

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
AND TRAINING**

**HO CHI MINH NATIONAL
ACADEMY OF POLITICS**

ACADEMY OF JOURNALISM AND COMMUNICATION

NGUYEN THI THU TRA

**DIGITAL COMPETENCES OF TELEVISION JOURNALISTS
IN THE CURRENT CONTEXT OF DIGITAL
TRANSFORMATION IN JOURNALISM IN VIETNAM**

**Major : Journalism
Code : 9320101**

**SUMMARY OF THE DOCTORAL THESIS IN
JOURNALISTICS**

HA NOI, 2026

The thesis was completed at the Academy of Journalism and Communication

The thesis was completed at:

Academy of Journalism and Communication

Supervisors: Assoc. Prof. PhD. Dinh Thi Thu Hang;

PhD. Nguyen Thi Tuyet Minh

Chairman:

Reviewer 1:

Reviewer 2:

Reviewer 3:

The thesis is defended before the Academy-level Thesis Examining Council meeting at
the Academy of Journalism and Communication
at hour day month year 202...

The thesis can be found at:

- National Library of Vietnam, Hanoi.
- Information Center - Library, Academy of Journalism and Communication.

INTRODUCTION

1. Reason for choosing the research topic

In the era of profound digital transformation, television journalism faces both significant opportunities and formidable challenges. Digital technology is fundamentally altering the methods of content production, distribution, and monetization, necessitating a redefinition of professional competencies. Television journalists can no longer rely solely on traditional workflows; they must possess comprehensive digital competence to survive and thrive in a highly competitive, multi-platform media environment.

In Vietnam, the concept of “digital competence of television journalists” is still relatively new, lacking a clear definition of its scope, structure, and specific evaluation criteria. Most current research and policies focus on the technical aspects skills in using equipment and software - without adequately addressing integrative components such as critical thinking, multi-platform content creation, digital engagement, information security, and the capacity for continuous adaptation to the evolving digital landscape. Furthermore, while international digital competence frameworks like DigComp offer valuable insights, their direct application to the specific context of Vietnamese television journalism reveals incompatibilities due to cultural, organizational, and professional particularities.

Therefore, a systematic study on the digital competence of television journalists in Vietnam is both urgent and foundational. This research aims to fill a theoretical gap by building a specialized competence framework, empirically assessing the current situation, and proposing strategic solutions to enhance the capabilities of this crucial workforce.

2. Research purpose and scope

2.1. Research purpose

Based on a systematic review of theoretical and practical foundations, this thesis aims to survey the current state of digital competence among television journalists in Vietnam, identify and analyzes the factors influencing this competence, and, from these findings, propose a system of solutions and recommendations to enhance digital competence for television journalists in the context of journalism’s digital transformation in Vietnam today.

2.2. Research scope

To accomplish the above purpose, the thesis must perform the following tasks:

- To review, classify, and evaluate related domestic and international research studies, thereby identifying the research gaps.
- To systematize the theoretical and practical foundations of the digital competence of television journalists in the context of journalism's digital transformation, and from there, to develop assessment criteria for digital competence of television journalists that is appropriate to the Vietnamese context.
- Conduct surveys and in-depth interviews to analyze the current state of digital competence of television journalists at selected representative television organizations.
- To analyze the individual, organizational, and social factors that influence the digital competence of television journalists.

- To propose a system of solutions and recommendations for enhancing the digital competence of television journalists.

3. Research subjects and scope of the research

3.1. Research subjects

The subject of this thesis is the digital competence of television journalists in the current context of the digital transformation of journalism in Vietnam, focusing on 5 competence areas: Information and data literacy; Communication and collaboration; Digital content creation; Safety; Problem solving

3.2. Scope of the research

- Scope of survey: The research is conducted in Vietnam, with empirical surveys at six television units in three key regions (North, Central, South): Vietnam Television (VTV), Hanoi Radio and Television (Ha Noi Radio and TV Station), Danang Newspaper and Radio - Television, VTV's Centre for the Central and Central Highlands, Ho Chi Minh City Radio and Television (HTV), and VTV's Centre in Ho Chi Minh City. These are major central and local television units, representing three regions with high prestige and large audiences.

- Survey time: 2025.

4. Research questions

- What is the current state of digital competence among television journalists in Vietnam, as manifested across the competence domains of: Information and Data Literacy, Communication and Collaboration, Digital Content Creation, Safety, and Problem Solving?

- Which factors (including individual characteristics, organizational factors, and attitudes toward technology) influence the level of digital competence of television journalists in Vietnam?

- What strategic solutions are needed to enhance the digital competence of television journalists in Vietnam to meet the demands of the current context of journalism's digital transformation?

5. Theoretical framework and research methods

5.1. Theoretical framework

The methodological basis for this research topic is Marxism - Leninism; Ho Chi Minh's thought on journalism and human resources; and the viewpoints, guidelines, and policies of the Communist Party and the State of Vietnam on press management, digital transformation of journalism, and human resources.

In this thesis, the doctoral student also uses the following theories as a theoretical basis:

- *European Digital Competence Framework for Citizens* (DigComp) of European Union

- *The Diffusion of Innovations (DOI) theory* to explain the process of adoption and dissemination of digital technology at the organizational and professional levels.

- *The Technology Acceptance Model (TAM)* to analyze the role of perceived usefulness and perceived ease of use in shaping journalists' attitudes, intentions, and behaviors regarding technology use.

5.2. Research methods

The thesis uses the following specific research methods:

- *Document research method*: This method is used to review texts, specialized monographs, and academic documents related to the topic, including secondary sources... on the digital competence of television journalists in the context of digital transformation. This provides a basis for clarifying the theoretical issues of the topic, providing grounds for evaluating survey results and identifying problems posed in the research.

- *Survey by questionnaire*: The PhD candidate uses survey questionnaires distributed to television journalists at the 6 television agencies.

Sample selection: The research sample consists of television journalists working at television stations and television production units with job titles such as: reporter, editor, presenter, cameraperson, television director, and digital editor. Surveys in each region include both central and local units.

Sample size: The total number of valid survey samples collected is 517.

Characteristic	Number	Ratio (%)
Vietnam Television (VTV)	104	20,1
Hanoi Radio and Television	85	16,4
Da Nang Newspaper and Radio–Television	80	15,5
Vietnam Television Centre for the Central and Central Highlands	80	15,5
Ho Chi Minh City Radio and Television (HTV)	88	17,0
Vietnam Television Centre in Ho Chi Minh City	80	15,5
Sex		
Male	240	46,4
Female	277	53,6
Ages		
25 - 34 years old	158	30,6
35 - 42 years old	188	36,4
Over 43 years old	171	33
Education levels		
University	398	77
Postgraduate	119	23
Job Positions		
Reporter	155	30
Editor	239	46,2
Other positions (presenters, cameramen–directors, digital editors)	123	23,8
Years of work experience		
Under 11 years	157	30,4
11 - 20 years	188	26,4
Over 20 years old	172	33,2

- *In-depth interview method*: This data collection method was used to conduct interviews with 14 cases: individuals in leadership and journalist positions, including a mix

of genders, central and local affiliations, and various age groups. The aim was to gather assessments and opinions on the current state of digital competence of television journalists in Vietnam, the influencing factors, and to propose solutions for its enhancement.

+ **Group 1 (7 cases):** 7 leaders from the 6 surveyed organizations.

+ **Group 2 (7 cases):** 7 journalists from the 6 surveyed organizations.

In in-depth interviews, we encrypt all participants to protect the privacy of their personal information.

- *Non-participant Observation Method:* This method was used to gather visual information about the skills and operations of television journalists at television stations and production units, thereby evaluating how television journalists apply digital competence in their work.

- *Group discussion method:* This method was used to gain a deep understanding of the current state of digital competence and the factors affecting it among television journalists in the context of journalism's digital transformation in Vietnam today. The focus group discussion was held on November 7, 2025, at the Academy of Journalism and Communication with the participation of 02 journalists, 01 official from the Department of Press - Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, and 01 technology expert supporting the digital transformation of journalism.

6. New contributions of the thesis

This thesis is doctoral - level study in Vietnam to systematically and thoroughly theorize the fundamental issues of the digital competence of television journalists in the current context of journalism's digital transformation in Vietnam. From this, it develops a digital competence criteria for television journalists, comprising 5 competence domains and specific evaluation criteria. Based on survey results, the thesis author identifies and analyzes the current state of digital competence of television journalists at various organizations and the factors influencing this competence, linked to the DOI and TAM theories. The proposed solutions and recommendations, based on scientific evidence and practical grounds, can serve as a basis for enhancing the digital competence of television journalists and for strategic planning for the development of their digital competence in the context of journalism's digital transformation in Vietnam today.

7. Theoretical and practical contributions

7.1. Theoretical contributions

The thesis will be the first research work to build a theoretical framework and propose a digital competence assessment framework for television journalists, consisting of 5 competence domains and specific evaluation criteria. Therefore, the thesis makes a practical contribution to the theory of journalism in general and the theory of digital competence for television journalists in particular.

7.2. Practical contributions

The thesis will serve as a practical reference document for journalists and leaders at the 6 surveyed television organizations. It is also an important reference source for other

journalists and television units, helping them identify theoretical issues related to the digital competence of television journalists and to equip them with enhanced digital competence.

The thesis also serves as a reference for television journalists to self - assess and build a personal digital competence development roadmap; supports television press agencies in developing human resource strategies and retraining and professional development programs in the digital transformation process; provides a basis for journalism training institutions to adjust curricula and learning outcomes to align with digital competence; and offers suggestions for state management agencies in building national digital competence standards for journalists and policies for developing the digital journalism workforce.

8. Structure of the thesis

Three chapters structure the thesis content, in addition to the introduction, overview, conclusion, appendix, and reference list:

Chapter 1: Theoretical and practical foundations of the digital competence of television journalists in the current context of digital transformation in journalism in Vietnam.

Chapter 2: The current state of digital competence of television journalists in the current context of digital transformation in journalism in Vietnam.

Chapter 3: Factors affecting the digital competence of television journalists in the current context of digital transformation in journalism in Vietnam.

Chapter 4: Emerging issues, solutions, and recommendations for enhancing the digital competence of television journalists in the current context of digital transformation in journalism in Vietnam.

OVERVIEW OF THE RESEARCH PROBLEM

1. Overview of the research landscape

1.1. Research on the context of digital transformation and the digital transformation in journalism

International and Vietnam studies consistently recognize that digital transformation is a comprehensive process of change. It is not merely the digitization of data or processes, but a fundamental restructuring of operational models, business models, organizational structures, culture, and strategic thinking based on digital technology, big data, cloud computing, IoT, AI, and more. International authors such as Thomas M. Siebel (2018, 2020), David L. Rogers (2016), Cheng Gong & Vincent Ribiere (2021), the research group of Emily Henriette (2015), the group of Hess Thomas (2016), Swen Nadkarni & Reinhard Prügl (2021), among others, have analyzed the nature, drivers, and strategic models of digital transformation in business and society. In Vietnam, numerous works by the Ministry of Information and Communications (2021), the Digital Transformation Strategy Institute (2023), Bùi Quang Tuấn & Hà Huy Ngọc (2022), Đỗ Văn Hùng (2022), etc., have analyzed the three pillars of Digital Government, Digital Economy, and Digital Society, affirming that digital transformation is an imperative for enhancing national competitiveness.

Regarding the digital transformation of journalism, international authors like Terry Flew (2012), Mike Friedrichsen & Yahya Kamalipour (2017), Scott Eldridge II & Bob Franklin (2016), Sue Robinson, Seth C. Lewis & Matt Carlson (2019), Ruslan Yu. Novikov & Eva P. Zohrabyan (2023), Lunqiang Chen (2024), Xinyang Li & Kunpeng Sun (2024), etc., have focused on clarifying that journalism is transitioning from a linear production - distribution - consumption model to a multi-platform, multimedia model based on data and audience interaction. International and domestic studies extensively cover: convergent newsrooms, multi-platform content, new business models, competition with digital platforms, the role of big data and AI, along with opportunities and challenges (the crisis of print media, changes in audience behavior, fake news, journalistic ethics, etc.). In Vietnam, authors such as Bùi Chí Trung, Phan Văn Kiên & Nguyễn Bá (2022), Nguyễn Thị Trùng Giang (2025), Trương Thị Kiên (2022), when discussing the digital transformation of journalism, have emphasized the human factor as key, but have mostly stopped at stating the “need to develop digital human resources” without specifying a professional digital competence framework, especially for specific media types like television.

1.2. Research on the digital competence of journalists

Globally, the concept of “digital competence” and various digital competence frameworks have been developed and popularized, such as the European Union's DigComp and UNESCO's DLGF. These frameworks view digital competence as a collection of knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for the effective, safe, and responsible use of digital technology in learning, work, and life.

Applying this to the field of journalism, some works by authors like Carmen Marta Lazo, Jorge M. Rodríguez & Sheila Peñalva (2020), Salvador Reyes-de-Cózar, Marta Pérez-Escolar & Pablo Navazo-Ostúa (2022), Pauline Gidget Estella (2021), Vladimir F. Oleshko & Evgeny V.

Oleshko (2024), Amparo López - Meri, Hugo Doménech Fabregat & Silvia Marcos García (2024), etc., have begun to identify journalists' digital competence as a core component of professional journalistic competence in the digital era. These authors have identified groups of digital competencies that journalists need: using digital tools, producing multimedia content, managing and leveraging social media, accessing and processing data, practicing data journalism, verifying digital information, ensuring digital safety, and behaving ethically in the online environment. Studies by Dragana Pavlović & Ilija Milosavljević (2017), Antonina Hryvko, Olexii Sytnyk & Yurii Zhuk (2020), the International Center for Journalists (ICFJ) (2019), etc., have surveyed journalism students, young journalists, or newsroom leaders to assess the gap between market demands, training programs, and actual competence. Research by Arne H. Krumsvik (2014), Anne Parkatti et al. (2022), Ali El Takach (2022), Job OI (2017), etc., has analyzed the impact of organizational context, newsroom culture, attitudes toward technology, and training policies on the formation and development of journalists' digital competence.

However, only a few studies have constructed a digital competence framework for journalists in general; most stop at listing discrete skills and have not closely linked digital competence to professional values and the specific workflows of different media types.

In Vietnam, research on the digital competence of journalists is still very limited. Some authors mention the requirement for journalists to have operational skills in the digital environment, but there have been no large - scale quantitative surveys, theoretical frameworks, or specific measurement tools designed for journalists' digital competence.

1.3. Research on the digital competence of television journalists

This is a narrow and relatively new area of research. In the context of digital transformation, the television news production process has changed dramatically: the rise of the multi - skilled journalist (shooting, editing, writing, presenting, multi-platform distribution, social media use), a digital - first priority, and producing content for multiple distribution channels simultaneously. There is a demand for new competencies: multimedia production, exploiting and analyzing audience data, managing content on social media, livestreaming, using mobile devices, and applying new technologies (VR/AR, AI, etc.) in television production.

Authors Lei Guo & Yong Volz (2021) developed a professional competence framework for broadcast journalists in the US, based on the Cheetham & Chivers competence model, proposing four groups of competencies: cognitive, functional, personal/behavioral, and values/ethics. They also affirmed that digital competence has become an inseparable element in the competence structure of modern television journalists.

Authors Faith Sidlow & Kim Stephens (2022) in their book “Broadcast News in the Digital Age” describe in detail the new workflows of reporters, editors, and television presenters in the digital environment, emphasizing the need to master multiple digital tools and platforms simultaneously.

Some regional studies, such as those by Andrey Vyrkovsky et al. (Russia), Ali El Takach (Lebanon), and Kamolrat Intaratat (Thailand), mention the demand for digital

competence for specific positions like presenters, sports journalists, and journalists at local stations in the context of digital transformation. However, they mainly focus on describing skill requirements and have not developed a measurable digital competence framework with a structure of competence domains, criteria, and proficiency levels.

Overall, many studies have acknowledged that modern television journalists must be multi-skilled, multi-tasking, capable of multi-platform production, possess high digital competence, and master both traditional television skills and digital technologies. However, there are almost no studies that have built a specialized digital competence framework for television journalists, linked to digital competence domains and the specific nature of the television production process. In Vietnam, the issue of television journalists' digital competence is virtually a research gap: there have been no large - scale quantitative surveys, no assessment criteria frameworks, and no systematic analysis of influencing factors in the context of implementing the National Strategy for the Digital Transformation of Journalism. These gaps provide the rationale for this thesis to select its topic, build a theoretical framework, survey the current situation, and propose solutions to enhance the digital competence of television journalists in the current context of journalism's digital transformation in Vietnam.

2. General assessment of the reviewed research and issues to be addressed in the thesis

2.1. What has been studied and the research gaps

Many studies have analyzed the context of journalism's digital transformation and the need for digital competencies of journalists. Some general digital competence frameworks have been proposed to evaluate digital competencies of journalists. However, gaps remain:

- Lack of a specialized theoretical framework and digital competence framework for Vietnamese television journalists.
- Lack of a large - scale empirical survey on the digital competence of television journalists.
- Lack of a systematic analysis of influencing factors at multiple levels.
- Lack of a comprehensive system of solutions and recommendations tailored to the specifics of television and the Vietnamese context.

2.2. Content the thesis will focus on

- Developing a conceptual framework and a digital competence framework for television journalists.
- Assessing the current state of television journalists' digital competence across various competence domains.
- Analyzing the individual, organizational, and social factors that influence digital competence.
- Proposing a system of solutions and recommendations to enhance the digital competence of television journalists.

CHAPTER 1: THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL FOUNDATIONS OF THE DIGITAL COMPETENCE OF TELEVISION JOURNALISTS IN THE CURRENT CONTEXT OF DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN JOURNALISM IN VIETNAM

1.1. Conceptual literature related to the topic

1.1.1. Journalism, television journalism

1.1.1.1. Journalism

Journalism is understood in a broad sense, including print, radio, television, and online journalism. Its characteristics include periodicity, official nature, organizational and representative nature, public nature, orientation, indirect communication, richness, diversity and multidimensionality, interactivity, multi-platform nature, and multimedia nature.

1.1.1.2. Television Journalism

Television journalism is a type of journalism capable of conveying information through moving images and sound, together with other multimedia elements, produced and distributed via terrestrial and other broadcast television infrastructures as well as internet-based platforms.

1.1.2. Digital transformation, Digital transformation in journalism

1.1.2.1. Digital transformation

Digital transformation is defined as the process of applying data and digital technology to comprehensively and fundamentally change operational processes, business models, and human capabilities, aiming to create new values, enhance competitiveness, and improve adaptability in the digital environment.

1.1.2.2. Digital transformation in journalism

Digital transformation in journalism refers to the use of digital tools and technological solutions to innovate the models, methods of newsgathering, production, and distribution of journalistic products and services, in order to optimize the organizational and operational models of press agencies. On that basis, it enables the provision of new value to the public and generates new revenue streams for the economics of journalism.

1.1.3. Journalist, television journalist

1.1.3.1. Journalist

A journalist is a person who works professionally in a press agency, is issued a press card, and has the duty to collect and process information as well as create journalistic works to meet the public's information needs and to propagate, guide, and orient public opinion.

1.1.3.2. Television Journalist

A television journalist is a person who performs journalistic activities professionally in the field of television and is issued a press card. They are responsible for seeking, collecting, verifying, processing, and presenting information in the form of images and sound, written text, and graphics in a manner appropriate to the specific characteristics of television, in order to produce and broadcast programmes on television and digital platforms.

1.1.4. Competence, journalist's Competence, television journalist's Competence

1.1.4.1. Competence

Competence is defined as the combination of knowledge, skills, attitudes, and other qualities (such as motivation and personal aspirations) that an individual needs in order to carry out an activity or solve a problem in specific contexts so as to achieve goals in learning and work.

1.1.4.2. Journalist's competence

Journalistic competence is the comprehensive combination of knowledge (foundational theory, specialised expertise, social understanding), skills (critical thinking, multimedia newsgathering and production, technology application, social interaction) and attitudes and qualities (political steadfastness, professional ethics, social responsibility) that a journalist flexibly and creatively applies in order to fulfil effectively the social functions of the press and to produce information products of value that meet the increasingly demanding expectations of the public.

1.1.4.3. Television journalist's competence

Television journalistic competence is the comprehensive combination of specialised knowledge, professional skills, attitudes, and qualities (such as professional courage, the ability to work under pressure, and creativity) that television journalists draw upon to adapt to a diverse and challenging working environment in the field of television.

1.1.5. Digital competence, journalist's digital competence, television journalist's digital competence

1.1.5.1. Digital competence

Digital competence is the combination of knowledge, skills, attitudes, capacities, strategies, and awareness required to use information and communication technologies (ICT) and digital tools effectively and ethically.

1.1.5.2. Journalist's digital competence

Journalists' digital competence is the combination of knowledge, skills, and attitudes that enables journalists to use digital technologies proactively, confidently, and responsibly to gather, process, produce, and distribute content, and to interact with the public across digital platforms and communication environments.

1.1.5.3. Television journalist's digital competence

Television journalists' digital competence is the combination of knowledge, skills, and attitudes that enables television journalists to use digital technologies, equipment, and platforms proactively, effectively, and responsibly in order to collect, process, create, edit, and distribute television content, as well as to interact with audiences in digital environments.

1.1.6. Digital competence of television journalists in the context of digital transformation in journalism

The digital competence of television journalists in the context of journalism's digital transformation is the combination of knowledge, skills, and attitudes that enables television

journalists to apply, exploit, and innovate with digital technologies and contemporary communication platforms effectively throughout the entire process of information handling, production, distribution, and multi-platform interaction. At the same time, it requires strict compliance with the law, professional codes of conduct, ethical standards, and social responsibility in digital environments, so as to fulfil the social functions of journalism effectively in the era of digital transformation.

1.2. Theories in the research

1.2.1. European Digital Competence Framework for Citizens - DigComp

The EU's DigComp Framework: This is presented as the most comprehensive and influential framework, comprising five core areas: (1) Information and data literacy, (2) Communication and collaboration, (3) Digital content creation, (4) Safety, and (5) Problem solving. DigComp focuses not only on technical skills but also emphasizes critical thinking, digital safety, and ethics. Due to its comprehensive, up-to-date, and flexible nature, the author has selected this framework as the primary foundation for developing a competence framework for television journalists. After comparison, the author affirms that DigComp is the most suitable framework to serve as a research basis because it fully encompasses the elements essential for the modern journalism profession, including information skills, creativity, safety, and ethics in the digital environment.

1.2.2. Diffusion of Innovations Theory (DOI)

Used to explain how digital technology is received, tested, accepted, and spread within television press agencies, and the role of leadership, organizational norms, and social networks in shaping digital competence.

1.2.3. Technology Acceptance Model (TAM)

Used to analyze how journalists' perceptions of usefulness and ease of use shape their attitudes, intentions, and behaviors regarding the adoption and use of digital technology.

1.3. Relevant Political and Legal Basis

1.3.1. Viewpoints and Policies of the Party and Laws of the State on Digital Transformation, Digital Transformation of Journalism, and Requirements for Journalists

Resolutions and directives from the Party on the development of journalism, national digital transformation, the digital economy, and digital society clearly define the requirement to improve the quality of the journalistic workforce and build a professional, modern press.

The Press Law, the National Digital Transformation Strategy, and digital transformation programs for journalism from the Government and the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism set specific requirements for infrastructure, organization, and human resources, in which the digital competence of journalists is a key factor.

1.3.2. Digital Transformation Strategies of Some Television Stations in Vietnam

The digital transformation strategies of Vietnam Television, Hanoi Radio and Television Station, Danang Newspaper and Radio - Television Station, and Ho Chi Minh City Television all reflect a fairly unified understanding: digital transformation is not just about

equipping technology but is a comprehensive restructuring process of the media organization towards a digital agency, a convergent newsroom, multi-platform, and centered on data and the public. These units have focused on building digital infrastructure, applying key technologies, and multi-platform production models, while emphasizing the training and retraining of the workforce's digital competence. A common strength is the initial formation of a long - term vision with specific targets, considering data and digital content as strategic assets, and viewing digital transformation as a central task. However, current strategies tend to focus on macro - level structural design, objectives, and solutions; they have not yet truly specified detailed professional digital competence frameworks for each position, especially for television journalists, nor have they clearly outlined mechanisms for measuring and evaluating the workforce's mastery of digital competence at each stage.

1.4. Impacts of current digital transformation in journalism on the digital competence of television journalists in Vietnam

The digital transformation of journalism is creating profound changes in the digital competence of Vietnamese television journalists in three main aspects.

First, regarding technology and communication methods, the television content production - distribution process has shifted strongly from a linear, single channel model to a multiplatform, integrated model based on the Internet, OTT, social media, and mobile devices. The emergence and deep application of AI, Big Data, Cloud, IoT, Blockchain, VR/AR, etc., mean that journalists can no longer suffice with traditional television skills but must familiarize themselves with, operate, and effectively exploit new tools, software, and data systems, while also facing demands for ethics, transparency, and responsibility in the digital environment.

Second, the drastic change in the public's information consumption habits and needs watching anytime, anywhere, on multiple devices, preferring short, highly interactive, personalized content increases competitive pressure and audience fragmentation. Television journalists must deeply understand viewer behavior on each platform, know how to build and maintain communities, engage in two way interaction, and process and verify user generated content, all while maintaining credibility and depth of information.

Third, the job of a television journalist itself is undergoing many changes. They must become multitasking journalists: reporter, editor, camera operator, and video editor, as well as digital content producer, social media manager, data analyst, personal brand builder, and product promoter. Skills in writing for digital platforms, producing video on mobile devices, using data analysis tools, and optimizing content for algorithms have become core components of digital competence. Along with this comes the pressure of speed, frequency, and competition with social media and digital platforms, making the challenge of balancing “speed” with “accuracy and depth” a central issue in the development of television journalists' digital competence today.

1.5. Criteria for assessing the digital competence of television journalists in the

current context of digital transformation in journalism in Vietnam

The thesis proposes a digital competence framework based on the DigComp 2.2 framework with justifications suitable for the work of television journalists in the context of digital transformation in Vietnam, comprising 5 main competence domains with 50 component competencies:

- Information and Data Literacy
- Communication and Collaboration
- Digital Content Creation
- Safety
- Problem Solving

CHAPTER 2: CURRENT STATE OF THE DIGITAL COMPETENCES OF TELEVISION JOURNALISTS IN THE CURRENT CONTEXT OF DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN JOURNALISM IN VIETNAM

2.1. Introduction about the Surveyed Television Organizations

2.1.1. Vietnam Television (VTV)

Vietnam Television (VTV) is the national television broadcaster, a key multiplatform media agency under the Government, tasked with disseminating the Party's guidelines and the State's laws, contributing to education, raising public knowledge, and serving the spiritual life of the people. With 22 subordinate units, 12 broadcast channels, and a network of domestic and international bureaus, VTV plays a core role on the ideological front and is a pioneer in innovating content, presentation formats, and applying modern technology. In recent years, VTV has been accelerating its digital transformation, building a content ecosystem on multiple platforms (VTVGo, social media, etc.), achieving wide coverage domestically and internationally, and effectively reaching young audiences in the digital environment.

2.1.2. Hanoi Radio and Television Station

Hanoi Radio and Television Station is the capital's key media agency, originating from radio broadcasting in 1954 and television broadcasting since 1979. The station plays an important role in propagandizing the policies of the Party, State, and Hanoi City, while also producing many cultural and entertainment programs for the capital's residents. In recent years, the station has been a leader in digitizing production processes, building a convergent newsroom, and developing the HANOI ON digital media ecosystem, gradually becoming a modern multimedia communication complex.

2.1.3. Danang Newspaper and Radio - Television Station

Danang Newspaper and Radio - Television Station is a public service unit under the Da Nang City Party Committee, formed from the merger of several newspaper, radio, and

television agencies of Da Nang and Quang Nam. After the merger, it possesses a multi-departmental organizational structure covering content, technology, finance, print media, online media digital content, radio, and television, enabling the operation of a convergent newsroom model. The unit serves as an official information channel, a bridge between the Party Committee, government, and the people, while gradually transitioning to a multiplatform media model in the context of the city's smart city development.

2.1.4. VTV's Regional Center in Central Vietnam and the Central Highlands

VTV's Regional Center in Central Vietnam and the Central Highlands, merged from VTV centers in Da Nang, Hue, and Phu Yen, is a subordinate unit of VTV responsible for producing programs for the VTV8 channel. Launched in 2016, VTV8 is VTV's national broadcast channel focusing on reflecting the political, economic, cultural, social, and security-defense life of the Central and Central Highlands region, while also conveying the Party's and State's policies to the people of this region. With 18 hours of broadcasting per day, a rich system of news bulletins, feature films, game shows, and specialized programs broadcast on multiple platforms (terrestrial, online, VTVGo), VTV8 is increasingly affirming its position as an important information channel connected to the audience of the Central and Central Highlands region.

2.1.5. Ho Chi Minh city Radio and Television

Ho Chi Minh city Radio and Television was formed from the merger of Ho Chi Minh City Television (HTV, the Voice of Ho Chi Minh City People (VOH), Binh Duong Radio and Television Station (BTV), and Ba Ria - Vung Tau Radio and Television Station (BRT), managed by the Ho Chi Minh City People's Committee. The backbone and core of this model is HTV - the second largest television station in the country, with a rich system of broadcast and pay TV channels, diverse content, modern technical infrastructure, and broadcasting on multiple infrastructures and digital platforms (htv.com.vn, HTVm, social media). The merger with BTV, BRT, and VOH creates a large-scale media ecosystem, combining the strengths of television, radio, and digital content, allowing the station to operate a multimedia, multiplatform production model; fulfilling both political-propaganda tasks and meeting the growing information and entertainment needs of the public in the Southern region and across the country.

2.1.6. VTV's Center in Ho Chi Minh City

VTV's Center in Ho Chi Minh City, in charge of the VTV9 channel, was formed from VTV's resident agency in Ho Chi Minh City (1988) and officially became a Center under Decision 904/QĐ-THVN in 2003. VTV9 is one of VTV's national broadcast channels, tasked with producing and broadcasting programs that comprehensively reflect the political, economic, cultural, social, sports, and entertainment life of Ho Chi Minh City, the Southeast region, and the Southern region. The Center is also responsible for content management and advertising exploitation on the channel, demonstrating its role as both a program production unit and a

commercial operator within the national television system.

2.2. Survey on digital competence of television journalists at surveyed television organizations

2.2.1. Survey on Information and data literacy of television journalists at surveyed television organizations

Television journalists in the survey have a fairly good foundation in basic competences: searching for information on Google, using social media to find topics, using search filters, and managing digital materials at an acceptable level. The average score for this competence domain is approximately 3.55. However, advanced competencies are still weak: using image and video verification tools (InVID, Google Lens, etc.), setting up news alerts by topic, organizing a scientific data repository, and especially, applying data journalism. Journalists are primarily strong in “finding” information but are limited in “analyzing and storytelling with data” in a context where fake news, deepfakes, and AI generated content are increasingly complex.

2.2.2. Survey on Communication and collaboration of television journalism at surveyed television organizations

This competence domain has an average score of about 3.46. Competences for internal communication and coordination via digital environments (Zalo groups, email, online meetings, remote production assignments, etc.) are highly rated; adherence to ethics and codes of conduct in online communication is also a strength. However, journalists are still weak in competencies related to the digital audience: building and managing fan pages/YouTube channels/TikTok accounts, organizing online interactions, analyzing audience feedback with analytics tools (Meta Business Suite, Analytics, etc.), and handling media crises on digital platforms. Overall, they are better at using tools for “internal newsroom exchange” than for “managing audience communities” in the digital space.

2.2.3. Survey on Digital content creation of television journalists at surveyed television organizations

This is a central competence domain, with an average score of about 3.43. Television journalists are relatively proficient in basic production skills: filming news/reports with cameras or smartphones, editing video and audio on professional software, respecting copyright when using digital materials, and repurposing television products for multiple platforms. However, purely digital creative competence is limited: there are few formats designed specifically for social media, skills in using graphics/infographic tools, optimizing content for the algorithms of each platform (YouTube, TikTok, etc.), and applying new technologies (AI, VR/AR, Big Data) in production are still low. Most digital content is still “derivative” of television programs, not yet fully exploiting the creative potential of the digital environment.

2.2.4. Survey on Safety of television journalists at surveyed television organizations

The average score for this competence domain is about 3.37. TV Journalists have a good awareness of ethics and safety in protecting sources, subjects, and privacy; they are partially aware of the impact of digital technology on health and the environment and try to balance their device usage time. However, technical security skills are still weak: installing and using security software, setting up secure access permissions for storage systems, identifying and handling cybersecurity incidents, and responding to online harassment and attacks. In the context of increasing cyberattacks, account theft, copyright infringement, and information manipulation, this is a “worrying gap” in the digital competence of many television journalists.

2.2.5. Survey on Problem Solving of television journalists at surveyed television organizations

This domain has an average score of about 3.3. Journalists are capable of selecting and using appropriate software, finding online tutorials (Google, YouTube, etc.) to fix technical errors, and have a certain awareness of self - assessing their limitations and learning needs. However, their ability to solve problems proactively and creatively is still weak: there is little experimentation and application of new technologies (AI, VR/AR, etc.), skills in improving processes and optimizing tools to suit their own and their team's workflow are limited; participation in courses and workshops to enhance digital skills is not very frequent. In other words, the majority of journalists are stuck at “troubleshooting when problems occur” rather than proactively “preventing, improving, and leading change” in the digital environment.

2.2. Assessment of the digital competence of television journalists at the surveyed organizations

2.2.1. Strengths

The survey indicates that, overall, the digital competence of television journalists is at a medium - fairly good level (3.3 - 3.55). The majority reach the “fairly good” - “good” range in competence clusters associated with the television production workflow, although there is a clear differentiation between basic and advanced competences.

In terms of strengths, the foundation of basic digital competence has been established relatively firmly: journalists are proficient in using the internet and social networks to search for information, identify story ideas, and monitor public opinion; they are familiar with shooting - editing video, processing audio, using mobile phones for reporting, live production, and on site reporting on digital platforms. Communicative and collaborative competence in the digital environment has become a professional habit, helping to maintain production even when work is carried out in a dispersed manner.

In organizations that are at the forefront of digital transformation, there has emerged a cohort of multiplatform journalists who are able to adapt formats and storytelling techniques

to each specific platform. Attitudes toward digital competence are generally positive: many journalists are aware that this is a matter of survival, and therefore take the initiative to self study, participate in training courses, share experiences, and invest in equipment at their own expense.

2.2.2. Limitations

Television journalists show limitations in competences that require greater depth. There is a considerable gap between basic skills (such as information searching, shooting, and editing) and more advanced competences, including data exploitation and analysis, data journalism, visualization, in-depth verification, and content optimization in line with platform algorithms; the application of new tools often remains at the experimental level.

Competence in managing digital communities and interacting with audiences (designing native digital content, interpreting user analytics data, moderating interactions, handling negative comments, and identifying potential crises) remains weak. Skills related to ensuring digital safety and security and protecting content copyright are not uniform across practitioners, while the risks of misinformation, deepfakes, cyberattacks, and content theft are increasing.

Problem solving competence and the ability to adapt to technological innovation mainly stop at handling for day - to - day technical incidents; the capacity to proactively propose and test new solutions is still limited due to pressures of workload and time.

CHAPTER 3: FACTORS AFFECTING THE DIGITAL COMPETENCE OF TELEVISION JOURNALISTS IN THE CURRENT CONTEXT OF DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN JOURNALISM IN VIETNAM TODAY

3.1. The influence of individual factors on the digital competences of television journalists

3.1.1. Demographic characteristics

Age and year of work experience: Quantitative analysis shows that younger journalists and those with fewer years in the professional experience tend to have higher digital competence, while older journalists with longer tenure tend to score lower in overall digital competence. This finding supports hypotheses and is consistent with generational gap theory in technology adoption.

Gender, educational attainment, job position: These variables do not show statistically significant correlations with composite digital competence scores. Thus, demographic characteristics create a clear differentiation in digital competence; young, highly educated individuals working closely with digital platforms have an advantage.

In short, demographic factors create a clear stratification: younger journalists, often with higher education and working closer to digital platforms, have an advantage in digital

competence.

3.1.2. Awareness and motivation of television journalists

In terms of awareness, the majority of television journalists fall into the “high” and “very high” awareness categories, accounting for 78,0%. This indicates that understanding of digital competence as part of television journalism has been formed quite clearly among most respondents; this constitutes a necessary condition for such awareness to be translated into attitudes and, in particular, into behaviour across the five digital competence domains.

In terms of motivation, most journalists are clearly aware of the inevitability and benefits of digital competence: 33,8% respondents regard digital competence as a way to “help work better and more efficiently”, and 30,9% consider it “essential to the journalism profession today”. Their main motivation stems from job requirements, the desire not to fall behind, and the need to maintain their professional position rather than from purely administrative mandates.

The main barriers are linked to the perceived “difficulty of use” of technology: technology changes too quickly (19,7%), lack of time due to work overload (22,1%), combined with inertia and reluctance to change among a segment of journalists, especially those from older generations.

In summary, a positive attitude and clear recognition of the benefits of digital competence encourage journalists to learn proactively and have a positive impact on their digital competence; conversely, the feeling that technology is “difficult quickly obsolete overly time consuming” reduces motivation to improve digital competence.

3.1.3. Attitudes towards technology of television journalists

Journalists who adopt new technologies/skills early tend to achieve higher levels of digital competence. Among the “early adopter” group, the proportion of those whose competence “meets” and “fully meets” requirements is about 82,5%, with 29,2% at the “fully meets” level alone. By contrast, in the “late adopter” group, the combined share at “meets” and “fully meets” is only around 69,0%, while the proportions at the “weak” and “average” levels are clearly higher.

3.2. Influence of the organization and work environment on the digital competence of television journalists

3.2.1. Role of leadership

Leadership is seen as the decisive factor: “As the leader goes, so goes the movement”. Leaders are key “agents of change”, creating the vision, pressure to change, and a supportive space for journalists to develop digital competence.

Survey shows that 68,7% of journalists highly value leaders who pioneer and encourage the application of new technology; 76,6% believe leaders encourage and create conditions for enhancing digital competence. Where leaders have a digital mindset, prioritize digital transformation strategically, set KPIs, and have reward mechanisms for digital products, the team's digital competence increases rapidly, and inertia decreases.

3.2.2. Policies, mechanisms, and organizational models

Regarding training and capacity building, journalists in the sample who report a higher level of participation in digital skills training tend to cluster more in the “quite good” and “good” digital competence groups, while those with limited training are mainly found in the “average” or lower groups. This confirms that training and upskilling in digital skills are closely associated with differences in digital competence.

Regarding the working environment, a work environment that encourages innovation and creativity has a positive and statistically significant effect on digital competence. Journalists working in settings where they are empowered to propose ideas, where leaders support initiatives, and where there are mechanisms to recognise and reward experimentation with new working methods tend to have higher levels of digital competence. Conversely, in environments rated as less supportive, most journalists cluster at “average” or “fairly good” levels, and very few reach the “good” level.

Thus, policies and mechanisms serve as the bridge between “strategy” and “behaviour”: if digital work is not linked to performance evaluation, income, and career opportunities, digital competence is unlikely to receive sustained investment from journalists.

3.2.3. Technological infrastructure and equipment of television organizations

The technological infrastructure, equipment, and technical support systems of television organizations are decisive material conditions for the development of television journalists’ digital competence. Survey results show a very clear correlation: in organizations assessed as having high technological infrastructure, the vast majority of journalists reach “good” and “fairly good” levels of digital competence, while the proportions at “average” or “weak” levels are almost negligible; conversely, in organizations with low infrastructure, digital competence is mainly at the average - fairly good level, with very few cases reaching the “good” level. This confirms that the material - technical environment (studios, editing rooms, digital production and broadcasting systems, software, mobile devices, network connectivity, etc.) plays a pivotal role, either creating opportunities or forming barriers to the updating, practice, and enhancement of television journalists’ digital competence.

3.2.4. Differences in digital competence between television organizations

Television journalists’ digital competence differs systematically across organizations. Central and major urban broadcasters such as Ho Chi Minh City Television, Vietnam Television (VTV), Hanoi Radio and Television Station, and Danang Newspaper and Radio - Television Station have significantly higher average levels of digital competence than VTV’s regional centers in the Central - Central Highlands and in Ho Chi Minh City. The underlying reason lies in the level of organizational digital transformation maturity: clear digital strategies, synchronized infrastructure and data systems, convergent newsroom models, KPI and remuneration mechanisms linked to digital products, and work environments that encourage innovation and knowledge sharing. By contrast, regional centers face greater constraints in terms of resources, infrastructure, financial mechanisms, and policies for digital

products, so that even when a segment of journalists have strong personal motivation, the overall level of digital competence still struggles to reach a high and sustainable level.

3.3. Influence of social factors on the digital competence of television journalists

3.3.1. Television journalists' awareness of emerging technology trends

Social factors have a significant impact on the digital competence of television journalists. Television journalists' awareness of emerging technology trends shows a very strong positive correlation with digital competence and is the single most influential factor; at the same time, the extent to which new technologies are applied in daily work also contributes positively to improving their digital competence.

3.3.2. Television journalists' awareness of changes in audience behavior and expectations

Awareness of changes in the behavior and expectations of digital audiences has a moderate positive correlation with digital competence. This indicates that the more deeply journalists understand active, interactive, multi-platform audiences, the more they are required to enhance their digital competence in content creation, interaction, and online community management.

3.3.3. Television journalists' assessment of the legal framework and macro level policies for digital journalism

A positive assessment of the legal framework and macro level policies for digital journalism is also moderately to fairly positively associated with television journalists' digital competence: a clear, up-to-date, and feasible legal system helps reduce professional risks, increases the motivation for innovation, and creates favorable conditions for journalists to confidently apply new technologies.

Taken together, the social environment not only shapes the professional space in which journalists operate but also directly and indirectly promotes or constrains the formation and development of television journalists' digital competence.

CHAPTER 4: EMERGING ISSUES, SOLUTIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENHANCING THE DIGITAL COMPETENCE OF TELEVISION JOURNALISTS IN THE CURRENT CONTEXT OF DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN JOURNALISM IN VIETNAM

4.1. Emerging issues

The thesis identifies 5 major groups of issues corresponding to the 5 digital competence domains:

Limitations in information and data competence in the face of the challenges of fake news and the trend toward data journalism: Journalists are strong in search skills (Google, social media) but weak in data analysis, visualization, data journalism, and advanced verification in the context of fake news, deepfakes, and AI generated content.

Limitations in communication, collaboration competence and in community management on social media platforms: Internal communication via digital means is good, but two-way communication with digital audiences, community management, feedback analysis, and crisis management on digital platforms are limited.

Limitations in the competence to create multi-platform digital content: They have mastered basic shooting and editing skills, but most digital content is still “derivative” of television; there is a lack of purely digital formats, optimization for platform algorithms, and application of AI, VR/AR, and Big Data.

Limitations in the competence to ensure digital safety and security and to protect copyright in the digital media environment: Ethical awareness and protection of subjects and sources are relatively good, but technical security skills, data protection, handling of cyberattacks, and digital copyright infringement are still weak.

Limitations in problem solving competence and in the ability to adapt to technological innovation and digital transformation in television organizations: Journalists mainly temporarily handle when technical problems occur, are less proactive in experimenting, improving processes, applying new technologies, and lack a change - leading mindset.

These limitations stem not only from individuals but also from organizational factors (strategy, mechanisms, infrastructure) and institutional factors (economics of digital journalism, legal framework, support policies).

4.2. Solutions to enhance the digital competence of television journalists

4.2.1. For television journalists

Develop a lifelong learning mindset, viewing technology updates as a regular task. Create a personal digital competence development plan based on the 5 competence domains (information & data, digital communication, content creation, safety, problem solving). Proactively learn and practice new tools (Mobile journalism, editing software, graphics, fact-checking tools, AI content support, etc.) and cultivate a multi-platform storytelling mindset. Build a professional and responsible personal brand on social media, linked to the reputation of the press agency.

4.2.2. For television press agencies

Build a human - centric digital transformation strategy, with digital competence as a pillar on par with technological infrastructure. Restructure the newsroom into a convergent model, organizing production with a “one source - multiple formats - multi-platform” approach; clarify roles, responsibilities, and the pathway for digital products. Design systematic internal training and development programs, stratified by audience (reporters, editors, leaders); focus on data journalism, digital platform management, and digital safety. Improve remuneration mechanisms, KPIs, and specific royalties for digital products, linking digital content performance to evaluation, income, and promotion opportunities; encourage the creation of purely digital formats.

4.2.3. For journalism training and development institutions

Adjust curricula and teaching methods according to the digital competence framework; integrate digital skills into most specialized modules. Enhance the digital competence of lecturers through training, practical experience in newsrooms, and collaboration with technology companies. Strengthen cooperation with press agencies: co-designing modules, organizing meaningful internships and practical training, inviting journalists and managers from press agencies to participate in teaching.

4.2.4. For state management agencies

Establish a national digital competence standard for journalists, to serve as a reference framework for recruitment, evaluation, training, and development. Complete the economic and legal mechanisms for digital journalism: financial mechanisms for digital products, protection of journalistic content copyright online, and legislating the responsibility of platforms. Organize national - scale digital competence development programs for journalists, especially on data journalism, AI, digital safety, and platform governance.

4.3. Some Recommendations for Enhancing the Digital Competence of Television Journalists

4.3.1. For Television Press Agencies

Develop a roadmap for enhancing digital competence linked to each job position (reporter, editor, cameraperson, director, digital editor, etc.).

For each surveyed unit (VTV, HTV, Hanoi Station, Danang Newspaper and Radio - Television, VTV8, VTV9, etc.), the thesis provides specific recommendations on: Prioritizing training in data journalism, AI, and platform management; perfecting the convergent newsroom organization and digital core teams; investing in data storage and analysis infrastructure, CMS/MAM, and mobile journalism production equipment; implementing KPIs and specific remuneration for digital products.

4.3.2. For Training Institutions

Develop or strengthen courses/majors in: Digital Journalism, Data Journalism; Multi-platform Video Production, Mobile Journalism; Content Management and Audience Data Analysis. Apply a convergent newsroom model and organize practical projects on digital platforms.

4.3.3. For State Management Agencies

Complete policies to support the digital transformation of journalism (Simplify procedures for technology investment; Standardize the digital competence of the journalistic workforce through: professional standards, requirements for continuous training, and linking training results to appointments, promotion exams, and title considerations).

CONCLUSION

In the context of strong digital transformation, television journalism faces both opportunities and challenges. Digital technology is changing the way content is produced, distributed, and monetized, forcing a redefinition of professional competence standards. Television journalists can no longer rely on traditional processes but must possess comprehensive digital competence to survive and thrive in a highly competitive, multi-platform media environment. The thesis “Digital competence of television journalists in the current context of journalism's digital transformation in Vietnam” was conducted to systematically explain this issue and propose solutions to enhance the digital competence of the television journalist workforce.

Theoretically, the thesis: Clarifies key concepts, inherits international digital competence frameworks (especially DigComp), and proposes a specific digital competence criteria for Vietnamese television journalists with 5 competence areas: Information & Data Literacy, Communication & Collaboration, Digital Content Creation, Safety, and Problem Solving, comprising 50 component criteria. Applies a combination of two theories, Diffusion of Innovations (DOI) and Technology Acceptance Model (TAM), to analyze digital competence in the relationship between the individual, the organization, and the social environment.

Practically, based on surveys at 6 television agencies and in-depth interviews, the survey results show that the digital competence of television journalists is at a decent level but is clearly differentiated: Basic skills (information search, social media use, shooting - editing) are quite good; Advanced competencies (data journalism, advanced verification, digital audience analysis, creation of purely digital formats) are still limited; Journalists are strong at “finding” but weak at “storytelling with data”, good at internal communication but still clumsy with the digital public, and less proactive in experimenting with new technologies.

Influencing factors were identified at three levels: (1) Individual: age, work experience, attitude, self learning habits. (2) Organizational: strategy, culture, mechanisms, infrastructure. (3) Societal: technology, audience behavior, legal framework, journalism economics.

On that basis, the thesis proposes a system of solutions and recommendations:

For journalists: develop a digital mindset, consider digital competence as a core competence, form a habit of lifelong learning, proactively update technology, and train in all 5 competence domains.

For television press agencies: build a human - centric digital transformation strategy, restructure into a convergent newsroom, invest in internal training, create a culture of innovation, and apply KPIs and remuneration linked to digital products.

For journalism training institutions: innovate curricula to deeply integrate digital competence, enhance the digital competence of lecturers, and increase substantive cooperation with newsrooms.

For state management agencies: establish a national digital competence standard for journalists, complete the legal and financial mechanisms for digital journalism, and organize national - scale digital competence development programs.

The thesis makes certain contributions to the theoretical basis (conceptual framework, competence framework) and practical understanding (current state of digital competence of television journalists, influencing factors, system of solutions). However, the thesis also has limitations: the survey scope was focused on a few large stations (Hanoi, Da Nang, Ho Chi Minh City), measurement was primarily by self - assessment, not deeply combined with practical tests and product analysis; the rapidly changing technological context may create new competence requirements that the thesis has not fully covered. This opens up avenues for future research, such as expanding the survey subjects, developing a competence assessment toolkit that combines theory, practice, and product analysis, and conducting more in-depth research on the impact of AI on the television journalism profession.

In conclusion, the thesis affirms that enhancing the digital competence of television journalists is a prerequisite for Vietnamese television journalism not only to adapt but also to lead in the digital era. Digital competence is not just about “knowing how to use technology”, but an opportunity to expand creative boundaries, increase social influence, and renew traditional journalistic values. To realize the recommendations, a synchronous, long-term, and strategic engagement from the State, press agencies, training institutions, and each journalist is needed, aiming for a modern, humane, and highly competitive television journalism in the digital age.

LIST OF PUBLISHED WORKS RALATED TO THE THESIS

1. Nguyen Thi Thu Tra (2022), *Promotion activities for TV programs*, Journal of Political theory and Communication, issue 11-2022 .
2. Nguyen Thi Thu Tra (2024), *Using social media to protect the Party's ideological foundation in the current context of digital transformation in Vietnam*, National Conference on Digital Transformation in Ideological and Theoretical Work, co-organized by the Academy of Journalism and Communication, National Political Publishing House of Truth, and the People's Police Academy, 2024.
3. Nguyen Thi Thu Tra (2024), *Using artificial intelligence technology in television program production*, online Journal of Political theory and Communication, 10 - 2024.
4. Dinh Thi Thu Hang - Nguyen Thi Thu Tra (2025), *Journalists' courage in the fighting against fake news and harmful information: contributing to defending the Party's ideological foundation*, *Journal of Political Theory and Communication*, issue 2 - 2025.
5. Nguyen Thi Thu Tra (2025), *Enhancing the digital competence of journalists - the core force on the ideological and theoretical front in the context of digital transformation*, Ministerial - level Scientific Conference on Innovating Ideological and Theoretical Work in the Context of Digital Transformation, Academy of Journalism and Communication.
6. Nguyen Thi Thu Tra (2025), *An approach to international research on the digital competence of journalists*, *Journal of Political Theory*, issue 11 - 2025.
7. Nguyen Thi Thu Tra (2025), *Key aspects of digital transformation in journalism and the requirement to enhance the digital competence of television journalists in Vietnam today*, Online Journal of Political theory and Communication, 12 - 2025.
8. Nguyen Thi Thu Tra (2026), *The Role of Digital Competence for Television Journalists in the Context of Journalism's Digital Transformation*, Online Journal of Political theory, 2 - 2026.