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U.S.-backed Vietnam university condemns rumors it foments 'color revolution'

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International relations

Taboos about Vietnam War and one-party rule kick up social media furor around Fulbright



U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, center, presents a Letter of Intent to fund Fulbright University Vietnam's construction in 2017. Critics blasted an ex-school official for focusing on U.S. suffering in the Vietnam War. © Reuters

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HO CHI MINH CITY -- A U.S. funded university in Vietnam says accusations that it enabled talk of regime change in the one-party state are threatening to undermine bilateral ties between the two countries.

"Violent" attacks toward the school have surfaced on social media, Fulbright University Vietnam said Friday, after rumors about it allegedly engaging "in activities that foster a 'color revolution' in Vietnam" spread. The school calls the rumors "preposterous" and "baseless." The furor included critics with possible Vietnamese government links lashing out at a former university official's remarks that Americans also suffered in the Vietnam War.