

Hanoi hosts Trump-Kim summit

The Vietnamese capital hosts the second summit between U.S. President *Donald Trump* and North Korean leader *Kim Jong-un*

UNITED STATES



NORTH KOREA



- Post-war Vietnam – communist with capitalist leanings – is now one of Asia's fastest-growing economies, and close U.S. ally

- Bilateral trade up from \$451m to nearly \$52bn from 1995 to 2016

- Location of Vietnam strategically important for U.S. – currently locked in trade war with China

- Vietnam and North Korea share ambivalent relations with neighbouring China

- Trade down due to UN sanctions against Pyongyang, but reached \$7m in 2017

- Visit could give Kim chance to learn from Vietnam's economic success story

- Short flight – none over hostile territory – and efficient security in Hanoi will also boost confidence



VIETNAM

Leaders including Prime Minister *Nguyen Xuan Phuc* (above) hope summit will boost diplomatic leverage against China, which contests waters in South China Sea claimed by Vietnam