

APPLYING THE PRINCIPLE OF LIMITING HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN VIETNAM

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Abstract: *The COVID-19 global pandemic has greatly impacted countries around the world in every aspect: politics, economy, culture, and society. In response to this, many states have been applying several measures that directly or indirectly limit human rights to various degrees. The limitation of human rights in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic raises questions about its legitimacy. This article aims to clarify some theoretical and legal contents on the limitation of human rights and assess the practise of limiting human rights in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. On that basis, the author proposes some recommendations related to the limitation of human rights to create a solid “legal corridor” in the fight against COVID-19 in Vietnam.*

Keywords: *Human rights; limitation of human rights; COVID-19; control; balance*

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Introductions

COVID-19 was first detected in Wuhan city, Hubei province (China), after cases were diagnosed with pneumonia of unknown cause in late 2019. The World Health Organisation (WHO) later named this disease COVID-19, and the new Corona virus that caused it SARS-CoV-2. On 30 January 2020, the WHO declared the COVID-19 outbreak in China a "*Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC), posing a high risk to countries with vulnerable health systems*". On 11 March 2020, the WHO officially declared COVID-19 a global pandemic. The number of COVID-19 cases continues to rise, despite stringent global quarantine and containment efforts. According to statistics on Worldometers, as of 9 June 2022, there were 538,112,366 cases of COVID-19 recorded worldwide, including 6,326,550 deaths¹. In Vietnam, up to 7 November 2022, there were 11,506,214 cases in total, of which 11,499,873

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¹ Statistic from Worldometers <https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/>, last accessed on 09 June 2022.