



**EUROPEAN UNION - THAILAND
SEMINAR ON RECONCILIATION AND FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION**

**BANGKOK, 30/31 JANUARY 2013
VENUE DUSIT THANI HOTEL**

AGENDA

DAY 1 – 30 January 2013	
10:15-10:45	Registration Confirmation of attendance to EU reception/dinner <i>Tea / Coffee Break</i>
10:45-11:00	INTRODUCTORY REMARKS Opening remarks by H.E. David Lipman , Head of EU Delegation to Thailand
11:00-11:20	A) OPENING PLENARY: KEY ADDRESSES ON RECONCILIATION AND FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION Dr. Niran Phitakwatchara , Commissioner of the National Human Rights Commission Professor Timothy Garton Ash , Professor of European Studies at Oxford University
11:20-11:40	
12:00-13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30-15:00	B) PLENARY: MEDIA LANDSCAPE IN THAILAND Panellists:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>"Thai media landscape – implications to freedom of media and freedom of expression"</i> by Asst. Prof. Dr. Pirongrong Ramasoota, Department of Journalism and Information, Faculty of Communication Arts, Chulalongkorn University • <i>"Legal challenges to media freedom"</i> by Mr. Sinfah Tunsarawuth, independent media lawyer • <i>"Media operation – difficulties and challenges from international media perspective"</i> by Mr. Nirmal Ghosh, President of FCCT • <i>"Media's roles in promoting reconciliation"</i> by Dr. Gothom Arya, Director of Research Center for Peace Building, Mahidol University <p>Discussion moderated by: Dr. Thitinan Pongsudhirak, Director, Institute of Security and International Studies (ISIS), Chulalongkorn University</p> <p>Open discussion – questions and answers</p>
15:00 -15:30	<i>Tea/ Coffee Break</i>
15:30-17:30	<p>C) ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS: MEDIA LANDSCAPE IN THAILAND</p> <p><u>Round Table 1: Institutional framework (the role of national regulating institutions in contributing to freedom of expression)</u></p> <p>Introductory remarks by :</p> <p>Mr. Chavarong Limpattamapanee, President of Thai Journalists Association</p> <p>Ms. Supinya Klangnarong, Commissioner of National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC)</p> <p>Mr. Prasong Lertratanawisute, Member of the National Legal Reform Committee</p> <p>Discussion moderated by: Ms. Nattha Komolvadhin, Thai PBS</p> <p><u>Round Table 2: Challenges in the field from journalists' perspectives</u></p>

	<p>Introductory remarks by :</p> <p>Mr. Sataporn Pongpipatwattana, Thai PBS award winning investigative journalist.</p> <p>Mr. Pravit Rojanaphruk, journalist at the Nation</p> <p>Mr. Pakorn Puengnetr, Head of South Desk, Isara Institute</p> <p>Discussion moderated by: Mr. Jonathan Head, BBC South East Asia Correspondent</p>
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DAY 2 – 31 January 2013	
09:00-10:30	<p>D) PLENARY: LEGAL AND SOCIAL FRAMEWORK FOR FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>"Experiences from Europe"</i> by H.E. Tjaco Van Den Hout, former Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Thailand and former Secretary General at the Permanent Court of Arbitration in the Hague • <i>"Thailand's lèse majesté law – from historical perspective"</i> by Mr. Sulak Sivaraksa Director of Sathirakoses-Nagapradeepa Foundation • <i>"Lèse majesté law – its content and application"</i> by Dr. David Streckfuss, Independent scholar <p>Discussion moderated by: Professor Vitit Muntarbhorn, Faculty of Law, Chulalongkorn University</p> <p>Open discussion – questions and answers</p>
10:30-10:45	<i>Tea/Coffee Break</i>
10:45-12:30	E) ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS: LEGAL AND SOCIAL FRAMEWORK FOR FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

	<p><u>Round Table 3: Lèse majesté law – its application, challenges and implications</u></p> <p>Introductory remarks by :</p> <p>H.E. Tjaco Van Den Hout</p> <p>Mr. Augustín Hidalgo, Senior Prosecutor at Attorney General's office (Spain)</p> <p>Mr. Peter Mørk Thomsen, Legal Practitioner (Denmark)</p> <p>Mr. Jon Ungpakorn, Chair of the Working Group on lèse majesté law, Subcommittee on civil and political rights National Human Rights Commission</p> <p>Discussion moderated by: Dr. David Streckfuss</p> <p><u>Round Table 4: Computer Crimes Act– its application, challenges and implications</u></p> <p>Ms. Surangkana Wayuparb, Director of Electronic Transactions Development Agency / MICT</p> <p>Ms. Chiranuch Premchaiporn, Prachathai.com</p> <p>Mr. Arthit Suriyawongkul, Coordinator of the Thai Netizen Network</p> <p>Discussion moderated by: Ms. Gayathry Venkiteswaran, Executive Director of Southeast Asian Press Alliance (SEAPA)</p>
12:30-14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00-15:00	<p>F) PLENARY: PRESENTATIONS OF ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS</p> <p>Presentation of round table discussions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderators of working groups 1-4 <p>Open discussion – questions and answers</p>

15:00-16:30

**G) PLENARY: FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AS A
VEHICLE FOR RECONCILIATION AND CLOSING
REMARKS**

Panellists:

- **Mrs. Véronique Arnault**, Director for Human Rights and Democracy, European External Action Service
- **Ms. Matilda Bogner**, Regional Representative of the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
- **Professor Tongthong Chandrangsue**, Permanent Secretary of the Prime Minister's Office
- **Dr. Niran Phitakwatchara**, Commissioner of the National Human Rights Commission
- **Mr. Sunai Phasuk**, Senior Researcher, Human Rights Watch Thailand

Open discussion – questions and answers

Discussion moderated by:

Ms. Gayathri Venkiteswaran, Executive Director of Southeast Asian Press Alliance

Closing remarks by **H.E. David Lipman**