



The Ombudsman, Thailand signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for Academic Cooperation with the Administrative Court and the Constitutional Court

In the performance of duties under section 230-231 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand, B.E. 2560 (2017), the ombudsman of Thailand may refer a matter together with an opinion to the Constitutional Court upon making a finding where any provision of law begs the question of the constitutionality. Similarly, the ombudsman may refer a matter together with an opinion to the Administrative Court where a rule, order or any other act of a state agency or a state official begs the question of the constitutionality or legality. Thus, the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Ombudsman and the Constitutional Court, and between the Ombudsman and the Administrative Court would nurture collaboration in various areas and therefore benefit the aforementioned agencies in fulfilling their duties.

Collaboration between the Ombudsman and the Administrative Court

On 13 December 2021, Mr. Somsak Suwansujarit, Chief Ombudsman of Thailand and Mr. Chanchai Sawangsak, President of the Supreme Administrative Court, presided over the signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for Academic Cooperation between office of the Ombudsman and the Administrative Court. Pol. Col. Keirov Kritteeranon, Secretary-General of the Office of the Ombudsman represented the Office of the Ombudsman and Mrs. Somrudee Thanyasiri, Secretary-General of the Office of the Administrative Court represented the Office of the Administrative Court to sign the MoU.

The Office of the Ombudsman and the Office of the Administrative Court are aware of the importance of providing support to the Ombudsman and the Administrative Court by strengthening collaboration and fostering effective delivery of tasks to promote good governance within the society. The two agencies have executed the areas of cooperation as follows:

1. Reinforcement of good governance within the society by utilising information gathered from complaints for root cause analysis and making recommendation for the revision of law, rule, regulations, rules or order or any operative procedure that causes grievance or unfairness or imposes a burden on people
2. Exchange of information on administrative cases and complaints submitted to the ombudsman to be undertaken within the scope of authority of the two agencies
3. Human development in terms of knowledge sharing between both agencies, providing lecturers with different areas of expertise and co-organising training and seminar to develop staff of each other
4. Research and academic work in order to develop administrative law and exchange of academic work, e.g. academic articles, journals, books, and other learning materials
5. Information resource management which includes library services, access to electronic books and electronic journals, and public relations on missions and roles of both agencies





Cooperation between the Ombudsman and the Constitutional Court

On 26 January 2022, Mr. Somsak Suwansujarit, Chief Ombudsman of Thailand and Mr. Worawit Kangsasiyam, President of the Constitutional Court signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for Academic Cooperation between the Office of the Ombudsman and the Constitutional Court. The MoU aims to publicise and enhance an understanding of the exercise of rights under the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand, B.E. 2560 (2017) to public, e.g. litigation against government agencies, filing complaint of person whose rights or liberties protected under the Constitution are violated in order to protect his or her rights and liberties under the Constitution, and to strengthen academic cooperation between two agencies to systematically integrate academic subjects and other related information to enhance efficacy and cost-effectiveness. The areas of cooperation are as follows:

1. Joint creation of media and communication channels for public relations
2. Academic affairs and research
3. Cases administration using the electronic lawsuit system (E-Court)
4. Participation in international and regional conventions
5. Action planning and budget planning
6. Other related works



The collaboration between the Ombudsman and the Constitutional Court as well as the Office of the Ombudsman and the office of the Administrative Court would enhance operational alignment and conformity to undertake duties effectively for the benefit of the country and the people.