



Paracel Islands & Spratly Islands
— Belong To Viet Nam —

Vietnamese love peace

PARACEL
SPRATLY

**REQUEST THE GOVERNMENT OF CHINA TO IMMEDIATELY STOP
ALL THE LAND RECLAMATION, CONSTRUCTION AND MILITARIZATION IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA**

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To: **Mr. Ban Ki Moon**
Secretary-General of the United Nations
UN-Headquarter New York
U.N. Plaza
New York, NY 10 017 USA

Geneva, April 16th 2016
Zurich, April 23rd 2016

Dear Mr. Secretary-General of the United Nations,

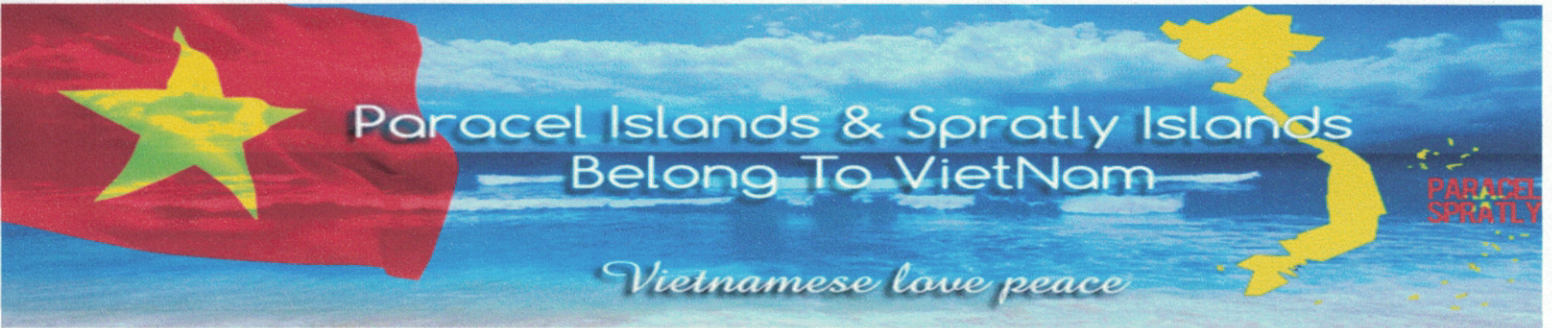
We, members of Vietnamese Community in Switzerland, Switzerland-Vietnam Friendship Association as well as peace loving people living, studying and working in Switzerland - including people from the Philippines, are standing together at United Nations Square in Geneva today, on April 16th, 2016 to express our huge preoccupation and since then find a solution in the framework of international law.

Viet Nam has sufficient historical evidences and legal foundation to assert its sovereignty over the Hoang Sa (Paracel) and Truong Sa (Spratly) archipelagoes in the South China Sea (known to Vietnamese people as Biển Đông or East Sea).

In 1974 and 1988, ignoring public opinion and international law, China used force to invade illegally the Paracel (Hoang Sa) and some islands in the Spratly archipelagos (Truong Sa). Since late 2013, China has enhanced land reclamation activities in the South China Sea, not only in Paracel and Spratly, but also the continental Shelf Sea of the Philippines.

The activities of territorial claims of China in South China Sea has caused many disputes among countries in the area, threatened peace and stability and seriously harmed the freedom of international shipping and navigation. The mentioned activities become more and more serious in recent years when China continuously undertakes provocative activities sinking fishing vessels and attacking fishermen in Vietnamese waters. In fact, China itself launches a so-called "U-shaped dotted line" licking almost 90% of the South China Sea waters, which are predicted to be rich in oil and natural gas. Take an aggressive activity of them on 2nd May 2014 as a vivid example. China seriously violated the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS 1982) by launching Haiyang Shiyou 981 oilrig platform 120 miles from Vietnamese base line to illegally access the exclusive economic zone and continental shelf of Viet Nam, which was opposed by Vietnamese people, many international organizations and peace loving people all over the world. Due to the fierce struggle of Vietnam and the reaction of the international community, on 15th July 2014, China had to withdraw its Haiyang Shiyou 981 platform out of the Exclusive Economic Zone of Vietnam.

However, China never gives up the idea of turning South China Sea into its own. From early 2015 to date, China has continued its illegal activities to change the status quo in the Spratly, such as broadening the constructions and building artificial islands in the disputed area, establishing military bases on the Paracel archipelago, and using military to seize the Spratly archipelago of Viet Nam such as Hughes Reef, Fiery



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Cross Reef, Johnson South Reef, Mischief Reef, Subi Reef, Cuateron Reef. On 14 February 2016, China has deployed two modern batteries of eight HQ-9 surface-to-air missiles (SAMs) launchers to Woody Island in the Paracel of Viet Nam in the South China Sea, etc....With the intrigue of occupying the entire East Sea (South China Sea) China upsets the order of this important region of the world and changes the status quo of features of it. After the 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 been done with the waters of the Senkaku Islands/ Diaoyu of Japan over a year ago. With this move, the Chinese might take over the vast East Sea, seriously threaten to and undermine peace and stability, maritime security as well as freedom of navigation in and over-flight above the East Sea.

As a permanent member of the Security Council of the United Nations, China's behavior is unacceptable! In fact, they have been strongly protested and condemned by not only scholars and mass media, but also by the international community and many governments around the world, including the United States, Germany, Australia, India, Japan, ASEAN countries. At the same time, there is no country in the world which supports and recognizes China's territorial claims in the East Sea.

We, 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 call on you, Mr. Secretary-General of the United Nations:

- 1. To request the Government of China to stop immediately all actions of reclamation, construction, militarization as well as other exasperations in the South China Sea*
- 2. To request the Government of China to resolve conflicts in the South China Sea by peaceful settlements, to respect international law including UNCLOS 1982, to fully implement commitments in DOC (Declaration on Conduct of the Parties in the South China Sea), to frankly develop COC (Code of Conduct of the Parties in the South China Sea).*
- 3. To condemn the brazen actions of China in the South China Sea, to support the Southeast Asian countries by necessary interventions to maintain peace, stability, security as well as maritime and aviation safety in the South China Sea*

We remain respectfully yours.

Vietnamese Community in Switzerland,
The peace-loving people in the world

Switzerland-Vietnam Friendship Association
Anjuska Weil, chairwoman

Vereinigung
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Association
Suisse-Vietnam