

# CASE STUDY METHODS WITH ENGLISH USING AS FOREIGN LANGUAGE TO TEACH STUDENTS WITH SOCIAL SCIENCES & LAW MAJORS - A CASE OF PUBLISHING UNTRUTH INFORMATION OF SOME VIETNAM NEWSPAPERS FROM KOREAN AND CHINA LAWS APPROACH

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## Abstract

More and more educators and teachers in colleges and universities consider to use case study methods with using English to teach students in advanced programs with social sciences, law or journalism majors.

Therefore to improve teaching quality, authors will present a case of using English as foreign language via a **A CASE OF PUBLISHING UNTRUTH INFORMATION OF SOME VIETNAM NEWSPAPERS** (Thanhnien.vn and Tuoitre.vn - online magazines in Vietnam) **FROM KOREAN AND CHINA LAWS APPROACH**.

There are ideas to solve this issue even using Criminal Act Law as they will cause bad effects including disinformation, disorder and misleading community and society.

As usual, we will teach students from approaches of President Ho Chi Minh on publishing activities.

**Key words:** case study method, English for teaching, fake news, untruth information, Thanh nien newspaper, Tuoit tre newspaper

**JEL:** K10, K14, K15

## 1. Introduction

For social sciences , law and journalism students, educators may take advantage of case study methods to encourage learners' spirit and enhance levels of practical knowledge.

For journalists, President Ho Chi Minh said: A journalist is first and foremost a revolutionary cadre, attaching his life to the nation, to the Party and to the people. He repeatedly emphasized the journalist's soldier status: "Press officers are also revolutionary soldiers. Pen and paper are their sharp weapons";

For us newspaper writers, the pen is a sharp weapon, the article is a revolutionary pamphlet to encourage the masses to unite to fight against old and new colonialism, against imperialism... , for national independence, social progress and world peace".

In order to complete the task of being that glorious revolutionary soldier, he asked journalists to constantly study and improve their level in all aspects, especially the political level; at the same time must immerse themselves in the life of the masses to write in accordance with their moods, needs and aspirations. Uncle advises journalists: "If you write a newspaper that the public understands, the people love to read, and the people praise it well, then you have made progress. On the contrary, you have not been successful."

(source: Ho Chi Minh complete volume).

In below section we will show roles of English in presenting case study of two Vietnam magazines on posting false information online (Thanhnie.vn and Tuoitre.vn):

## 2. Literature review

First of all, at the 3rd Congress of the Vietnam Journalists Association, Ho Chi Minh pointed out: "The task of the press is to serve the people, to serve the revolution. That is the task of the entire Party and people, as well as the task of our press".

(source: Ho Chi Minh Complete Volume, Volume 10. National Politics Publishing House, H.2005, p.613)

Figure 1- President Ho Chi Minh



(source: internet)

Then we summarize previous studies in below table:

Table 1 - Related previous studies

<b>Authors</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Content, results</b>
Abidin et al	2020	local backstories and contexts are crucial to decipher why news angles tend to pitch particular stories on influencers.
Samia et al	2020	The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has not only caused significant challenges for health systems all over the globe but also fueled the surge of numerous rumors, hoaxes, and misinformation, regarding the etiology, outcomes, prevention, and cure of the disease. Such spread of misinformation is masking healthy behaviors and promoting erroneous practices that increase the spread of the virus and ultimately result in poor physical and mental health outcomes among individuals.
Baptista & Gradim	2020	The proliferation and success of fake news are associated with its characteristics (more surreal, exaggerated, impressive, emotional, persuasive, clickbait, shocking images), which seem to be strategically thought out and

		exploited by the creators of fake news.
Go & Lee	2020	<p>According to the spreading structure of fake news in Korea, the younger generation generally uses SNS posts intended for unspecified individuals, and the older generation uses closed SNS like KakaoTalk or Naver's BAND. In the end, it is typically characteristic of the older generation to spread fake news through existing offline human networks. In the 2017 presidential election, fake news has been confirmed to have the effect of mobilizing supporters for each political party. In the presidential election, an increase in voter turnout was confirmed among those in their 20s and those in their 60s or older. Evidently, fake news influenced the election of Moon Jae-In. The influence of fake news is expected to grow further as ideological polarization and consequent political polarization continues to intensify in South Korea.</p>
Dang, H.L	2021	<p>As a result of lockdowns across Southeast Asia, the use of all types of social media has reached high records in the whole region. Yet, the rapid social media response manifested in</p>

		the form of an infodemic – an overabundance of false and misleading information.
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*(source: author synthesis)*

Finally, we will analyze that criminal behavior in publishing fake news can take place in many journals or newspapers that have connection together within a country, for example in Vietnam case.

### 3. Methodology

Authors mainly use experiences, observations, practical situation with cases studies of publishing fake news, for example in Vietnam combined with qualitative analysis, synthesis and explanatory methods.

### 4. Main findings

Applying case study method will have some benefits such as: increasing creativity and discussion skills for students in class, in below section, for students with social sciences and law major, we will present a case for students to discuss relevant topics as below:

#### 4.1 Case studies of publishing fake news in two Vietnam magazines

Historical time	History of violating
2018	The Tuoi Tre Online newspaper case was suspended for 3 months: On July 16, 2018, the Ministry of Information and Communications signed a decision on administrative sanctions in publishing journalism activities. with Tuoi Tre Online newspaper for publishing "untrue" content and causing national disunity.[17] In the article: The President agreed to promulgate the Law on Protests published on June 19, 2018, Tuoi Tre Online informed: "Contacting voters as a member of the National Assembly in Ho Chi Minh City, President Tran Dai Quang said he agreed with the petition that voters need a Law on Protests and promised to report to the National Assembly on this content. In the sanctioning decision, the Press Department affirmed that the President did not say such content during the meeting, and assessed this as untrue information, causing "very serious" effects. The decision also stated, in the comment section under the article "Why have you not seen the Western Expressway in the planning?" Posted on

	May 26, 2017 with information "causing national disunity", offensive to the region. With the above two contents, the Press Department requires Tuoi Tre Online to correct, apologize, pay a fine of VND 220 million and suspend the publication for three months from July 16, 2018.(source: <a href="https://tieng.wiki/content/Tu%E1%BB%95i%20Tr%E1%BA%BB%20(b%C3%A1o)">https://tieng.wiki/content/Tu%E1%BB%95i%20Tr%E1%BA%BB%20(b%C3%A1o)</a> , access date 6/3/2022).
2020	Thanh Nien Newspaper has been fined of 45 million VND because false information causes very serious impacts reflecting on a number of construction investment projects in Hai Phong City
2021- beginning 2022	Thanh nien newspaper (Thanhvien.vn) and Tuoitre.vn and bad editor team Nguyen Ngoc Toan/Dang Thi Phuong Thao still publish false information online causing troubles and disorder in Vietnam society

(source: <https://vietnamnet.vn/vn/thoi-su/bao-thanh-nien-bi-phat-45-trieu-dong-va-phai-cai-chinh-xin-loi-672693.html>, access date 24/2/2022).

#### **4.2 Educating students in journalism and publishing**

First of all, teachers need to explain students to understand internet crimes including not only publishing fake news, but also hackers, cybersecurity attacks.

Second, they can use views of President Ho Chi Minh in revolutionary roles of journals and newspapers and publishing for teaching young generation:

He used to do everything in journalism, from writing articles, editing articles, editing, organizing printing, publishing, to organizing, leading and directing journalism. He conceives that journalism and journalism are "revolutionary work" to "serve the Fatherland", "serve the people", "serve class and humanity". Therefore, besides his excellent journalistic works, President Ho Chi Minh also left us a particularly valuable ideological legacy - Ho Chi Minh's thought on revolutionary journalism, including political points on the roles, functions, tasks and nature of the revolutionary press; on the role, obligations, ethics and style of journalists; about art in "writing" to make a valuable journalistic work and newspaper.

President Ho Chi Minh pointed out: "The press is a front", "The pen is a sharp weapon, the article is a revolutionary newspaper". Therefore, "press officers are also revolutionary soldiers. Pen and paper are their sharp weapons." He asked the team of journalists "to take a firm political stance. Politics must be mastered. If the political direction is right, other things will be right. Therefore, our newspapers must have the right political line."

He also instructed: “When you have finished writing, ask your brothers to look at it and correct it for you. Don't be proud, consider your post as "great". The reminder must resolutely oppose the style of writing "trang Giang Dai Hai", "using piles of strange nouns", or "writing like a code, preferring to be blasphemous, writing both long and empty, like showing off words, fond of using dictionaries. accumulate and acquire foreign characters".

With more than half a century of creative journalism activities, President Ho Chi Minh has left an extremely valuable journalistic legacy, vividly expressing his ideological views on the revolution, the times, on humanity. people, economy, politics, culture... Especially, his teachings on journalistic activities remain valid and direct throughout the process of sustainable development of Vietnam's revolutionary press today.

Very deeply aware of the role, functions and tasks of the revolutionary press in social life, he affirmed: "The communist press has the duty to make our soldiers understand clearly. colonial issues, awakening the consensus of the working masses in the colonial countries, and enlisting them to join the cause of communism.

(source: <https://tinhdolan.quangbinh.gov.vn/3cms/chu-tich-ho-chi-minh---nguoi-thay-vi-dai-cua-bao-chi-cach-mang-viet-nam.htm>, access date 7/3/2022).

**Figure 2 - Ho Chi Minh and publishing**



*(source: internet)*

### **4.3 The China and Korean approaches and laws on publishing fake news, untruth information and internet crime**

First, date 26/10/2018, The controversy erupted after Justice Minister Park Sang-ki last week ordered state prosecutors to aggressively chase down people spreading “false, manipulated information.” He said prosecutors should be proactive in detecting fake stories and misinformation and, when needed, push ahead with criminal investigations even when no one files a complaint.

They can apply various laws, such as defamation that carries a penalty of up to seven years in prison. The Justice Ministry also plans to revise laws to make it easier to removing suspect online content.

The National Police Agency said it is currently looking into 16 false stories that made rounds online. They include claims that Moon is showing signs of dementia; Prime Minister Lee Nak-yeon paid tribute to North Korea founder Kim Il Sung during a recent visit to Vietnam; North Korea has demanded cash payment of 200 trillion won (\$176 billion) from the South as costs for engagement.

(source: <https://apnews.com/article/3d14a9663b114644a36e123a7c7bf9b1>, access date 7/3/2022)

In the presidential election of Korea in 2017, fake news appeared as a major issue. Fake news had already received a great deal of attention all over the world after the US presidential election in 2016. Fake news was reported to have had a considerable impact on the election results of the recent US presidential election, as well as on the form of election campaigns. The results of the US election were influenced through new SNS campaigns (Lee & Joo, 2017).

The US presidential election in 2016 and the Korean presidential election in 2017 have common phenomena, such as changes in the media environment, media polarization, and political polarization. Fake news has also emerged as a major issue in both elections.

Second, date 25/Aug/2021 in Seoul, South Korea's ruling party is set to revise a media law to rein in "fake news" by giving courts the power to award much bigger damages but opponents said it would discourage reporters from delving into the shady dealings of the powerful.

South Korea is home to a thriving news industry, ranking relatively high on world media freedom tables but it has struggled with the spread of misinformation and cyber bullying in recent years.

The amendment to the Act on Press Arbitration and Remedies allows the courts to order damages up to five times bigger than they can now for publication of false or fabricated reports ruled to have infringed on a plaintiff's rights or caused "emotional distress".

"The damage and ripple effect caused by wrong media reports is large and broad in scale, inflicting irreparable harm to individuals," the Democratic Party said in a statement.



The law would also require media outlets, including internet news service providers, to issue corrections for erroneous or fabricated news that manifest "intention" or "gross negligence".

The ruling party said the penalties were intended to put the burden of responsibility where it belonged for malicious or false reports and to minimise their emotional and material damage.

(source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/south-korea-parliament-set-pass-law-curb-fake-news-2021-08-25/>, access date 7/3/2022).

Third, One of the major newspapers in Korea wrote in an editorial that Korea needs a law to prohibit acts of spreading false information with the purpose of putting national security or public welfare at risk, a law that will not violate the Constitution. (*Editorial: Netto jo no dema o fusegu ho teki seibi ga kyumu (Legal System to Restrict False Information on the Internet is Urgently Needed)* [in Japanese], CHOSUN NEWSPAPER (Dec. 29, 2010), <http://www.chosunonline.com/news/20101229000035.>)

Fourth, On 23/sep/2021 in Seoul, When lawmakers from South Korea's ruling Minjoo party discuss their plan to impose tougher penalties on the media for reporting "fake news", they stress that they merely want to safeguard vulnerable citizens. "It's the least we can do to protect the people from fake news," one legislator told reporters earlier this month. "We have to remember that our people's basic rights and freedoms are more important than the freedom of the press," said another. The proposed changes to the Press Arbitration Act of 2011, the party argues, would improve the quality of reporting and increase the public's trust in it.

(source: <https://www.economist.com/asia/2021/09/23/south-koreas-plan-to-fight-fake-news-could-hobble-real-journalism>).

Beside, Wang (2015) said in China, China's journalists and bloggers, already under threat of persecution, face new risks from November 1, when amendments to the country's criminal law come **into effect**. Under the amendment, passed in August by legislative body the National People's Congress, those convicted of spreading false news about disasters or epidemics will face harsh penalties.

The **clause** added to Article 291 threatens a prison sentence of up to seven years for fabricating false information related to "hazards, epidemics, disasters, and situations involving police" or intentionally disseminating such false information that causes "serious social disorder."

The amendment can be used by the government as a way to deter independent journalists and bloggers from reporting on matters of safety and security. And,

with the vaguely worded clause about “serious social disorder,” journalists whose reporting is deemed not in line with official narratives could potentially face charges.

(source: <https://cpj.org/2015/10/in-china-harsh-penalties-for-false-news-make-it-ha/>, access date 7/3/2022).

Next, we can organize discussion for students with below case questions:

Question 1: Present in a Summary of two Vietnam newspapers case above

Question 2: Present China and Korean approaches for solving fake news in journalism?

## **5. Discussion and Conclusion**

President Ho Chi Minh also mentioned: "The newspaper is just black and white paper. But with that black and white paper, people can write ultimatums." Therefore, for journalists, ethics and competence are indispensable requirements for the press to be worthy of an important role in the general revolution of the country.

The first requirement for journalists is to be politically stable. Uncle warned: "All newspaper people (writers, printers, editors, publishers...) must have a firm political stance. Politics must be mastered. The right political line is the right thing to do. Therefore, all our newspapers must have the right political line."

Uncle Ho has concretized that the political qualities of a journalist must be expressed from the identification of the target audience and the mission of the press: "Our journalism is not for a few people to see, but to serve the public. In order to propagate and explain the lines and policies of the Party and the Government, the press must have a mass character and a fighting spirit".

And "In order to fulfill their glorious duties, press cadres need to cultivate revolutionary ethics. That morality is thrift, integrity, justice and impartiality".

(source: <https://doanhnghieptiepthi.vn/tu-tuong-ho-chi-minh-ve-bao-chi-cach-mang-161210620135802502.htm>, access date 7/3/2022).

Implications for applying case teaching methods with using English as foreign language for social sciences students:

Case study methods for journalism and social sciences students need to be written in a clear, understandable writing style and facilitate conditions for them to make further discussion and learning.

Not only teachers are rich in experience in case study methods, but Students also need to have high attitude of learning spirit.

Based on above approaches, teachers can use English as foreign language to teach students in social sciences, laws and esp., journalism major.

**Research limitation**

Authors need to make analysis for other legal case studies as well as for other markets.

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