



**Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
The Center for WTO and Economic integration**

**REPORT**

**THE REVIEW OF VIETNAM LEGAL FRAMEWORK AGAINST COMMITMENTS  
UNDER EUROPEAN UNION - VIETNAM FREE TRADE AGREEMENT (EVFTA)  
ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

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## INTRODUCTION

At the beginning of December 2015, the European Union and Vietnam announced the conclusion of negotiations for the European Union - Vietnam Free Trade Agreement (EVFTA), one of the two largest new-generation free trade agreements of Vietnam. With a broad coverage of various trade and trade-related sectors at and beyond countries' borders, EVFTA is forecasted to have a significant impact on Vietnam legal framework and economic institutions in the coming time.

One of the aspects under the coverage of EVFTA, which is considered to have significant and direct impacts on Vietnam's legal framework is Intellectual Property. This is a quite sensitive matter during the negotiation because of the disparity in the requirements of EU and Vietnam on the protection of Intellectual Property Rights. The negotiation result of such matter is a system of commitments towards enhancing the standards of protection of Intellectual Property Rights for owners, which correlates to some significant limitation in the accessibility to products of public or consumers of such products when compared to relevant current standards of Vietnam.

Therefore, a review of Vietnam legal framework against EVFTA commitments on Intellectual Property is necessary to determine these differences. Then appropriate amendments and adjustments can be made to ensure the compliance with the commitments under EVFTA, motivate the intellectual property activities as well as well apply the commitments to maintain the reasonable access to the intellectual property with the aim of supporting the business activities, socioeconomics and culture education in Vietnam.

***The review of Vietnam's legal framework against EVFTA commitments on Intellectual Property*** is conducted by Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI) with analyses about the compatibility of Vietnam legal framework against commitments from the perspectives of enterprises and public. From this, recommendations are made to guarantee the conformity to the Agreement in the most beneficial ways for enterprises and public.

This Review belongs to a series of reviews of Vietnam's legal framework against EVFTA commitments on five important aspects (including Government procurement, Government procurement, Intellectual property, Customs and trade facilitation, and Transparency). All of these reviews are carried out by Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI) in the Program titled "The readiness of Vietnam's legal framework in implementing EVFTA" with the

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supports of the Embassy of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and North Ireland in Vietnam.

This Review report is expected to be a good and useful information source for the process of reviewing the legal framework for EVFTA enforcement of the Government, and also considered a meaningful reference for the Congress's authorities in the process of approving, directing, implementing and controlling the EVFTA implementation.

Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry would like to express its thanks to the Embassy of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and North Ireland in Vietnam for their supports in the implementation of this meaningful program./.

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