two countries,

Confident that the consolidation and strengthening of the ties of friendship and cooperation in all fields between the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and the German Democratic Republic are in keeping with the basic interests of the peoples of the two countries and serve the strengthening of the fraternal relations between the peoples of the socialist countries,

Desirous to continue developing and constantly improving the multiform cooperation between the two countries,

Stressing that the consolidation, development and safeguarding of the gains of socialism obtained through the enormous efforts and labour full of sacrifices of the peoples of the brotherly socialist countries are an internationalist duty of the two countries,

In keeping with the principles and objectives of the socialist diplomatic line, endeavouring to create the most favourable international conditions for the building of socialism, firmly continuing to strengthen their solidarity with the peoples struggling against imperialism and for national liberation and social emancipation,

Perseveringly struggling for the solidarity of all forces of peace, national independence, democracy and social progress,

Desirous to contribute to developing and improving the relations between countries with different social systems on the principles of peaceful co-existence, and

Considering the continued development and perfecting of the legal basis of the relations between the two sides as of great significance,

Have agreed on the following:

Article 1. Proceeding from the principles of proletarian internationalism, the two signatories of this Treaty will strengthen the brotherly and comradely relations of friendship, solidarity and mutual assistance between the peoples of

¹ Translation supplied by the Governments of the German Democratic Republic and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

² Traduction fournie par les Gouvernements de la République démocratique allemande et de la République socialiste du Viet Nam.

³ Came into force on 13 March 1978 by the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which took place at Berlin, in accordance with article 8.

the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and the German Democratic Republic, and will consolidate and develop their multiform cooperation on the basis of complete equality, respect for each other's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

Article 2. The two signatories to this Treaty will strengthen and broaden the mutually beneficial cooperation in the economic, scientific and technological fields in order to help step up the building of socialism and constantly improve the material and cultural life of the peoples of the two countries. The two sides will continue their long-term coordination of their plans for their national economies. The two sides consider bilateral and multilateral cooperation among fraternal socialist countries as of increasing importance.

The two countries will continue to develop their cooperation in culture, science, education, public health, literature, the arts, journalism, radio, television, cinematography, physical culture and sports, tourism, and other fields. The two sides will encourage the strengthening of cooperation of relations between social and mass organizations, considering it an important means to bring the peoples of Viet Nam and the German Democratic Republic closer together and help them understand each other's life and have broad exchanges of experiences in building socialism in both countries.

Article 3. The two signatories to the Treaty will unceasingly strive for the further strengthening of the fraternal relations and solidarity among the socialist countries on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism.

The two sides will do their utmost to strengthen the forces of the world socialist system, make positive contributions to the development and safeguarding of the gains of socialism, and strongly support the struggle of the peoples in other countries for peace, national independence, democracy and socialism.

Article 4. The two signatories to the Treaty will do all they can, for peace and security of the nations, to contribute effectively to foiling all schemes and acts of imperialism and the reactionary forces.

They will support the just struggle to permanently do away with colonialism and neo-colonialism and to oppose militarism and racism in all forms.

Both sides firmly continue supporting the nations in Asia, Africa and Latin America who have been freed from the domination of imperialism and colonialism, in their struggle to consolidate independence, national sovereignty and social progress.

Both sides support the development and improvement of relations among countries with different social systems on the basis of respect for each other's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality, mutual benefit and peaceful co-existence.

Article 5. The two signatories to the Treaty regard the inviolability of the national borders demarcated following the Second World War in Europe, including the national borders between the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany, as an important prerequisite for the maintenance of peace and security in Europe. They support the efforts to strengthen peace and security in this region.

Article 6. In accordance with the four-party Treaty of September 3, 1971,¹ the two signatories to the Treaty will maintain and develop their relations with West Berlin proceeding from the fact that West Berlin is not a part of the Federal Republic of Germany and is not ruled by it.

Article 7. The two signatories to the Treaty will inform each other of, and exchange views on, matters concerning the relations between their two countries and international issues of mutual concern.

Article 8. This Treaty will be ratified and will become valid after the exchange of ratification papers in Berlin within the shortest delay.

Article 9. This Treaty will be valid for twenty-five years and it is taken for granted that its validity will be extended each time for another ten years if, twelve months before it becomes invalid, neither of the two signatories expresses its desire to repeal the Treaty.

This Treaty is done at Hanoi on December 4, 1977, in two copies, in Vietnamese and in German, which are of equal value.

For the Socialist Republic of
Viet Nam:

TON DUC THANG

For the German Democratic Republic:

ERICH HONECKER

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 880, p. 115.