

## **Vietnam**

Vanderbilt

Before its independence, Vietnam was a colony of France. We code no SOLS change at independence. Upon its independence in 1955 Vietnam was effectively divided into two states: the communist Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the Nationalist Republic of Vietnam. The Democratic Republic of Vietnam was a single party (Geddes) authoritarian regime from independence and has remained so beyond the end date of this study. All leaders of Vietnam were part of the communist party (DLDV – DSCV after 1977) so no SOLS changes have been coded (US Department of State 2010, Library of Congress 2011). Note that there was a constitutional change in 1992, but this change did not diminish the leading role of the communist party (US Department of State 2010).

### References:

- U.S. Department of State. Background Notes “Vietnam” (November 30, 2010).  
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- US Library of Congress. A Country Study: Vietnam (March 22, 2011).  
<<http://memory.loc.gov/frd/cs/vntoc.html>>. Accessed on March 18, 2011.

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