

# Stakeholders Joint Submission Concerning the Universal Periodic Review of Vietnam in 2014

In this joint submission, Vietnam Human Rights Network in USA, along with Bloc 8406, Vietnam Human Rights Committee (VHRC) in Vietnam, and the Vietnamese Canadian Federation give testimony on human rights violations in Vietnam to the United Nations' Human Rights Council, as part of its 2014 Universal Periodic Review (UPR) mechanism.

## SUMMARY OF STAKEHOLDERS' INFORMATION

### **Vietnam Human Rights Network (VNHRN)**

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VNHRN was established in 1997 as a consortium of individuals and organizations committed to the defense and promotion of human rights and civil liberties entitled to all Vietnamese citizens set forth by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and subsequent international human rights instruments.

### **Bloc 8406**

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Bloc 8406, founded in Viet Nam on April 8, 2006 with Fr. Thadeus Nguyen van Ly (currently in prison) as the main initiator, is a civil movement advocating for justice and human rights in Vietnam. With its thousands members (among them 51 are prisoners of conscience), Bloc 8406 has tirelessly campaigned and continues to campaign for justice and basic rights for Vietnamese people.

### **Vietnam Human Rights Committee (VNHRC)**

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The VNHRC was established in December 2006 as a non-governmental and non-profit organization with the mission of protecting the Vietnamese people's human rights. VNHRC operates on the basis of international human rights laws as well as the Constitution of Vietnam. The basic principle of VNHRC is peaceful and non-violent activities in a spirit of dialogue and tolerance.

## **Vietnamese Canadian Federation (VCF)**

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The Vietnamese Canadian Federation was founded in 1980 and is a non-profit, non-sectarian and non-partisan organization. It works with member associations in the development and preservation of Vietnamese culture and contributes to the enrichment of the Canadian cultural mosaic. It has sponsored over 1,000 Vietnamese refugees, and joined US-based Boat People SOS (BPSOS) and other international organizations to provide support to Vietnamese migrant workers, victims of human trafficking and refugees in Southeast Asia. VCF continues to stand up against violations of human rights in Vietnam with testimonies on Parliament Hill, open letters published widely in Canada, and briefing documents prepared for Canadian politicians' meetings with their Vietnamese counterparts. VCF's national office is located in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.