

CALL FOR PAPERS

To Contribute Papers to the International Scientific Conference “Models of Public Attorneys Worldwide and the Orientation for Vietnam in the Era of International Integration”

To: Distinguished scholars, policymakers, and research experts

The institution of the public attorney (public lawyer, public defender, public advocate, or state lawyer) has been established in many jurisdictions with the aim of ensuring professional legal representation either for the State or for disadvantaged groups. In the United States, the Public Defender system operates at both federal and state levels, providing free defense for defendants who lack the financial capacity to secure legal counsel. In France, the public attorney (avocat public) may function within the framework of the Conseil d'État and Administrative Courts to safeguard the interests of public authorities. In Japan, the public attorney system is structured by the State, which selects, trains, and remunerates attorneys to engage in criminal defense, legal representation, and the provision of legal assistance for citizens. Several European countries have adopted hybrid models combining state administrative bodies and semi autonomous professional associations, thereby guaranteeing both objectivity and high professional competence.

Within judicial systems, public attorneys act as intermediaries between the State and justice. They are not only legal representatives of state agencies in major disputes such as those concerning international investment, trade, land, and the environment, but also defenders of human rights, ensuring the principles of adversarial proceedings and access to justice for citizens, particularly in criminal trials or complex administrative disputes. The public attorney model contributes to enhancing the quality of adjudication, reducing the burden on courts, and strengthening state governance under the rule of law.

In Vietnam, the demand for the establishment of a public attorney regime has become increasingly apparent as the number of disputes involving public interests, international commitments such as free trade agreements and the CPTPP, and complex cases with foreign elements continues to grow. At present, the State still relies on retaining private lawyers for major cases, a practice that is costly and potentially risky in terms of confidentiality and consistency. Private lawyers may simultaneously serve various clients, which makes it difficult to ensure focus and loyalty, thereby affecting the effectiveness of protecting State interests. The absence of a specialized public attorney institution has also left a gap in safeguarding State rights and interests in fields



such as investment, land, natural resources, and the environment. Furthermore, vulnerable groups in society have not yet been fully guaranteed meaningful access to quality legal services, given the current limitations of legal aid resources.

Recognizing this reality, the Politburo issued Resolution No. 66-NQ/TW dated 30 April 2025, explicitly assigning the task of “researching and developing a regime of public attorneys and a mechanism permitting civil servants to practice as attorneys” as a central reform priority in the field of lawmaking and law enforcement. Subsequently, the Ministry of Justice has been tasked with preparing a proposal for submission to the Prime Minister on a public attorney model suitable for Vietnam, with the requirement that it should not impose a financial burden on the state budget, while ensuring adequate remuneration, professional expertise, and compatibility with the governmental structure.

On this basis, the international conference entitled “*Models of Public Attorneys Worldwide and the Orientation for Vietnam in the Era of International Integration*” is convened to clarify effective public attorney models across jurisdictions, to analyze their referential value for Vietnam, and to formulate legal and institutional recommendations aimed at realizing the objectives of Resolution No. 66-NQ/TW. This effort seeks to enhance the effectiveness of State legal representation, secure the right of citizens to access justice, and advance the construction of a modern socialist rule of law State.

1. Main Themes of the Conference:

- Overview of public attorney models worldwide, including common models, strengths, and limitations.
- The role of public attorneys in the international judicial system and lessons for Vietnam.
- Legal frameworks and policies for developing public attorneys in developed countries.
- Challenges and opportunities in establishing a public attorney model in Vietnam.
- Proposals for a public attorney model compatible with Vietnam’s legal system and mechanisms of public administration.
- The impact of international integration on the operation and development of public attorneys in Vietnam.
- Experiences in training and enhancing the professional capacity of public attorneys.
- Other issues of interest concerning public attorneys raised by the authors.

2. Time, Format, and Venue of the Conference:

- Tentative date: Saturday, 29 November 2025.
- Venue: Organized in person and online via Zoom.

3. Working Languages of the Conference: Bilingual in Vietnamese and English.

4. Detailed Schedule for Paper Submission:

- Deadline for submission of paper titles and abstracts (in Vietnamese or English): 15 September 2025.

- Deadline for full papers: 25 October 2025. Papers may be submitted in English, or in Vietnamese with support provided for translation into legal English.
- Abstracts and full papers should be sent to the email address: hoithaoluat@gmail.com.
- Rules for preparing and submitting papers are provided in the attached Appendix.
- Submission fee: VND 550,000 per paper (equivalent to 20 USD). This fee is non refundable in cases where the paper is not accepted for publication.

After peer review by the Editorial Board, accepted papers will be published in the international conference proceedings with an ISBN number.

5. Contact Information:

For all details regarding the Conference, please contact:

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Respectfully,

**ON BEHALF OF THE DONG NAI BAR ASSOCIATION
HEAD OF THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**



**Lawyer, PhD Candidate Le Quang Y
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN IN CHARGE**



