

A COMPILATION OF STATEMENTS OF COUNTRIES REGARDING THE SOUTH CHINA SEA ARBITRATION AWARD

STATEMENTS FROM THE PHILIPPINES AND CHINA		
Country	Statement	Sources
Philippines	<p>The Philippines welcomes the issuance of the Award by the Arbitral Tribunal constituted by the Permanent Court of Arbitration under Annex VII of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) on the arbitration proceedings initiated by the Philippines with regard to the South China Sea. Our experts are studying the Award with the care and thoroughness that this significant arbitral outcome deserves. In the meantime, we call on all those concerned to exercise restraint and sobriety. The Philippines strongly affirms its respect for this milestone decision as an important contribution to ongoing efforts in addressing disputes in the South China Sea. The decision upholds international law, particularly the 1982 UNCLOS. The Philippines reiterates its abiding commitment to efforts to pursue the peaceful resolution and management of disputes with a view to promoting and enhancing peace and stability in the region.</p> <p>July 17, 2016 The Philippines would continue to engage concerned parties to reduce regional tensions and to build greater trust and confidence, and “the recent arbitration ruling will help in finding ways forward on disputes in the South China Sea”. Furthermore, he stressed that measures which restore trust and confidence in the region including the early conclusion of the Code of Conduct in the SCS are very important for the Philippines. He exhorted countries to exercise sobriety and restraint, and concluded “We need to respect the international system and the bodies of law we ourselves created.” The Philippines, he recalled, had always put its faith in international cooperation and international law to protect its rights and interests.</p> <p>July 19, 2016</p> <p>“[China's foreign minister] had asked us to open ourselves for bilateral negotiations, but outside, or in disregard of, the arbitral ruling..This is something I told him was not consistent with our constitution and our national interest.” Mr Yasay said he met his counterpart on the sidelines of a summit of Asian and European leaders in Mongolia last week.</p> <p>“They said <i>if you will insist on the ruling, discussing it along those lines, then we might be headed for a confrontation,</i>” he said. “But I really honestly feel that this is something they have to make on a public basis, but I also sensed there was room for us to talk very quietly using backdoor channelling.”</p>	<p>Foreign Secretary Yasay</p> <p>http://www.dfa.gov.ph/newsroom/dfa-releases/9900-statement-of-the-secretary-of-foreign-affairs-2</p> <p>Foreign Secretary Yasay</p> <p>http://www.dfa.gov.ph/newsroom/dfa-releases/9929-foreign-affairs-secretary-perfecto-yasay-says-peace-and-stability-arise-from-respect-for-international-law</p> <p>Foreign Secretary Yasay</p> <p>http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-07-19/philippines-rejects-offer-of-south-china-sea-talks/7640924</p>

<p>China</p>	<p>July 7, 2016 The truth behind the arbitration case is political intrigue, whereby certain countries have been deliberately provoking problems and stirring up tensions, eager to see turbulence in the South China Sea... The arbitral tribunal has no jurisdiction over this case...By taking a position of not participating in or accepting the arbitration, China is upholding its own rights and interests under international law and safeguarding the integrity and authority of the UNCLOS. We hope that the U.S. side will take an objective and fair approach regarding the arbitration, rather than criticizing China for upholding the UNCLOS from the position of a non-state party. The final award of the arbitration, which will come out in the next few days, amounts to nothing more than a piece of paper. China suffered enough from hegemonism, power politics and bullying by Western Powers since modern times. The Versailles peace conference at the end of World War I forced a sold-out of Shandong Province. The Lytton Commission, sent by the League of Nations when Japan invaded China's northeast provinces, only served to justify Japan's invasion. Even the U.S.-led negotiations on San Francisco Peace Treaty excluded China. These episodes are still vivid in our memory. That is why China will grip its own future on issues of territorial sovereignty, and will never accept any solution imposed by a third party.</p> <p>July 12, 2016 “The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China solemnly declares that the award is null and void and has no binding force. China neither accepts nor recognizes it... The unilateral initiation of arbitration by the Philippines is out of bad faith. It aims not to resolve the relevant disputes between China and the Philippines, or to maintain peace and stability in the South China Sea, but to deny China's territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests in the South China Sea. The initiation of this arbitration violates international law... China's territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests in the South China Sea shall under no circumstances be affected by those awards. China opposes and will never accept any claim or action based on those awards...The Chinese government reiterates that, regarding territorial issues and maritime delimitation disputes, China does not accept any means of third party dispute settlement or any solution imposed on China.”</p> <p>White Paper – July 13, 2016 A reiteration of the basis of Chinese claim and criticism of Philippine actions (based on a one-sided selective narration of facts) and that China maintains that peace and stability in the South China Sea should be jointly upheld by China and ASEAN Member States. China pursues peaceful development and adheres to a defense policy that is defensive in nature. China champions a new security vision featuring mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality and</p>	<p>Dai Bingguo's Speech at China-U.S. Dialogue on South China Sea http://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2016/07/13/485814417/chinese-official-on-tribunal-ruling-its-nothing-but-a-scrap-of-paper</p> <p>Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China on the Award of 12 July 2016 of the Arbitral Tribunal in the South China Sea Arbitration Established at the Request of the Republic of the Philippines http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2016-07/12/c_135507744.htm</p> <p>Published by State Council Information Office of the People's Republic of China</p>
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	<p>coordination, and pursues a foreign policy of building friendship and partnership with its neighbors and of fostering an amicable, secure and prosperous neighborhood based on the principle of amity, sincerity, mutual benefit and inclusiveness... The South China Sea is a bridge of communication and a bond of peace, friendship, cooperation and development between China and its neighbors. Peace and stability in the South China Sea is vital to the security, development and prosperity of the countries and the well-being of the people in the region. To realize peace, stability, prosperity and development in the South China Sea region is the shared aspiration and responsibility of China and ASEAN Member States, and serves the common interests of all countries. China will continue to make unremitting efforts to achieve this goal.</p> <p>July 15, 2016 “The South China Sea arbitration has been a political farce all along, staged under the cover of law and driven by a hidden agenda. Certain countries outside the region have attempted to deny China's sovereign rights and interests in the South China Sea through the arbitration. They have even brought other countries into the scheme to isolate and discredit China in the international community with a view to holding back China's peaceful development...”</p>	<p>http://english.cri.cn/12394/2016/07/13/4202s934002.htm</p> <p>State Councilor Yang Jiechi</p> <p>http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2016-07/15/c_135513699.htm</p>
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STATEMENTS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES

Country	Statement	Sources
ASEAN	<p>July 14, 2016 “Asean has decided not to issue any joint statement on an international tribunal's ruling this week that rejected China's sweeping claims in the South China Sea... We gave up on issuing the Asean statement. The chair informed us this is because no consensus could be reached.”</p>	<p>Anonymous Asean official source</p> <p>http://www.bangkokpost.com/news/asean/1035694/asean-abandons-joint-statement-on-ruling</p>
Australia	<p>July 12, 2016 “The Australian Government calls on the Philippines and China to abide by the ruling, which is final and binding on both parties. The Tribunal in the Philippines’ arbitration case was established in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). The Tribunal’s decision was not about sovereignty, but about maritime rights under UNCLOS. Australia supports the right of all countries to seek to resolve disputes peacefully in accordance with international law, including UNCLOS... This decision is an important test case for how the region can manage disputes peacefully. It is an opportunity for the region to come together, and for claimants to re-engage in dialogue with</p>	<p>Media Release by Ministry of Foreign Affairs</p> <p>http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2016/jb_mr_160712a.aspx</p>

	<p>each other based on greater clarity around maritime rights. Australia urges all South China Sea claimants to resolve their disputes through peaceful means.. refrain from coercive behaviour and unilateral actions designed to change the status quo in disputed areas. Australia will continue to exercise our international law rights to freedom of navigation and overflight, and support the right of others to do so.</p>	
Cambodia	<p>July 9, 2016 “Cambodia will not join expressing any common position on the verdict of the Permanent Court of Arbitration... Cambodia would like to call on Philippines and China to continue settling their disputes through peaceful means.”</p>	<p>MOFA Statement http://www.mfaic.gov.kh/?page=detail&ctype=article&id=1916&lg=en</p>
Canada	<p>July 21, 2016 “International law provides the foundation upon which peaceful relations among states are built, and promoting the development and use of international law to resolve difficult problems underpins Canadian foreign policy. On July 12, 2016, the tribunal constituted under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea rendered a decision in the matter of the South China Sea Arbitration, which is binding on the parties to it. Whether one agrees or not with the ruling, Canada believes that the parties should comply with it. All parties should seize this opportunity as a stepping stone to renewed efforts to peacefully manage and resolve their disputes, in accordance with international law. We are deeply concerned about regional tensions that have been escalating for a number of years and have the potential to undermine peace and stability. It is essential that all states in the region exercise restraint and avoid coercion and actions that will escalate tension. All claimants must refrain from land reclamation, militarization and other actions that can undermine regional security and stability. Actions that could jeopardize freedom of navigation and overflight exercised in accordance with international law, maritime security and international trade must also be avoided. We urge all claimants to restore trust and confidence, including through the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of the Parties in the South China Sea, and the expeditious negotiation of a binding Code of Conduct. Canada is committed to the maintenance of international law and to an international rules-based order for the oceans and seas, as well as to the peaceful management and settlements of disputes. Canada therefore stands ready to contribute to initiatives that build confidence and help restore trust in the region.”</p>	<p>Statement from Foreign Minister Stephanie Dion http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1102379</p>
European Union	<p>July 15, 2016 The EU does not take a position on sovereignty aspects relating to claims. It expresses the need for the parties to the dispute to resolve it through peaceful means, to clarify their claims and pursue them in respect and in accordance with international law, including the work in the framework of UNCLOS. The EU recalls that the dispute settlement mechanisms as provided under UNCLOS contribute to the maintenance and furthering of the international order based upon the Rule of Law and are essential to</p>	<p>Declaration by the High Representative on behalf of the EU http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2016/07/</p>

	<p>settle disputes. The EU also underlines the fundamental importance of upholding the freedoms, rights and duties established in UNCLOS, in particular the freedoms of navigation and overflight.</p> <p>The EU supports the swift conclusion of talks aiming at an effective Code of Conduct between ASEAN and China implementing the 2002 Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea. Recalling its Statement of 11 March 2016, the EU calls upon the parties concerned to address remaining and further related issues through negotiations and other peaceful means and refrain from activities likely to raise tensions. The EU therefore stands ready to facilitate activities which help to build confidence between the parties concerned. While underlining the importance of all States working together to protect the marine ecosystem already endangered by the intensification of maritime traffic and dredging, the EU and its Member States will continue to organise High Level Dialogues on Maritime Security Cooperation and the exchange of best practices on joint management and development of shared resources, such as fisheries, as well as on capacity-building measures."</p>	15-south-china-sea-arbitration/
India	<p>July 12, 2016</p> <p>"India supports freedom of navigation and over flight, and unimpeded commerce, based on the principles of international law, as reflected notably in the UNCLOS. India believes that States should resolve disputes through peaceful means without threat or use of force and exercise self-restraint in the conduct of activities that could complicate or escalate disputes affecting peace and stability... Sea lanes of communication passing through the South China Sea are critical for peace, stability, prosperity and development. As a State Party to the UNCLOS, India urges all parties to show utmost respect for the UNCLOS, which establishes the international legal order of the seas and oceans."</p>	<p>Statement on Award of Arbitral Tribunal on South China Sea Under Annexure VII of UNCLOS</p> <p>https://goo.gl/IyjXl0</p>
Indonesia	<p>July 12, 2016</p> <p>"calls on all parties to exercise self-restraint and to refrain from any actions that could escalate tensions, as well as to protect Southeast Asia region particularly from any military activity that could pose a threat to peace and stability, and to respect international law including UNCLOS 1982... to continue its shared commitment to upholding peace, and demonstrate friendship and cooperation, that has been nurtured over the years...promote the establishment of a zone of peace, freedom, and neutrality in Southeast Asia to strengthen the ASEAN Political and Security Community...encourages all claimant states to continue peaceful negotiations on their overlapping claims of sovereignty in the South China Sea in accordance with international law."</p>	<p>Statement Published by MOFA Indonesia: Indonesia Calls On All Parties To Respect International Law Including UNCLOS 1982</p> <p>https://goo.gl/7LorjE</p>
Japan	<p>July 12, 2016</p> <p>Japan has consistently advocated the importance of the rule of law and the use of peaceful means, not the use of force or coercion, in seeking settlement of maritime disputes.</p> <p>As the Tribunal's award is final and legally binding on the parties to</p>	<p>Statement by Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida</p> <p>http://www.mofa.g</p>

	<p>the dispute under the provisions of UNCLOS, the parties to this case are required to comply with the award. Japan strongly expects that the parties' compliance with this award will eventually lead to the peaceful settlement of disputes in the South China Sea.</p> <p>July 19, 2016 11th Asia-Europe Meeting - To Cambodia: "Prime Minister Abe said that the 'rule of law' should be the basis for peacefully resolving the regional issue, which is important for the peace and stability of the entire region, including Japan," the statement said—an apparent reference to Chinese Premier Li Keqiang's repeated assertions that the dispute does not concern Japan. "For Japan, the South China Sea has life and death importance as a shipping corridor," it continued. "The arbitration decision, taken as final and binding for both parties, should be the basis for talks."</p>	<p>o.jp/press/release/press4e_001204.html</p> <p>Prime Minister Shinzo Abe</p> <p>https://www.cambodiadaily.com/news/south-china-sea-verdict-final-japans-abe-tells-hun-sen-115604/</p>
<p>Japan-United States-Australia</p>	<p>July 25, 2016 The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, Fumio Kishida, the Secretary of State of the United States, John Kerry, and the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Australia, Julie Bishop, met in Vientiane, Laos, on 25 July 2016, for the sixth ministerial meeting of the Trilateral Strategic Dialogue (TSD). The ministers welcomed the growing positive impact of the strategic partnership between Japan, the United States, and Australia, and reaffirmed the importance of TSD policy coordination and practical cooperation. They reiterated their commitment to further deepening their cooperation to ensure a peaceful, stable, and prosperous future for the Asia Pacific region and the world. The ministers reiterated the importance of upholding the rules-based maritime order including in the Asia Pacific region and the Indian Ocean. They called on all states to respect freedom of navigation and overflight. They reaffirmed the importance of states' making and clarifying their claims based on international law, including the 1982 United Nations Conventions on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), not using force or coercion in trying to advance their claims, and seeking to settle disputes by peaceful means including through legal processes such as arbitration. The ministers also opposed any coercive or unilateral actions that could alter the status quo and increase tensions in the East China Sea and will remain in close communication about the situation in the area. The ministers welcomed the development of trilateral cooperation on maritime security capacity-building in Southeast Asia. The ministers resolved to advance this cooperation through ongoing exchanges of information and dialogue on regional needs. They reiterated the commitment of the three nations to continue coordinating their respective assistance programs and to identify ways we can more closely collaborate in the future.</p>	<p>Office of the Spokesperson Washington, DC</p> <p>http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2016/07/260442.htm</p>

Malaysia	<p>July 12, 2016</p> <p>“Malaysia is fully committed and calls on all parties to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) in its entirety; and the early conclusion of a Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC) as agreed between China and ASEAN countries. Malaysia believes that all relevant parties can peacefully resolve disputes by full respect for diplomatic and legal processes; and relevant international law and 1982 UNCLOS. Malaysia believes that it is important to maintain peace, security and stability through the exercise of self-restraint in the conduct of activities that may further complicate disputes or escalate tension, and avoid the threat or use of force in the South China Sea. Malaysia cherishes peace and stability of the South China Sea and believes that China and all relevant parties can find constructive ways to develop healthy dialogues, negotiations and consultations while upholding the supremacy of the rule of law for the peace, safety and security for the region. “</p>	<p>MOFA Published Statement</p> <p>https://goo.gl/E0RE31</p>
New Zealand	<p>July 12, 2016</p> <p>“While New Zealand does not take a position on the various territorial claims in the South China Sea we have consistently stated that the differing interests in the region should be managed peacefully and in accordance with international law. Maintaining peace and stability in the South China Sea is vital to the ongoing prosperity of the wider Asia-Pacific region. It is in all parties' interests to ensure the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea is respected. We hope that the Tribunal's ruling can provide a platform for resolving the longstanding and complex issues in the South China Sea and we urge all parties to work towards this end.”</p>	<p>Foreign Minister Murray McCully</p> <p>http://www.stuff.co.nz/world/asia/82042501/nz-calls-for-all-parties-to-respect-ruling-on-south-china-sea</p>
Pakistan	<p>July 12, 2016</p> <p>Pakistan opposes any unilateral imposition of decisions on others. We respect China's statement of optional exception in the light of the Article 298 of the UNCLOS... Pakistan believes that maintenance of peace and security is the collective responsibility of all parties to the South China Sea, he said. Countries outside the region should fully respect the efforts made by China and member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to safeguard peace and stability in the South China Sea, and play a constructive role to this end...Pakistan maintains that the resolution of the dispute related to the South China Sea is between the countries concerned, and the countries outside this region should respect the negotiations or the process through which the parties concerned want to resolve this issue.”</p>	<p>Statement of Pakistan MOFA Spokesperson Nafees Zakaria</p> <p>http://news.abs-cbn.com/overseas/07/14/16/pakistan-supports-chinas-position-on-s-china-sea</p>
Russia	<p>September 5, 2016</p> <p>"Chairman Xi Jinping and I have developed very trusting, I would say friendly, relations. But he never – I want to emphasize this – never approached me requesting to somehow comment, somehow intervene in the matter... We of course have our own opinion on this matter. It is that, first of all, we do not interfere and we believe</p>	<p>Russian President Vladimir Putin</p> <p>https://sputniknews.com/world/201609051044988523-</p>

	<p>that any intervention of a non-regional power goes only to the detriment of settling these issues. The intervention of third-party non-regional powers, in my opinion, is harmful and counterproductive. We stand in solidarity and support of China's position on this issue - not to recognize the decision of this court... This is not a political position, but purely legal. It lies in the fact that any arbitration proceedings should be initiated by the disputing parties, while the arbitration court should hear the arguments and positions of the disputing parties. As you know, China did not address the Hague arbitration and no one listened to its position there. How can you recognize these decisions as fair? We support China's position on this issue,"</p>	russia-china-putin/
Singapore	<p>July 12, 2016</p> <p>We are studying the Award and its implications on Singapore and the wider region. Singapore is not a claimant state and we do not take sides on the competing territorial claims. However, we support the peaceful resolution of disputes among claimants in accordance with universally-recognised principles of international law, including UNCLOS, without resorting to the threat or use of force. As a small state, we strongly support the maintenance of a rules-based order that upholds and protects the rights and privileges of all states. Singapore values our long-standing and friendly relations with all parties, bilaterally and in the context of ASEAN. We urge all parties to fully respect legal and diplomatic processes, exercise self-restraint and avoid conducting any activities that may raise tensions in the region. Singapore supports the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea and the expeditious conclusion of a legally-binding Code of Conduct in the South China Sea.</p>	<p>MOFA Singapore Press Release</p> <p>https://www.mfa.gov.sg/content/mfa/media_centre/press_room/pr/2016/201607/press_20160712_2.html</p>
Taiwan	<p>July 12, 2016</p> <p>The award rendered by the tribunal at the Permanent Court of Arbitration in the South China Sea arbitration is completely unacceptable to the government of the Republic of China. The tribunal's decisions have no legally binding force on the ROC... In the text of the award, the ROC is referred to as "Taiwan Authority of China." This inappropriate designation is demeaning to the status of the ROC as a sovereign state...Taiping Island was not originally included in the Philippines' submissions for arbitration. However, the tribunal took it upon itself to expand its authority, declaring ROC-governed Taiping Island, and other features in the Nansha (Spratly) Islands occupied by Vietnam, the Philippines, and Malaysia, all to be rocks that "do not generate an exclusive economic zone." This decision severely jeopardizes the legal status of the South China Sea Islands, over which the ROC exercises sovereignty, and their relevant maritime rights. That the ROC is entitled to all rights over the South China Sea Islands and their relevant waters in accordance with international law and the law of the sea is beyond dispute. The arbitral tribunal did not</p>	<p>Published ROC position on the South China Sea Arbitration</p> <p>http://www.mofa.gov.tw/en/News_Content.aspx?n=1EADDCFD4C6EC567&s=5B5A9134709EB875</p>

	<p>formally invite the ROC to participate in its proceedings, nor did it solicit the ROC's views. Therefore, the award has no legally binding force on the ROC. The ROC government reiterates that the South China Sea Islands are part of the territory of the ROC and that it will take resolute action to safeguard the country's territory and relevant maritime rights. The ROC government urges that disputes in the South China Sea be settled peacefully through multilateral negotiations, in the spirit of setting aside differences and promoting joint development. The ROC is willing, through negotiations conducted on the basis of equality, to work with all States concerned to advance peace and stability in the South China Sea.</p>	
Thailand	<p>July, 12, 2016</p> <p>The situation in the South China Sea should be addressed through concerted efforts and by every means, on the basis of mutual trust and confidence as well as equitable benefit, to reflect the nature of the long standing ASEAN-China relations. The full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) should by all means be stressed, and the need for all parties concerned to work expeditiously for the early conclusion of the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC) is of paramount importance to allow us to emerge stronger together..."</p>	<p>Press Release by MOFA Thailand</p> <p>http://www.mfa.go.th/main/en/media-center/14/68341-Statement-of-Thailand-on-Peace,-Stability-and-Sust.html</p>
United States	<p>July 12, 2016</p> <p>"We are still studying the decision and have no comment on the merits of the case, but some important principles have been clear from the beginning of this case and are worth restating. The United States strongly supports the rule of law. We support efforts to resolve territorial and maritime disputes in the South China Sea peacefully, including through arbitration... As provided in the Convention, the Tribunal's decision is final and legally binding on both China and the Philippines. The United States expresses its hope and expectation that both parties will comply with their obligations. In the aftermath of this important decision, we urge all claimants to avoid provocative statements or actions. This decision can and should serve as a new opportunity to renew efforts to address maritime disputes peacefully. We encourage claimants to clarify their maritime claims in accordance with international law -- as reflected in the Law of the Sea Convention -- and to work together to manage and resolve their disputes. Such steps could provide the basis for further discussions aimed at narrowing the geographic scope of their maritime disputes, setting standards for behavior in disputed areas, and ultimately resolving their underlying disputes free from coercion or the use or threat of force."</p> <p>September 8, 2016</p> <p>With respect to maritime issues, we'll continue to work to ensure that disputes are resolved peacefully, including in the South China Sea. The landmark arbitration ruling in July, which is binding, helped clarify maritime rights in the region. I recognize this raises tensions, but I also look forward to discussing how we can</p>	<p>Press Statement John Kirby Assistant Secretary and Department Spokesperson, Bureau of Public Affairs</p> <p>http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2016/07/259587.htm</p> <p>US President Barack Obama's Remarks Before US-ASEAN Summit https://goo.gl/DZw</p>

	<p>constructively move forward together to lower tensions and promote diplomacy and regional stability.</p> <p>With regard to security, our nations reaffirmed our commitment to a regional order where international rules and norms are upheld and where disagreements are resolved peacefully. There was recognition of the importance of the international arbitration ruling in July, which is legal and binding, and which clarified maritime claims by the Philippines and China in the South China Sea. We discussed the importance of claimants adhering to steps to which they've already agreed, including respecting international law, not militarizing disputed areas and not occupying uninhabited islands, reefs and shoals. And I reiterated that the United States will stand with allies and partners in upholding fundamental interests, among them the freedom of navigation and overflight, lawful commerce that is not impeded, and peaceful resolution of disputes.</p>	<p>SL5</p> <p>Press Conference After US-ASEAN Summit https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/09/08/press-conference-president-obama-after-asean-summit</p>
Vietnam	<p>July 13, 2016 "Vietnam welcomes the arbitration court issuing its final ruling on July 12... confirms its consistent stance on the arbitration case which was fully reflected in the statement to the arbitral tribunal by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on December 5, 2014...In this spirit, Vietnam strongly supports the resolution of disputes in the East Vietnam Sea through peaceful measures, including diplomatic and legal procedures, without using or threatening to use violence, in accordance with international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS. Vietnam supports the maintenance of regional peace and order, and security, safety, and freedom of navigation and overflight in the East Vietnam Sea; respecting the rule of law at sea and over oceans... On this occasion, Vietnam continues to assert the sovereign rights over Hoang Sa [Paracel] and Truong Sa [Spratly] archipelagoes, internal and territorial waters, sovereignty and jurisdiction rights over our exclusive economic zone and continental shelf determined in the 1982 UNCLOS, as well as all the legal Vietnamese rights and interests connected to the geographic structures of Hoang Sa and Truong Sa."</p>	<p>Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Le Hai Binh</p> <p>http://tuoitrenews.vn/politics/35827/vietnam-welcomes-hague-ruling-on-east-vietnam-sea-disputes-foreign-ministry</p>