



Pheua Thai Party  
1770 OAI Building, New Petchaburi Road  
Bang Kapi Sub-district  
Huai Khwang District  
Bangkok 10310

5 September 2023

**Re: 10 human rights priorities for your administration**

Mr. Prime Minister,

The International Federation for Human Rights, the Union for Civil Liberty (UCL), the Internet Law Reform Dialogue (iLaw), and the Thai Lawyers for Human Rights (TLHR) call on your administration to prioritize 10 important human rights issues that successive previous administrations failed to address. This failure has resulted in a significantly worse human rights record for Thailand and contributed to the country's inability to secure a seat on the United Nations (UN) Human Rights Council for the 2015-2017 term.

The 10 human rights priorities derive from an analysis of recurring recommendations that Thailand received from various UN human rights monitoring mechanisms over the course of nearly two decades. Based on this analysis, we call on your administration to:

- Guarantee a conducive and safe environment, free from all forms of intimidation, threats, and reprisals, for civil society organizations, human rights defenders, and individuals who exercise, or seek to exercise, their legitimate rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly.
- Drop charges against human rights defenders, activists, and protesters, including children under the age of 18, as well as release those who have been arbitrarily detained, for exercising their rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly.
- Conduct thorough, impartial, and independent investigations into all reported allegations of extrajudicial killings, torture, and enforced disappearances.
- Ensure protection of refugees and asylum seekers and refrain from arresting, detaining, and deporting them back to their countries of origin, with a view to become a party to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol.
- Amend problematic laws, such as Article 112 and other criminal defamation provisions of the Criminal Code, the Public Assembly Act, and the Computer Crimes Act, to bring them into line with international human rights obligations and standards.

- Take tangible steps to reduce prison overcrowding, guarantee that detainees are treated with humanity and dignity, and improve detention conditions in prisons across Thailand to be fully compliant with the UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (“Nelson Mandela Rules”) and the UN Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (“Bangkok Rules”).
- Reaffirm the absolute prohibition of torture and other ill-treatment, including in the context of the Southern Border Provinces, promptly set up an independent mechanism for the prevention and suppression of torture and enforced disappearances, and reinforce the training of law enforcement officials and military personnel on full respect for human rights.
- Implement a moratorium on executions with a view to abolish the death penalty.
- Revoke the special security laws, investigate, and prosecute all allegations of human rights violations, ensure that no immunity is granted to law enforcement officials who commit such acts, and provide full reparation to the victims and their families in the Southern Border Provinces.
- Adopt comprehensive measures to ensure greater gender equality, including by combating discriminatory legislation and practices based on sexual orientation and gender identity and advancing women’s representation in decision-making at all levels and in all sectors.

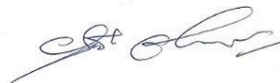
We call on your administration to take significant steps during the first 100 days in office in order to place the above-referenced issues at the core of the government’s human rights agenda and chart the process of implementation of the associated recommendations. This would also ensure that Thailand will be a strong candidate for UN Human Rights Council membership for the 2025-2027 term.

We remain at your disposal for further dialogue and we wish you every success for your mandate as Prime Minister.

Yours sincerely,



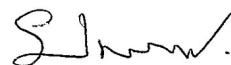
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