

**Vietnamese Community in Switzerland & Swiss – Vietnam Friendship Association  
call for**

## **PROTEST AGAINST THE CHINA'S ILLEGAL ACTION TO CHANGE THE STATUS QUO IN THE EAST SEA**

**The protest will be taken place on  
Saturday, 25 April 2015 in Zurich**

14:00 at Werdmühleplatz (Meeting point for march)  
14:30 March towards Rathausbrücke  
appr. 15:15 – 15:45 Demonstration at Rathausbrücke

**To: Friends of Viet Nam and those who love peace and justice**

In 1974 and 1988, China used force to invade illegally the Parcel-Islands and some islands in the Spratly archipelago that belonging to the sovereignty and territory of Viet Nam. From the end of 2013, China enhanced land reclamation activities in the East Sea (Bien Dong in Vietnamese and also known as South China Sea) including islands of the Spratly archipelago of Viet Nam.



**Activities of China to turn reefs into floating islands broadening the construction and establishing runway, military**

The activities of territorial claims in the South China Sea of China has caused many disputes with the sovereign states, threatening peace, stability and harm the freedom of international shipping. The said actions of China become more serious in recent years, such as China's continuous aggression on the South China Sea in the provocation, in terms of not only economic, but also political, military, and diplomatic matters. Many fishing vessels were sunk, many fishermen have been killed, many active explorations and exploitations of oil in the sea of Viet Nam were destroyed by China. China itself launched the so-called "cow's tongue line" or the "U-shaped dotted line" licking almost 90% of the South China Sea waters that are predicted to be rich in oil and natural gas. Early May 2014, China used its Haiyang Shiyou 981 platform to illegally access the exclusive economic zone and continental shelf of Viet Nam. Before the fierce struggle of the whole Vietnamese people and reaction of the international community, China has to withdraw its Haiyang Shiyou 981 platform out of the exclusive economic zone of Viet Nam.

However, with intrigue of "seize the entire East Sea" and of upsetting the order of the world, China has been gradually invading and changing the status quo of features in the East Sea and seriously contempting for international law. From end of 2014 to date, China has continued its illegal activities to change the status quo in the Spratly, such as broadening the construction and pushing for the creation of artificial islands in the disputed area, establishing military bases on the Parcel-Islands archipelago, renovation of which China

seized by force on the Spratly archipelago of Viet Nam such as Hughes Reef, Fiery Cross Reef, Johnson South Reef, Mischief Reef, Subi Reef, Cuateron Reef, etc.... After completion of its illegal renovation in unauthorized area of Spratly archipelago, China may shamelessly repeat its statement on Air Defense Identification Zone (ADIZ) in the East Sea – the South China Sea as it has done with the waters of the Senkaku Islands / Diaoyu disputed by China with Japan. With this move, the Chinese can go to control over the vast East Sea, seriously threaten to and undermine peace, stability, maritime security as well as freedom of navigation in and over-flight above the East Sea.

The activities of reclamation and change of the status quo in the East Sea by the Chinese government have been protested by not only scholars and mass media but also by many governments around the world such as including governments of the United States, Germany, Australia, India, and Japan. Furthermore, there is no country in the world recognizing China's territorial claims in the East Sea.

Meanwhile, Viet Nam has sufficient historical evidences and legal foundation to assert its indisputable sovereignty over the Hoang-Sa (Paracel-Islands) and Truong-Sa (Spratly) archipelagoes and sovereign rights over territorial waters in the East Sea long time ago and in a continuous manner.

Rapid reclamation, change of the status quo of Spratly archipelagoes in the East Sea, using its “sheer size and muscle” to push around smaller nations, threatening peace and security in the region and in the world by China....**these are actions that the Vietnamese people and international community cannot accept. Protecting sovereignty and legitimate interests of the nation, contributing to the maintenance of peace and security in the region and in the worldwide is sublime, are sacred and honor duty of every Vietnamese citizen and people in all over the world.**

**We urge Vietnamese and other national people who are living, studying and working in Switzerland and all friends who love peace and justice in the Swiss Confederation and in the world to jointly participate in our demonstration and march to protest illegal actions of China in the East Sea:**

- **Protest the reclamation and change of status quo of the Paracel-Islands and the Spratly archipelagoes in the East Sea that belong to the territory of Viet Nam;**
- **Make international community further understand the invasion plots and aggressive ambition of Chinese government that threat to peace and security in the region and the world; request international community to support Viet Nam in maintaining its sovereignty and territorial integrity;**
- **Speak out for peace and justice, and for a world without war.**

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