



# The Administrative Court of Thailand

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## Newsletter

Vol. 1/2026 (October 2025 – January 2026)





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**2026 New Year Message**  
by  
**President of the Supreme Administrative Court**



Brothers, sisters, and fellow citizens

As we enter the New Year, 2026, we recollect that the past year saw profound national mourning in Thailand following the passing of Her Majesty Queen Sirikit The Queen Mother who was deeply revered and beloved by all Thai people. Throughout her lifetime, Her Majesty devoted her life to the happiness and well-being of the people in every region of the country. She promoted traditional handicrafts and local wisdom to become a foundation for sustainable livelihoods, conserved natural resources as well as the environment, and preserved Thai arts and culture so that they may endure with dignity in the eyes of the world. Her immeasurable royal benevolence will be cherished in the hearts of the Thai people forever. On behalf of the Administrative Court, I would like to invite all Thai people to join in solemn remembrance of the boundless royal benevolence of Her Majesty Queen Sirikit The Queen Mother, to embrace with the utmost respect her royal virtues—self-sacrifice, perseverance, and unwavering love for the land and her people—as guiding principles in life and in the performance of duties. We invite you to offer prayers for sacred blessings and to convey your best wishes to Their Majesties the King and Queen, and to all members of the Thai Royal Family. Long live the Royal Family.

In previous years, the Administrative Court has consistently rendered equitable administrative justice and contributed to good governance in society. In 2026, the Administrative Court will celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary and will continue to advance its operations by developing digital systems and innovations to modernize service delivery and organizational management and so move toward becoming a fully-functional electronic Administrative Court (e-Admincourt). This will ensure that all sectors of society receive administrative justice transparently, conveniently, and rapidly. The Court affirms to all Thai people that every person working in the Court will perform their duties with integrity, uphold the rule of law, and remain free from bias.

On the auspicious occasion of welcoming the New Year, the judges of the Administrative Court, personnel of the Office of the Administrative Courts, and I would like to extend our heartfelt good wishes to all people. May the sacred entities you revere and the sacred powers of Their Majesties the King and Queen bestow blessing upon you. We wish you happiness, success, fulfillment of all aspirations, good health, clarity of intellect, and steadfast determination to overcome all obstacles. May you encounter only good fortune throughout 2026 and always.



(Honorable Justice Prasitsak Meelarp)  
President of the Supreme Administrative Court



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## Interesting Administrative Case



Photo: Freepik

The Gambling Act categorizes certain gambling activities as absolutely prohibited and others as permissible only with prior authorization from a licensing officer. This statutory scheme aligns with the Constitution, which guarantees freedom of occupation but allows the state to restrict such freedom by law where necessary to protect national security or the public interest. In this case, a request was made for a gambling license involving betting on sports results. Such form of gambling is not listed in the Act as a licensable category; therefore, the licensing officer refused to grant the request for a license. Requests to organize lotteries, numbers games, or other chance-based gambling that provides monetary or other benefits to selected players, were handled by the licensing officer based on the Cabinet resolution prohibiting government entities, state enterprises, and private persons from operating lotteries, together with the Ministry of Interior's policy to eliminate sources of vice. The refusal to grant a license in this case accordingly constitutes a proper and reasonable exercise of discretion.

**(The Supreme Administrative Court Judgment No. A.PA. 13/2567, dated January 29, 2024)**

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## Interesting Administrative Case



Photo: Freepik

The digital wallet project was implemented during the stage of establishing the criteria, procedures, and sources of funds to be used for carrying out the scheme and before the Cabinet adopted a resolution to proceed further with the project; all of which were part of the preparatory process arising from the Cabinet's policy statement delivered to Parliament. The implementation of the digital wallet project was regarded as an act taken in pursuit of the government's policy and constitutes governmental action, not an exercise of administrative power or an administrative activity. Accordingly, it did not fall within the jurisdiction of the Administrative Court. The Supreme Administrative Court therefore ruled that the plaint was inadmissible.

**(Supreme Administrative Court Order No. C. 384/2568, dated April 29, 2025)**

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## Interesting Administrative Case



Photo: Freepik

The Constitution of Thailand affirms that it is the duty of the state to provide, oversee, and support twelve years of free education, from preschool to the completion of compulsory education. Given that the Plaintiff had already obtained permission for home-schooling for her children from the relevant education authority of her area, the Supreme Administrative Court ruled that she was entitled to receive state-funding for home-schooling her child.

**(Supreme Administrative Court Judgment No. A. 9/2568, dated January 7, 2025)**

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## AC News Update

# NO Gift Policy

The Office of the Administrative Courts commits to the principles of righteousness and integrity, seeking no assets or any other forms of benefit.

Refrains from giving and receiving gifts, tokens of appreciation, and any advantages in all official duties.

Encourages the expression of well-wishes through verbal greetings, greeting cards, or digital messages in lieu of physical gifts.



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## AC News Update

### Workshop on Cybersecurity for the Administrative Court



On 1–2 December 2025, the Office of the Administrative Courts hosted a workshop entitled “Cybersecurity for the Administrative Court” at Seminar Room 1, the Supreme Administrative Court, Government Complex Building C, Chaeng Watthana Road, Bangkok. Eight judges from the Supreme Administrative Court and 36 judges from the Administrative Courts of First Instance participated in the workshop.

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The workshop focused on the following topics:

1. Collecting and Examining Digital Evidence, delivered by Pol. Lt. Col. Chanon Khamnuansak, from the Cyber Crime Investigation Bureau (CCIB);
2. Cybersecurity for Organisational Management, delivered by Dr. Tatchapol Poshyanonda, Country Director, Palo Alto Networks Thailand;
3. Fact-Checking and Verification in the Era of Generative AI Transformation, delivered by Dr. Prinya Hom-Anek, Chairman of the Executive Committee, ACIS Professional Center Co., Ltd.; and
4. Prevention of Cyber Threats, delivered by Pol. Lt. Col. Narin Phetthong, from the National Cyber Security Agency (NCSA).

The workshop aimed to equip participants with up-to-date knowledge and understanding of modern cybersecurity and thereby strengthen participants' skills in addressing potential cyber issues that may pose threats to the e-Admncourt system.



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## Notable Visit

### A Visit under IASAJ Exchange Program



On 3 November 2025, Mr. Vasile Bîcu, Judge of the High Court of Cassation and Justice of Romania – Administrative and Tax Litigation Chamber, paid a courtesy call on Mr. Prasitsak Meelarp, President of the Supreme Administrative Court, on the occasion of study visit to the Supreme Administrative Court of Thailand, from 3 – 14 November 2025, under the Exchange Program for Judges of the International Association of the Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions (IASAJ) for the year 2025. In this regard, Mr. Vishnu Varunyou, Vice President of the Supreme Administrative Court, Mr. Jait Satawornseelporn, Secretary - General of the Office of the Administrative Courts, and Mr. Piyasart Kwaiphan, Deputy Secretary-General, jointly welcomed the Judge of the High Court of Cassation and Justice – Administrative and Tax Litigation Chamber at the reception hall, the Administrative Court Premises, Chaeng Wattana Road.

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## Notable Visit

### A Visit of the Delegation from the Supreme People's Court of the People's Republic of China



On 25 December 2025, a delegation of the Supreme People's Court of the People's Republic of China, led by Ms. Tao Kaiyuan, Vice-President of the Supreme People's Court of the People's Republic of China, paid an official visit to the Supreme Administrative Court of Thailand to pay a courtesy call on H.E. Mr. Prasitsak Meelarp, President of the Supreme Administrative Court. On this occasion, H.E. Mr. Prasitsak Meelarp, together with Mr. Suchat Mongkollertlop, Vice-President of the Supreme Administrative Court; Mr. Paiboon Varahapaitoon, President of the Environmental Division of the Supreme Administrative Court; Mr. Ekkanut Jinasen, Judge of the Administrative Court of First Instance attached to the Supreme Administrative Court; as well as senior executives of the Office of the Administrative Courts, extended a warm welcome to the delegation.

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During the meeting, the President of the Supreme Administrative Court expressed his profound appreciation to H.E. Mr. Zhang Jun, Chief Justice of the People’s Republic of China and President of the Supreme People’s Court, for his valuable support in facilitating the organization of the training program entitled “Judicial Transformation with e-Court and Smart Court Technologies: China’s Experience and Inspiration for Thailand,” which is scheduled to be held at the National Judges College of the Supreme People’s Court of the People’s Republic of China in March 2026. He further expressed his satisfaction with the continued enhancement of academic cooperation and the exchange of knowledge and expertise in information technology between the two courts.



In this regard, both parties will sign a Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation between the Supreme Administrative Court of the Kingdom of Thailand and the Supreme People’s Court of the People’s Republic of China in connection with participation in the aforementioned training program. This initiative represents a significant milestone in strengthening bilateral relations and in further advancing the administrative justice systems of both judicial institutions in a stable and sustainable manner.





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## Notable Visit

### A Study Visit by the Delegation from George Mason University, Korean Campus



On 27 January 2026, a delegation of faculty members and students from the Peace and Conflict Studies Center Asia (PACSC Asia), George Mason University, Korean Campus, paid a study visit to the Administrative Court of Thailand. On this occasion, representing the Administrative Court of Thailand, Miss Radaphat Chongthammakun, Advisor to the Office of the Administrative Courts, welcomed the delegation at Seminar Room 2 (Theatre), B1 Floor, the Administrative Court Premises, Chaeng Watthana Road, Bangkok.

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During the study visit, the delegation had the opportunity to observe the first trial session at the Central Administrative Court and to visit various Court facilities, including the e-Courtroom, the Administrative Court Museum, the Public Law Library, and the Reception Hall. After the Court tour, Mr. Navapornpon Chaisiri, Administrative Case Official - Professional Level, an expert from Bureau of the President of the Supreme Administrative Court, delivered a lecture entitled “Administrative Disputes Involving Human Rights in Thailand”, offering insightful perspectives on the crucial role of the judiciary in safeguarding individual rights and liberties in the country.



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## Seminar/Conference

### Thai Administrative Court Judge Spoke on Urban Climate Justice at Bangkok Climate Action Week 2025



On 1 October 2025, Dr. Chanwit Chaikan, Judge of the Rayong Administrative Court, participated as a panelist in the session “Resilient Cities, Protected Rights: Addressing Urban Climate Challenges through a Rights-Based Lens”. The event took place at Benjakitti Park, Bangkok, as part of Bangkok Climate Action Week 2025, organized by the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (RWI).

The Bangkok Climate Action Week was held from Sunday, 28 September to 5 October 2025, aiming to drive serious action on climate change. The event was co-organized by the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration in collaboration with more than 180 governmental and private environmental organizations. It featured a wide range of activities encouraging public participation, such as academic discussions, workshops, art exhibitions, and music performances. The Climate Action Week has been held in several cities worldwide, with its first launch in London, United Kingdom (London Climate Action Week). This year marked the first time Thailand hosted the event. The participation of the Administrative Court in the forum not only highlighted the image of the Thai Administrative Court on the international stage but also created an important opportunity for knowledge exchange and cooperation with international organizations in the fields of environment and human rights.



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## Seminar/Conference

### Seminar for Judges from ASEAN Countries



From 9 to 25 October 2025, Mr. Suchart Wongsinnak, Judge of the Phetchaburi Administrative Court, temporarily serving as President of a Chamber of the Central Administrative Court, was assigned by the President of the Supreme Administrative Court to represent the Administrative Court of Thailand in the “Seminar for Judges from ASEAN Countries”, held at the National Judges College in Beijing, People’s Republic of China.

The seminar was hosted by the National Judges College to promote academic cooperation and the exchange of experiences in judicial affairs and the administration of justice between ASEAN member countries and the People’s Republic of China. Participants in this seminar included representatives from all ten ASEAN member countries: Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, the Federation of Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.



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During the seminar, participants attended lectures on various legal and judicial topics, including the application of modern technology in court administration, as well as Chinese legal culture and philosophy. They also had opportunities to visit and observe judicial proceedings at the Beijing People's Court, the Beijing Internet Court, and the People's Court in Qingdao, Shandong Province. In addition, participants visited important cultural and economic sites to gain a deeper understanding of China's legal system within its broader social and cultural context.



# The Administrative Court of Thailand

## Seminar/Conference

### The 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee on Women in Law



The ASEAN Law Association of the Federation of Malaysia, in its capacity as Chair of the ASEAN Law Association Standing Committee on Women in Law, hosted the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee on Women in Law on 10 November 2025, from 16:30 to 17:30 hrs (Bangkok time), via the Zoom online conferencing platform.

The meeting aimed to discuss the framework and future direction of the Committee's activities. On this occasion, Ms. Saitip Sukatipan, Judge of the Supreme Administrative Court, attended the meeting as the representative of the ASEAN Law Association National Committee of Thailand, pursuant to the assignment from the President of the Supreme Administrative Court, together with two representatives from the Court of Justice of Thailand. Representatives from the ASEAN Law Associations of other member countries also participated in this meeting.



# The Administrative Court of Thailand

## Seminar/Conference

### The 46<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Law Association Governing Council Meeting



The ASEAN Law Association of Singapore hosted the 46<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Law Association Governing Council Meeting from 13 to 14 November 2025 at the Supreme Court of Singapore. The meeting aimed to strengthen relations, promote the exchange of knowledge, and expand cooperation among legal professionals across ASEAN member states.

In this meeting, Mr. Jirasawat Surariddhidhamrong, Judge of the Chiang Mai Administrative Court, in his capacity as a Governing Council Member and Standing Committee Member of the ASEAN Law Association of Thailand, represented the Administrative Court at the meeting. The Thai delegation was led by Mr. Adisak Tantivong, President of the Supreme Court, in his capacity as Chair of the ASEAN Law Association National Committee of Thailand, together with representatives from relevant agencies, namely the Courts of Justice, the Office of the Council of State, the Lawyers Council of Thailand, Thammasat University, and Kasetsart University.



# The Administrative Court of Thailand

## Seminar/Conference

### Conference on Administrative Justice under the Theme “Comparative Perspectives and Lao Context”



The Supreme People’s Court of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, in cooperation with the JuSTICE Project supported by the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), hosted a conference on administrative justice under the theme “Comparative Perspectives and Lao Context”. The conference took place from 19 to 20 November 2025 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Vientiane Capital.

The Administrative Court of Thailand delegated Mr. Wutthichai Thaicharoen, Judge of the Supreme Administrative Court, and Mr. Suchart Wongsinnak, President of a Chamber of the Central Administrative Court, to participate as speakers. The event gathered experts from a broad range of institutions, including the Office of the Council of State of Thailand; the French Council of State; the Vientiane People’s Court; the Central People’s Court of Lao PDR; the Supreme Court, Court of First Instance, and Nagoya University Cambodia Center of the Kingdom of Cambodia; as well as the Supreme People’s Procuracy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. Judges from District Courts, the Central People’s Court, and the Administrative Chamber of the Supreme People’s Court of Lao PDR exchanged views on key issues related to administrative justice, including institutional structure, organizational management, administrative litigation procedures, and the role of judges.



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ສະຊຸມກ່ຽວກັບຄວາມຍຸຕິທຳທາງດ້ານບໍລິຫານ:  
ສະນະປຽບທຽບ ແລະ ບໍລິບົດຂອງ ສປປ ລາວ  
19-20 ພະຈິກ 2025 ທີ່ ໂຮງແຮມ ຄຣາວພລາຊາ ນະຄອນຫຼວງວຽງຈັນ



This conference provided a significant platform for strengthening judicial and academic cooperation at both regional and international levels. It also contributed to enhanced knowledge sharing and professional development, supporting the continued advancement and sustainability of administrative justice systems across the region.



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## Seminar/Conference

### The Meeting of the Global Rule of Law Commission



As a member of the Global Rule of Law Commission of the European Public Law Organization (EPLO), Mr. Vishnu Varunyou, Vice-President of the Supreme Administrative Court, attended the meeting of the Commission during 8 - 9 January 2026, in Cascais, the Portuguese Republic.

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# The Administrative Court of Thailand

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## Lecture

### Special Lectures under Cooperation with the French Embassy



On 6 October 2025, the Office of the Administrative Courts (OAC) in collaboration with the French Embassy conducted 2 special lectures on “Litigation of Orders Before the Administrative Judge” (Le Contentieux des ordonnances devant le juge administratif) delivered by Prof. Mathieu Carpentier from Université Toulouse I Capitole, French Republic, followed by “Summary Proceedings and Administrative Police” (Le Référé et la police administrative) by Mr. Olivier Japiot, Conseiller d’état, French Council of State. In this regard, the President of the Supreme Administrative Court delivered an opening speech and Mr. Jean-Claude Boimboeof, Ambassador of France opened the French-Thai Week of Law and Justice. Dr. Vishnu Varunyou, Vice-President of the Supreme Administrative Court, Judges of the Supreme Administrative Court, Administrative judges, as well as Executives and personnel of the OAC and other external organizations attended on the lectures at Seminar Room 2, B1 floor, Administrative Court Premises, Bangkok.

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# The Administrative Court of Thailand

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## Lecture

### Special Lecture under Cooperation with the French Embassy



On 9 December 2025, the Office of the Administrative Courts (OAC) conducted a special lecture on “The abrogation and withdrawal of the administrative act” (L’abrogation et le retrait de l’acte administratif) delivered by Prof. Stéphane Mouton from Université Toulouse I Capitole, French Republic. In attendance at the lecture were the President, Vice-President, and judges of the Supreme Administrative Court; administrative judges of First Instance, and personnel from the OAC and other external organizations. The lecture was delivered at Seminar Room 2, B1 floor, Administrative Court Premises, Bangkok. The lecture was also broadcast via Cisco Webex Meetings and Web Live Streaming to Central and Regional Administrative Courts and via Cisco Webex for domestic cooperation partners.

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# The Administrative Court of Thailand

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## Event

### the 76<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of the Founding of the People's Republic of China



On September 23, 2025, the President of the Supreme Administrative Court assigned the Office of the Administrative Courts to deliver a congratulatory floral arrangement to mark the 76<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of the Founding of the People's Republic of China. The floral arrangement was presented to Mr. Wu Zhiwu, Minister and Deputy Chief of Mission of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Thailand at Queen Sirikit National Convention Center, Bangkok. On this occasion, Ms. Radapat Chongthammakun, Advisor to the Office of the Administrative Courts, presented the floral arrangement.

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# The Administrative Court of Thailand

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## Event

### The 68<sup>th</sup> National Day of Malaysia



On Thursday, 25 September 2025, the President of the Supreme Administrative Court entrusted the Office of the Administrative Courts to present a floral arrangement to the Ambassador of Malaysia to Thailand in celebration of the 68<sup>th</sup> National Day of Malaysia. The presentation ceremony was held at the Grand Ballroom of the Shangri-La Hotel, Bangkok.

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# The Administrative Court of Thailand

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## Event

### The National Day of the Republic of Korea



On October 3, 2025, the President of the Supreme Administrative Court assigned the Office of the Administrative Courts to deliver a floral arrangement to congratulate the Embassy of the Republic of Korea on the occasion of its National Day at Shangri-la Hotel. Ms. Wanasanan Kanchanaphalin, Director of Foreign Affairs Bureau, represented the Office of the Administrative Courts to deliver the congratulations.

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# The Administrative Court of Thailand

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## Event

### The Swiss National Day 2025



Representing the Administrative Court of Thailand, Miss Radaphat Chongthammakun, Advisor to the Office of the Administrative Courts, attended the reception celebrating the Swiss National Day 2025 on 20 November 2025 at the Embassy of Switzerland in Thailand, Bangkok. Miss Radaphat Chongthammakun presented a floral arrangement to H.E. Mr. Pedro Zwahlen, Ambassador of Switzerland to Thailand, as a gesture of cordial congratulations.

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# The Administrative Court of Thailand

## Event

## The National Day of the State of Qatar



On Thursday, 11 December 2025, the President of the Supreme Administrative Court assigned the Office of the Administrative Courts to present a floral arrangement in honor of the National Day of the State of Qatar and the anniversary of the accession of Sheikh Jassim bin Mohammed bin Thani, the founder of the State of Qatar.

The presentation took place at The Athenee Hotel in Bangkok. On this occasion, Ms. Wanasanan Kanchanaphalin, Director of the Bureau of Foreign Affairs, represented the Office of the Administrative Courts in formally conveying heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to Mrs. Aisha Ali Al-Khulaifi, Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the State of Qatar to the Kingdom of Thailand, on the occasion of these significant national celebrations.

## The Administrative Court of Thailand

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