

A New Era for National Reform on Anti-Corruption and Misconduct of Thailand

by Professor Vicha Mahakun, Rangsit University

Chaired by Associate Professor Gary F. Bell, Director of ASLI, Faculty of Law, NUS

24 April 2018, Tuesday, 12pm to 1.30pm
Lee Sheridan Conference Room, Eu Tong Sen Building,
NUS (Bukit Timah Campus)

ABSTRACT

Corruption has been deeply rooted in Thai society for a long time. Corruption problems are complex and overlapping. Each problem is a factor supporting another leading to very serious problems of corruption both in term of condition and area. The pattern of corruption in the past was direct corruption. But nowadays, it has transformed into policy corruption. The laws and regulations have been amended, or the policy has been set, to provide more benefits to corrupt people. Through the use of power and the damaging of monitoring mechanisms, government mechanisms no longer operate under a governance framework. The problems are not addressed at the operating level and are not resolved effectively and without delay. Since there is no integration of interactions among related agencies, corruption suppression is not effective. The main structures of the country – political, economic, social and government service system – are weakened.

There has been attempts to solve the problems of the corruption and misconduct in the past. However, the problems have not been reduced in any way. It has become more violent and complicated in tandem with the changing situation and context of society. The Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand (2016) states that the State should set up a monitoring mechanism for the prevention, detection and elimination of corruption and misconduct. This is to avoid having in power people without integrity and good governance who will abuse their powers arbitrarily.

Under article 63 of the Constitution (2016), the public should be educated on the dangers of corruption and misconduct (in both government and private sectors) and be provided with effective measures and mechanisms to prevent and strictly eliminate corruption and misconduct. These mechanisms are to encourage people to join together and network in order to participate in campaigns to educate, resist or even whistle blow which are steps protected by the law as is necessary for the prevention and suppression of corruption and misconduct.

The National Reform Commission on Anti-Corruption and Misconduct of Thailand was established under article 257 of the Constitution (2016) to draft a reform plan to comply with the provision of the Constitution. The National Reform Commission has applied the relevant provisions of the Constitution (2016) to current problems of corruption and misconduct and has taken into account reports and studies including comments and suggestions from all sectors in society (government agencies, private sector, civil society and public sector) in the drafting of its declaration to combat corruption and misconduct for a new era in Thailand.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER



Professor Vicha Mahakun was the former President of the Juvenile and Family Division of the Supreme Court of Thailand. After he retired from the Court, he became the National Anti-Corruption Commissioner for a nine-year term. He has now been appointed to the National Reform Commission on Anti-Corruption and Misconduct, as well as Dean of the Faculty of Law at Rangsit University. He has established the Anti-Corruption Foundation to mobilize the Anti-Corruption movement of the people in Thailand.

REGISTRATION

There is no registration fee for this seminar but seats are limited. The selected light lunch will be provided upon registration.

Closing Date: **Thursday, 19 April 2018**

For enquiries, please contact Chris Chan at asli@nus.edu.sg

To register, go to <https://goo.gl/hmUaBZ>

Or scan the QR code

