

# THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND ITS IMPACT ON THE SOCIO - ECONOMIC LIFE AND LEGAL SYSTEM OF VIETNAM

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**Abstract:** *COVID-19 has become a global pandemic, wreaking havoc on all aspects of socio-economic life and legal systems worldwide. Over the course of time, Vietnam has taken commendable and resolute actions to curb the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has been regarded by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and international public opinion as a success. However, with the complicated development of the situation, to conquer the pandemic, limit its impact on the economy, and promote social growth and stability, Vietnam is in need of profound socio-economic policies and changes in its legal system. This article will thoroughly analyse the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on socio-economic life, emphasise the challenges and requirements for the legal system of Vietnam, specifically the legal fields affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, and propose several solutions to improve the legal system of Vietnam in the coming time.*

Keywords: *COVID-19 pandemic; impact of COVID-19; improving the legal system*

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## **1. The COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on socio-economic life**

An acute, sometimes severe respiratory infection caused by a novel variant of coronavirus (nCoV) was first detected in Wuhan city, Hubei province, China, in December 2019 and has since spread extensively worldwide. On 12 February 2020, the WHO announced its official name as COVID-19, which stands for “coronavirus disease 2019” with 19 representing the year in which the disease appeared<sup>1</sup>. The WHO officially recognised this epidemic as a global pandemic on 11 March 2020. As of 9 November 2022, there were 637 million infected people in the world, with nearly 6.6 million deaths<sup>2</sup>. The

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<sup>1</sup> WHO, *Naming the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the virus that causes it*, [https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/technical-guidance/naming-the-coronavirus-disease-\(covid-2019\)-and-the-virus-that-causes-it](https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/technical-guidance/naming-the-coronavirus-disease-(covid-2019)-and-the-virus-that-causes-it), last accessed on 04 August 2022.

<sup>2</sup> <https://ncov.moh.gov.vn/en/trang-chu>, last accessed on 09 November 2022.