GROWING BRIGHT
10th Anniversary
of Thailand Institute of Justice
Through the years, the TIJ owes our successes and growth to our global network of peers and institutions. The friendships made our journey pleasantly meaningful — more than any new institution could have expected.

Therefore, we wish to celebrate the TIJ’s tenth anniversary on 13 June 2021 with our long-time friends and partners. We decide to mark this occasion with this concise publication summarizing a decade of our works and endeavors, most of which were made possible by the collaboration we enjoyed with our friends.

I want to extend my sincere gratitude to all good friends of the TIJ for your continuing support and for sharing your warm thoughts with us on this special occasion. I am humbled to read your kind words and reflections and committed to strengthening our close ties in the years to come.

I want to thank the TIJ staff, the TIJ Board Members, and the former Executive Directors for the passion and dedication that are instrumental in everything we achieved. My special thanks go to the writer and the editorial team that has worked tirelessly on this booklet.

We are facing a difficult time that forces the whole world apart. But it only makes us understand more clearly how friendship and connection sustain us. I hope that such realization will bring us closer together as we strive towards the ultimate goal of creating better justice everywhere.

Phiset Sa-aradyen
Executive Director
Executive Directors

AMBASSADOR ADISAK PANUPONG
1 October 2012 -
15 December 2014

PROFESSOR DR. KITTIPONG KITTAYARAK
25 February 2015 -
24 February 2021

DR. PHISSET SA-ARDYEN
25 February 2021 -
Present
GROWING
BRIGHT

10th Anniversary of Thailand Institute of Justice
Overview
Building on Thailand’s engagement in the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, the Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ) was established in 2011 with the primary objective of driving the implementation of the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules) initiated by the Government of Thailand under the guidance of Her Royal Highness Princess Bajrakitiyabha Mahidol.

From the beginning, we aspire to be the “Promoter of Change” by empowering the criminal justice system with knowledge, evidence-based research, and technical capability, as well as investing in policy advocacy. The TIJ has served as a bridge that transports international standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice to local practices with an emphasis on the interconnectedness of the rule of law, sustainable development, human rights, and access to justice for vulnerable groups. Our commitment is to providing excellent research, knowledge, and technical support for domestic institutions as well as strengthening regional cooperation in related areas. Recognizing our hard work and dedication, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has endorsed the TIJ as a member of the UN Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network (PNI) in 2016, currently the only one in the Southeast Asian region.

An essential part of the TIJ’s framework is driven by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which affirmed that the criminal justice system cannot operate independently
from other social issues. Believing that “justice is everyone’s matter”, we work to enhance multi-sectoral cooperation and expands our partnership with social and private sectors, utilizing a development-led approach in line with the Agenda, to better respond to the injustice and violence that obstruct the desirable development of society in many aspects.

Over the years, the TIJ’s work has grown to include broad, but well-defined aspects of criminal justice reform efforts and social justice promotion. Although it is still premature to say that the TIJ has made a meaningful contribution to peace and justice in society as a whole, we have been very successful in recruiting strong like-minded partners who believe in its determination to join forces in making a difference in this challenging time.

As the tenth anniversary is approaching, our aspiration remains the same but the method has evolved. In order to be the “Promoter of Change”, we realized the need to create the climate for change and engage the right people. The current focus is on making a greater impact, especially within the domestic arena, by using collaborative and innovative approaches to tackle old and unresolved problems. New offices were established to strengthen knowledge-sharing activities, implement innovative ideas in justice administration, and promote the active participation of our partners and the public. We believe that this is the promising approach for the future and vow to work tirelessly until everyone truly understands that justice and the rule of law are fundamental to a better quality of life for all.
I would like to congratulate the TUJ for the remarkable achievements in the past 10 years. With the vision of HRH Princess Bajrakitiyabha, the Chairperson of the Special Advisory Board to the TUJ and the dedicated work by all executives and management, the TUJ has been continuously conducting impact driven activities to promote awareness of the people from all sectors and all academic disciplines both within Thailand and across the globe. Those activities have helped people to understand and be mindful of the importance of justice and the rule of law in each society. As former Dean of the Faculty of Law at Chulalongkorn University, Thailand, I am heartened to see how the TUJ has successfully played a constructive role to compliment and to link up various disciplines taught in universities to the application and implementation of justice and the rule of law.

For peace to prevail and sustain, for human rights to be firmly founded in a society and for development to take root, rule of law must form an important cornerstone in each society and in the world.

Without rule of law, there can not be peace nor security, human rights will not be protected and development can not be sustained. In modern society, rule of law also forms an essential foundation for democracy and good governance.

Accordingly, the TUJ work which has dedicated to the promotion of justice and the rule of law is to be highly commended. From my observation of the contribution of the TUJ in promoting justice and the rule of law, and from my personal experience and participation in its activities, the TUJ has shown that it could make a difference in raising awareness, consciousness, and mindfulness of the role rule of law can play to benefit the peoples and societies.

Apart from many thought provoking and trend setting seminars and conferences, I have participated and witnessed several key conferences and promotional work of the TUJ. To name a few, the promotion of the rights of women prisoners which has become rules adopted by the UN General Assembly in December 2010 as the Bangkok Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders, the Bangkok Dialogue on Rule of Law: Investing in the Rule of Law, Justice and Security for the Post-2015 Development Agenda in November 2013 participated by prominent international opinion leaders, the TUJ Youth Forum on Rule of Law as part of the Asian Society of International Law Biennial Conferences in Bangkok in 2015 are concrete examples of how the TUJ has contributed to raising the awareness and promoting actions on justice and the rule of law in the region and beyond.

In Thailand, the TUJ has been successful in organizing the forum for emerging leaders on the Rule of Law and Development (RoLD) for the regional and Thai communities. Of note is that in the past several years, the forum has been conducted in parallel with the annual international training workshop and seminars jointly organized with the Institute of Global Law and Policy, Harvard Law School, USA. Each year this unique international workshop was taught by approximately 40 or more faculty members from universities around the world. The Thai RoLD forum itself has included opinion leaders from the private and public sectors including academics, members of civil societies and social entrepreneurs. Such composition and such international affiliation make the forum one of the most popular and unique projects of the year. When these people participate and interact, the impact on rule of law application to the Thai society and beyond is of great value.

In the digital age and the changes in international political and economic landscape we are now facing, the TUJ will encounter more challenges in bringing everyone on board this train of justice and rule of law. The TUJ status as a member of Programme Network Institutes (PNIs) officially recognized by the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in 2016 should further strengthen the TUJ to promote the rule of law to be applied in all societies. Since it is everyone’s duty to promote and protect justice and the rule of law at all levels, I am certain that the TUJ will continue to play a role as a bridge to connect people from all walks of life and to promote the awareness of justice and the rule of law. I have full confidence that the TUJ strength in academia and policy advocacy will ensure that democracy, good governance, peace, security, human rights, and sustainable development can be achieved through strong adherence to the rule of law.
Justice is rooted in the DNA of every society. It is with this belief that the work of the Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ) is so relevant to our daily lives. Since its establishment in 2011, the TIJ has earnestly been promoting justice and fairness as well as the culture of lawfulness, weaving the rule of law into the fabric of Thai society. Additionally, its effort also helps promote democracy and good governance, which are the cornerstones of modern society.

Working closely with international organizations, such as the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the TIJ has brought in and promoted innovations in criminal justice reform agenda which can help enhance the criminal justice standard both at home and abroad. At the same time, the TIJ was able to internationally promote the improvement of the quality of life of female inmates through implementing the globally recognized the “Bangkok Rules” and the reintegration of offenders through collaboration with the “Kam Lang Jai” project under the Royal Patronage of HRH Princess Bajrakitiyabha, who also serves as Chair of the Special Advisory Board to the TIJ.

Looking forward to achieve a society which stands on the bedrock of the rule of law, many challenges still lie ahead. The TIJ, therefore, has an important role to play, particularly in promoting the culture of lawfulness and making sure that justice starts at home. There is no better place to start cultivating respect for the rule of law than at home, within one’s families, and in schools, while the children are still young. The TIJ can help do this and can become a torch-bearer for fostering peace and justice, building strong institutions, and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in Thailand and beyond.
My time with the Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ) has been one of the highlights of my professional and personal life. In 2009, I was very fortunate to be invited to the initial planning meetings for the Bangkok Rules. From those very first moments, I knew I had found a new intellectual home for my work and advocacy for women confined to prisons. Having conducted research and policy relating to gender-responsive practice in the United States for some time, I was very discouraged about the lack of progress in reforming women’s prisons. Although unfamiliar with the UN and its human rights goals, I instantly understood their significance in protecting women worldwide. My wonderful Thai colleagues and other international partners taught me the absolute necessity of a global human rights approach in all justice systems.

In the same way that I was educated, the TIJ has made significant progress in furthering justice and awareness for women confined to multiple global platforms. In carrying out the vision of HRH Princess Bajrakitiyabha, the TIJ has become the leader in promoting the Rule of Law, the Mandela Rules, and many other international and regional initiatives designed to improve practice and encourage fairer treatment for all enmeshed in the criminal justice system. I offer these examples:

First: With a team of brilliant young Thai scholars in the early days of the TIJ, we developed a profile survey to describe the contours of the women’s ASEAN prison population. Designed with guidance from Bangkok Rule 67, this basic survey instrument has been used to collect similar information throughout the region. Second, this survey was also a critical component in the comprehensive assessment of women’s prisons in Thailand, Women Prisoners and the Implementation of the Bangkok Rules in Thailand (Atabay and Owen, 2014). Third, these projects provided a foundation for the equally significant training project: the ongoing Training Programme on the Management of Women Prisoners for Senior Correctional Staff in the ASEAN Region. This continuing training effort has involved senior correctional staff in the region (and colleagues in Kenya!), creating multiple cohorts of the Bangkok Rules champions who work diligently to incorporate human rights protections in their prison systems. Finally, the recent TIJ work on non-custodial measures provides guidance on breaking our dependence on imprisonment, offering productive alternatives to the inhumanity of imprisonment.

On the tenth anniversary of the TIJ, I look back on these achievements in implementing these human rights protections with pride and great affection. The TIJ has become more to me than an important agent of social change—it has become my second home. I am grateful for my time at the TIJ, and I more than look forward to continuing my association as we march into the future in promoting the Bangkok Rules. I am humbled to stand with you all.
My warmest greetings and congratulations to the Thailand Institute of Justice on its decennial, as well as on its quinquennial as a member of the UN Crime Programme Network of Institutes (PNI).

I have had a privileged ringside seat to the TIJ’s work, beginning with the 2012 expert meeting that helped to formulate the TIJ’s strategic framework and programme of work, and most recently as Special Advisor to the TIJ. Over the years, I have worked closely with its Executive Director and staff. On that basis, allow me to present some observations on the TIJ as a PNI member.

In just a few short years, the TIJ has vaulted to the front rank of PNIs in its service to its host country, to the ASEAN region, and to the global UN Crime Programme.

Most PNIs have sought a niche set of topics. The TIJ has been more daring—and successful—in engaging in a broad range of key crime and criminal justice issues, from its original core of the Bangkok Rules, to issues such as restorative justice, violence against children, gender-responsive criminal justice, women’s access to justice, women as justice makers, trafficking in persons, transnational organized crime, community-based treatment, and crime prevention through sports.

Most PNIs seek to specialize in research, or in training, or in advisory services. The TIJ engages in all of these and, for example, uses in-house research to inform its training and advisory activities, most clearly with the topic of pathways to prison.

Most PNIs follow a well-established format in their activities. The TIJ has remained innovative, which has enabled it, for example, to respond to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic by expanding its webinars, at the same time allowing it to strengthen its national, regional, and global networking. It has pioneered regional ASEAN meetings on crime and criminal justice, and partnered with Harvard Law School’s Institute for Global Law and Policy on intensive workshops on a variety of topics, bringing together scholars from around the region and the world.

The work of the TIJ to support the UN Crime Programme regionally and globally has been particularly impressive. It participates actively in UN Crime Commission sessions and UN Crime Conferences, and works closely with the UNODC regional office for Southeast Asia and the Pacific. It has hosted several expert meetings on a number of UN Crime Programme topics.

I wish the TIJ continued success for the benefit of us all.
Learning that the TIJ is now celebrating the 10th anniversary brings back many good memories about its early years. I had the privilege to work closely with HRH Princess Bajrakitiyabha, in her capacity as the TIJ’s Special Advisor, and the pioneer team of staff when I was the first Chairman of the Board from 2012-2013. Despite being a small organization, the TIJ had set the ambitious goal to become a center of knowledge needed to improve the criminal justice system in line with international standards, with the initial focus to make positive changes in the treatment of female prisoners by promoting the implementation of the Bangkok Rules.

I recall that I worked with the TIJ team again when I served as the Minister of Justice. During the time, the Government of Thailand participated in the ongoing review of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals and the deliberation of the post-2015 Development Agenda, which focuses on the need to mainstream sustainable development. To support that framework, the TIJ actively voiced its belief that the advancement of the rule of law is essential for sustained and inclusive growth and advocated for the rule of law and justice aspects to be included in the new Global Goals. Among many efforts, the TIJ and the Government of Thailand hosted the Bangkok Dialogue on the Rule of Law which served as a platform for high-level political leaders, academics, and practitioners from various countries to reflect on how the rule of law, peace, and justice would provide the necessary conditions for sustainable development at all levels.

It seems that the TIJ has continued to grow and expand its interest in many important areas. I am impressed that, within 10 years, the TIJ has not only been recognized by domestic partners but also officially become a network institution of the UNODC. I look forward to hearing about more accomplishments and wish the TIJ great successes in the years to come.
AMBASSADOR
ADI SAK PAN UPONG

• Former Executive Director
   Thailand Institute of Justice
• Special Advisor
   Thailand Institute of Justice

This year marks a milestone for the Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ), and for all those who have directed their dedication, focus, and commitment towards the pursuit of the TIJ’s mission. As we enter 2021, I am delighted to express my congratulations to the TIJ on the 10th anniversary of its establishment.

Since its inception by virtue of the vision of HRH Princess Bajrakitiyabha, the TIJ has served as a bridge within the justice system, promoted international norms, standards, and good practices within the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, as well as provided policy guidance to members of the international community.

HRH Princess Bajrakitiyabha has long advocated for the rights of the vulnerable and has proceeded to actively participate in the international campaign for gender-responsive criminal justice strategies, culminating in the adoption of the Bangkok Rules. From thereon, the TIJ was established in 2011.

Over the past decade, the TIJ has engaged in fruitful collaborations with stakeholders domestically and within the region, providing the impetus for the promotion of capacity building to ensure the effective implementation of international standards that specifically address the vulnerabilities faced by women and children in criminal justice settings. On the global stage, the TIJ’s programs are aligned with the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, and the TIJ has contributed to the wealth of knowledge, good practices, and expertise shared among the international partners within the United Nations Programme.

As one of the contributors who has been involved with the TIJ from the very beginning, it gives me great pleasure to see the progress by which the TIJ has made at the domestic, regional, and international levels. Such achievements to date, however, would be unachievable without the contribution and tireless efforts of all the policymakers, experts, staff, and teams at the TIJ. In this connection, I wish to express my gratitude and extend my deep appreciation to all members of the TIJ for their dedication, commitment, and pursuit of excellence over the past decade.

In marking 10 years of the TIJ, we must also look forward to the vitality of the TIJ in the upcoming years. Given the increasingly complex and numerous challenges facing the justice system, as well as the ever-evolving social and legal spheres, much work awaits us. Nevertheless, with the potential of the teams at the TIJ – the accumulation of experiences by the older generations fused with the energy, dynamism, and enthusiasm of the younger generations, I am confident that the TIJ will continue to play a vital role in promoting a sustainable solution to persisting criminal justice challenges. From this day onwards, the role of the TIJ will not lessen, but will become increasingly important, because “justice is everyone’s matter.”

I am delighted to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the TIJ on the 10th anniversary of its establishment, and to wish the TIJ all the success in its endeavors in creating a better world for our future generations to inherit.
First of all, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ) for its tenth anniversary as well as to HRH Princess Bajrakitiyabha for her impeccable leadership as Special Advisory Board.

During the past decade, the TIJ has consistently demonstrated that it contributes a lot to the development of Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law not only in Thailand but in the Southeast Asian Region and beyond, through the implementation of the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules) and other several important projects, hand in hand with various stakeholders including the civil society.

Since I used to serve for the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI, affiliated with UNODC) over the years, I can recall numerous occasions which I had shared with the TIJ and its colleagues and my Thai friends. Among such fond memories are those with Prof. Dr. Kittipong Kittayarak, without whom the TIJ would not have come to existence. As we all know, Dr. Kittipong was also a long-time high-ranking official of the Ministry of Justice in Thailand and the former Executive Director of the TIJ.

My friendship with Dr. Kittipong predates the establishment of the TIJ. He, who is an alumnus of UNAFEI, had frequently visited there as a visiting expert and shared his profound knowledge and vast experiences based on a number of initiatives he took in the field of criminal justice in Thailand with the participants of UNAFEI from Asia and the rest of the World.

Dr. Kittipong mentioned, in one of such occasions, maybe between 1996 and 1999 when I was a professor of UNAFEI, that he wished to establish an institute like UNAFEI in the future. In fact, UNAFEI, since its establishment in 1962, had trained a huge number of criminal justice personnel from all over the world and contributed to the formulation of the UN Rules for treatment of offenders, including the one known as the Tokyo Rules. However, at that time, there were no similar regional institutes in Southeast Asia. When I was informed that the TIJ was formally established in 2011, I was not with UNAFEI. However, knowing Dr. Kittipong, the news did not surprise me at all. It made me delighted.

I was appointed as the Director of UNAFEI in July 2013, and since then I have often had the privilege of working with Dr. Kittipong, Dr. Phiset Sa-aridyen who is the incumbent Executive Director, and the staff of the TIJ in various occasions. It was clear to me that the TIJ was playing a leading role in implementing the Bangkok Rules and other initiatives in various occasions. I especially recall participating in “the Bangkok Dialogue on the Rule of Law” and “the preparatory meetings for establishing the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Regional Programme for Southeast Asia”, both of which were held in Thailand in November 2013.

The TIJ provided great assistance to UNAFEI when it co-organized a workshop during the UN Crime Congress in Doha in 2015, and at this juncture, I remembered its preparatory meeting held at UNAFEI in 2014 which Dr. Phiset kindly attended as a TIJ representative. The TIJ, being highly commended for its tremendous contributions to UNODC, formally exchanged a memorandum of understanding with the UNODC and became one of the United Nations Programme Network Institutes (UN-PNI) in 2016. This was another great news for me that came in just before I left the duties related to UNAFEI.

The TIJ’s endeavors will continue towards a new era. In 2020, for example, the TIJ began a timely initiative on the challenges of cybercrime in Thailand during these difficult times of pandemic.

Dear my friends in the TIJ, I really wish you all the best and great success in Thailand, in Southeast Asia and beyond. I also firmly believe that the TIJ will continue to move forward with UNAFEI as an old friend and sister UN-PNI institute for the development of criminal justice on the globe.
Justice is Everyone
Our Journey
The United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network or “PNI Network” consists of the 18 interregional, regional, and sub-regional institutes, specialized centers, as well as the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. The network has the specific mandate to strengthen the cooperation of international communities in the crucial area of crime prevention and criminal justice by providing knowledge through research, seminars, training, and publications.

On 24 May 2016, Dr. Kittipong Kittayarak, TIJ Executive Director at that time, and Mr. Yury Fedotov, UNODC Executive Director and Director-General of the United Nations Office in Vienna, signed the Memorandum of Understanding between the two organizations at the United Nations Office in Vienna during the twenty-fifth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ). The MoU signing officially recognized the TIJ as the newest member of the PNI Network and the only one in the Southeast Asian region.

However, the linkage between the TIJ and the United Nations system started long before that day. “The United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders” or “the Bangkok Rules” which marked the origin of the TIJ, was the product of tireless work by the Thai Government and strong support from the UNODC, the PNIs, and many United Nations Member States. It all started with a small step when HRH Princess Bajrakitiyabha, observed that most of the correctional facilities are designed for male inmates and thus do not have the capacity to effectively respond to gender-specific needs of women inmates such as hygiene, health care, or pregnancy. As a result, HRH Princess Bajrakitiyabha decided to establish the “Inspire” project to ensure that female inmates have access to appropriate treatment and assistance. In 2008, the project was presented in an exhibition at the seventeenth session of the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) and received positive feedback, for the lack of gender-sensitive care in correctional facilities is a common problem in many other countries. Encouraged by the responses of HRH Princess Bajrakitiyabha, the Thai Ministry of Justice initiated a project called “Enhancing Lives of Female Inmates” (ELFI) with the objective of proposing a new set of rules on the treatment of women prisoners and non-custodial measures for women offenders as a supplement to the 1955 Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners.

The Thai Government worked closely with the UNODC in the drafting the text, the related meetings, and the lobbying process until the rules were adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in December 2010 as the first international instrument which provides specific and detailed guidelines on responding to the gender-specific needs of women in the criminal justice system, and dubbed “the Bangkok Rules”.

Following such landmark success, the TIJ was established primarily to push forward the implementation of the Bangkok Rules. But another equally important duty is to continue Thailand’s substantive engagement in the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the UN Crime Congresses. Since hosting the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the Thai Government has been active in the following Commissions, tabling and sponsoring resolutions, as well as hosting a number of UN mandated events. The most eminent highlight of Thailand’s role was in 2011 when HRH Princess Bajrakitiyabha, who served as the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations in Vienna, was elected the Chair of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in its twenty-first session. It was a great advantage that we were able to take part in supporting the HRH’s important post since its very first year of operation.

The TIJ was trusted by UN organizations and member states to take a prominent role in many important activities. In 2013,
the TU in cooperation with the Government of Thailand and UNODC organized a high-level forum “The Bangkok Dialogue on the Rule of Law: Investing in the Rule of Law, Justice and Security for the Post-2015 Development Agenda”, marking an important moment in the discourse on how the international community can contribute to promoting the mainstreaming of the rule of law, justice and security in the post-2015 development agenda.

Notable work that we have actively participated in also includes developing the new international instruments which, in 2014, adopted as the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and providing support to the Qatari Government in the preparation for the Thirteenth UN Crime Congress in 2015.

With the amount of engagement in the United Nations’ work, it is only natural that we aspired to be a member of PNI Network. The TU considered itself fortunate to receive positive support and approval from the UNODC and the existing PNI members, even though it is a very young organization. Being officially recognized as a member of PNI Network in 2016, just five years after its inception, has provided a significant assurance that our efforts and contributions are worthwhile.

However, becoming a PNI member is not the goal but rather a new beginning. The TU has set its course to promote the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, especially Goal 16 which articulates the role that justice and the rule of law play in promoting peaceful and inclusive societies where sustainable development can be ensured. Since then, we have started seeking cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Thailand. We also initiated many outreach projects and new approaches in the effort to instill the rule of law in society.

In the role of a PNI, the TU joined other PNI members in the preparations for the fourteenth UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Kyoto, which was scheduled for 2020 but postponed to 2021 due to the pandemic. It also joined the Crime Congress Workshops, working with UNAFEI on the Workshop 2 on reducing reoffending, and participating in the Workshop 4 on current crime trends, recent developments, and emerging solutions, in particular, new technologies as means for and tools against crime.

At the mark of its tenth anniversary, the TU sees the opportunity to engage more with the network. It is a great honor that the PNI family welcomes our proposal to contribute as the coordinator of the network. We are looking forward to work closely with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (RWI), the current coordinator. And as the next PNI coordinator, we hope to learn from more experienced institutes and to work with all members to strengthen cooperation across the globe to support the work of the United Nations in relevant areas.
YURY FEDOTOV
Former Executive Director
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

I had the honour of working closely with HRH Princess Bajrakitiyabha and the Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ) during my tenure as the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) from 2010-2019.

I was consistently impressed by the dedication and contributions of Her Royal Highness and the TIJ, which played no small part in advancing the global dialogue on crime prevention and criminal justice. One particular achievement in this regard includes the negotiations and process that resulted in the Bangkok Rules, or the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders.

The Bangkok Dialogue on the Rule of Law in 2014 also represents a notable success. The TIJ was new at that time, and yet was able to organize high-level discussions on the rule of law that provided momentum for the inclusion of Sustainable Development Goal 16 on justice in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The global justice and development agendas have benefitted greatly from these contributions, and working alongside and with Her Royal Highness and the TIJ remains a highlight of my service at the United Nations.

Happy Birthday, TIJ! I had the honour and the privilege to experience first-hand Thailand’s leadership in crime prevention and criminal justice matters during the Bangkok United Nations Crime Congress in 2005 and during the chairmanship of HRH Princess Bajrakitiyabha of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) in 2012. There are many areas of work within the Commission that have been initiated by Thailand, from the Bangkok Rules and the Treatment of Offenders, to Women and Children in the Criminal Justice System, and recently Youth Crime Prevention through Sports. With the TIJ becoming a member of the UN Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network of Institutes (PNI) in 2016, the ties with the CCPCJ have been further institutionalized. The TIJ, together with its PNI peers, is key in ensuring that expertise and experiences are brought to the attention of the Commission and, vice versa, is contributing to the translation of policy decisions taken by the Commission into concrete work at the domestic and regional level.

I am looking forward to witnessing many more Thai initiatives within the CCPCJ and wish the TIJ many happy returns!

JO DEDEYNE-AMANN
Chief Secretariat to the Governing Bodies
Division for Treaty Affairs
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
YVON DANDURAND
Fellow and Senior Associate
International Centre for Criminal Law Reform
(ICCLR Vancouver)

The TIJ and its formidable Executive Director have provided quiet, steady, and visionary leadership in justice reform at the national, regional, and global levels. The institute’s name is now tied to key new normative instruments in the areas of the rights of women offenders and prisoners and the protection of women and children against violence. There are also so many other areas in which the TIJ is leading other members of the PNI, whether it is restorative justice, the rule of law and development, justice indicators, or sports-based crime prevention programmes. The ICCLR is always keen to participate in the TIJ’s various projects and proud to participate in their success. All of us are also inspired by the TIJ’s focus on preparing the next generation of justice reformers. Ten years only and so many accomplishments. Just imagine what the TIJ will do in the next ten years now that it found its stride.

IN SUP HAN
President
Korean Institute of Criminology (KIC)

On the auspicious occasion of the 10th Anniversary of the Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ), the Korean Institute of Criminology (KIC) would like to extend our warmest congratulations.

It is our pleasure to note the friendly ties and continuous cooperation between the TIJ and the KIC. The TIJ has conducted pioneering research on the treatment of women prisoners. In 2011, HRH Princess Bajrakitiyabha visited the KIC and exchanged information on the status and treatment of female prisoners in both countries. In 2012 and 2014, the TIJ delegates, including the former Executive Director Adisak Panupong, formally visited the KIC and the constant cooperation eventually led to the signing of MoU on 13 November 2016.

The TIJ has contributed significantly to the networking and exchanges of ideas with the KIC by jointly organizing regional meetings on developing crime and criminal justice statistics in Asia in 2014 and 2016 and workshop on victimization surveys in 2017. Also, the active engagement of the TIJ’s members, especially Dr. Kittipong Kittayarak who was then Executive Director and Dr. Matti Joutsen who was then Special Advisor, was remarkable during the 4th KIC International Forum in 2017 and the 1st Asia Pacific Expert Conference for Criminal Justice in 2020.

As members of the UNPNI, we look forward to working closely with you to strengthen our relationship for criminal justice and crime prevention, eventually reaching towards the achievement of SDGs through the rule of law.
Over the past ten years, the Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC) has been pleased to collaborate with the Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ) as a fellow member of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network. In 2012, we were honoured to host a delegation from the TIJ, led by HRH Princess Bajrakitiyabha, and to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between the two national institutes. Since then, we have worked closely on a number of projects, including those related to youth crime and cybercrime.

I would like to congratulate the TIJ for the excellent research and advocacy work undertaken on penal reform issues, especially in relation to the implementation of the Bangkok Rules to improve conditions for women prisoners, and for the TIJ’s important work undertaken to strengthen the rule of law in Thailand.

I look forward to the AIC continuing to enjoy a close working relationship with the TIJ. As we emerge into a post-COVID-19 world, I am sure there will be many opportunities for our two institutes to share expertise and together explore new ways in which we can help to improve justice and reduce crime.
ANN CHAMPOUX

Director General
International Centre for the Prevention of Crime (ICPC)

The ICPC is pleased to have collaborated with the Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ), an institution that has been leading Thailand’s efforts in the field of criminal justice, reintegration, and the rule of law for the past 10 years, and a fellow member of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network Institutes (PNIs).

It is important for us to acknowledge the work of this renowned research institution that promotes a community of justice fostering human rights principles and the rule of law. The extensive involvement of the TIJ’s members has led this institute to become a key player in crime prevention and criminal justice strategies on a global scale, and by fostering important partnerships, it has succeeded in evolving and innovating emerging trends in crime prevention and criminal justice.

We are confident that the TIJ will continue to fulfill its mission for many years to come.

DOUGLAS DURÁN-CHAVARRÍA

Director

Crime and violence, as well as aspects such as prevention and criminal justice systems, are topics that require an increasing effort of analysis, due to the complexity that, in today’s world, characterizes them, especially now that the pandemic has produced profound changes in these fields as well.

In this context, the work of the TU has always been characterized by great rigor and seriousness, deserving recognition worldwide.

Numerous publications and activities of the TU make an important contribution to the analysis of varied topics such as imprisonment, gender and criminal justice, restorative justice, victimization, human trafficking, and many others, which shows the great work of this institute.

Within the frame of its tenth anniversary, ILANUD congratulates the TU, PNI partner institute, for such extensive and successful work.

MORTEN KJAERUM

Director
Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law

I am pleased to offer sincere congratulations to the Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ) on the occasion of its 10th Anniversary. The Raoul Wallenberg Institute (RWI) has cooperated very closely with the TU ever since its inception, in particular on the practical implementation of the Bangkok Rules for female offenders. Through this partnership, we were honoured to welcome HRH Princess Bajrakitiyabha to our head office in Sweden in 2013, as part of the Enhancing Lives of Female Inmates initiative. We are also delighted that, from 2021, the RWI and the TU will act as joint coordinators of the Institutes of the UN Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network Institutes (PNIs).

It is important for us to acknowledge the work of this renowned research institution that promotes a community of justice fostering human rights principles and the rule of law. The extensive involvement of the TIJ’s members has led this institute to become a key player in crime prevention and criminal justice strategies on a global scale, and by fostering important partnerships, it has succeeded in evolving and innovating emerging trends in crime prevention and criminal justice.

We are confident that the TU will continue to fulfill its mission for many years to come.
TAKESHI SETO
Director

As the Director of UNAFEI, I would like to express my heartfelt congratulations on the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the Thailand Institute of Justice.

From 2007 to 2009, when I served as the Deputy Director of UNAFEI and the TJ was not yet established, Dr. Kittipong Kittarayak, the former Executive Director of the TJ, was the key to the close friendship between Thailand and UNAFEI, and it was with Dr. Kittipong that I developed a special professional and personal relationship. With his support, we had the privilege to welcome HRH Princess Bajrakitiyabha at UNAFEI. I had the pleasure of dining with Her Royal Highness at the UNAFEI cafeteria!

Based on the long-standing relationship between Thai criminal justice practitioners and UNAFEI, it was quite natural that UNAFEI welcomed the establishment of the TJ and supported its bid to join the PNI family in 2016. The Memorandum of Understanding with the TJ was UNAFEI’s first MoU, and it fostered our mutual collaboration.

As the newest PNI, the TJ has made tremendous contributions in a short time. This March, the rescheduled 14th Crime Congress was held in Kyoto, Japan. As the PNI in the host country, UNAFEI organize Workshop 2 on “Reducing reoffending – identifying risks and developing solutions”. The Congress was the first opportunity for the TJ to participate as a PNI member. But knowing the TJ’s practical accomplishments, UNAFEI was quite grateful for the TJ’s interest in co-organizing this workshop with us.

During the preparation process of the workshop, I have become well acquainted with Dr. Matti Joutsen, Special Advisor to the TJ, and Dr. Phiset Sa-ardyen, then Advisor to the Executive Director. Our productive discussions improved the workshop. The TJ always gives swift, constructive, and thoughtful responses when consulted. Indeed, the TJ contributed tremendously to the success of the workshop.

Although UNAFEI’s main activities involve holding training and seminars, we see the TJ’s activities as a very good model to follow. First, the TJ engages in a broad range of activities, not only by holding training but also by conducting a wide range of research, public awareness activities, symposiums, etc. Second, the TJ has focused on some specific themes, such as female offenders and youth and sports. It has also deepened insights and developed good practices through a variety of activities, especially the TJ’s endeavours to promote the Bangkok Rules and to put them into practice. Third, the TJ is always open to the world. It connects not only criminal justice practitioners but also academia, the youth, and the general public around the world, making the most of ICT. In all these aspects, UNAFEI has a lot to learn.

Due to the pandemic, physical interactions between the TJ and UNAFEI have been seriously disrupted. However, I firmly believe that the TJ and UNAFEI’s in-person activities will resume once we overcome COVID-19. I hope that day will come soon.

UNAFEI is always proud of being one of the TJ’s closest sister organizations.
In the present world where connectivity is a vital part of daily life, it is unlikely for a country to be able to operate entirely independently from the neighboring countries and international community, especially when it comes to combating crimes and violence. The TIJ is committed to promoting collaboration that connects global innovation to regional practices to empower the criminal justice system and ensure equal protection for all, thus laying a strong foundation for a rule-based and truly inclusive society.

Over the past decades, ASEAN has experienced rapid growth and economic transformation that inadvertently widened the inequality, both within each society and between member countries. The fast movement of goods and human capital and the level of connectivity enabled by new digital technology leads to more opportunities for criminal networks to expand their illicit activities. The TIJ considers its responsibility to support the region in advancing criminal justice responses to emerging forms of threats and violence that hinder development in every aspect.

It is typical that collaboration on justice matters could be hard to reach. For many countries, criminal justice issues are labeled highly sensitive because they deal with threats to national security, law and regulations, the rights of the people and the states, jurisdiction, and sovereignty. Instead of imposing new standards to different governments or criticizing flaws the existing system might have, the TIJ has been attempting to promote dialogues between neighboring countries on topics of common interests, including but not limited to, trafficking in person, treatment of offenders, cybercrimes, and the SDGs. We take pride for being the only PNI in this region of diverse socio-cultural and political backgrounds and hence always tries to perform our role with a sense of cultural awareness.

In the effort to mainstream the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development into the work of ASEAN, under the auspices of the ASEAN Senior Law Officials Meeting (ASLOM), the TIJ, in partnership with the Thai Ministry of Justice, pushed forward the ASEAN Conference on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (ACCPCJ) as a forum to engage policymakers, practitioners, academia, civil society, and the private sector to address cross-cutting issues under the three pillars of Political-Security Community, Economic Community, and Socio-Cultural Community. It will be a continuing forum to share best practices and experiences on common issues, enabling ASEAN and its Member States to formulate well-informed policies and strategies for enhancing crime prevention and criminal justice institutions. Furthermore, we are honoured for the opportunity to serve HRH Princess Bajrakittyabha in her capacity as the UNODC Goodwill Ambassador on the Rule of Law for Southeast Asia.
Although the current pandemic has weakened the regional collaboration in many aspects, this unprecedented challenge could shed light on the institutional limitations of ASEAN and serve as a lesson learned for us in bringing about more conversations to address future cooperation.

The TJ is equally active at the Asia-Pacific level. We have established a close tie with the UNODC Regional Office for Southeast Asia and the Pacific since the very early years. Countless research and activities were conducted on the topics crucial to the region. The most prominent is the joint report on Trafficking in Person from Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Myanmar to Thailand, published in 2017, which explores human trafficking in the sub-region and emphasizes the need for collective efforts in responding to the problem. In addition, a new agreement was recently signed between the UNODC Regional Office and the TJ to address the threats and challenges of cybercrime in the country and the region.

On a similar note, the TJ has played an active role in fostering a community of crime statisticians in the Asia-Pacific region. By drawing upon the collaboration of UNODC, UNESCAP, and the Korean Government, we co-organized the Regional Meeting on Crime and Criminal Justice Statistics biennially from 2014-2018, the first of its kind that aimed to build a network of criminal justice personnel and statisticians in the field. Its success led to the establishment of a new Center of Excellence that works to provide knowledge-sharing and technical assistance, as well as advocates for better data production in response to the need for SDGs progress monitoring.

Bilateral relations with neighboring countries and key actors in different regions across the globe make up another significant part of the TJ’s works. At the core of promoting the implementation of the Bangkok Rules, our mission is also to provide technical assistance to any interested countries. Several training sessions for ASEAN correctional staff to increase their capacity in managing the gender-specific needs of women in prison have been organized over the years, including specialized programs tailored for correctional officers in Cambodia in 2019 and Indonesia in 2020. The success of the training led to a pilot project to implement the Bangkok Rules in the largest women’s prison in Cambodia.

We also responded to requests made by countries in other regions that could potentially be the champion for its neighbors. Our highlighted achievement includes providing support and guidance for the Government of Kenya to develop training modules for gender-sensitive community-based treatment of offenders with the collaboration of Penal Reform International (PRI).

In the area of knowledge creation, we have conducted several research projects with the specific focus on regional context. The most notable is the report on “Women as Justice Makers; Perspectives from Southeast Asia”, which studies gender equality in the justice systems of the ASEAN countries. It reveals that although gender equality and the empowerment of women have been recognized in international instruments, there still exist structural inequalities that keep many women in low-level and marginal roles in the justice system, as a result of both overt and hidden discrimination. It was considered a landmark study, the first of its kind in the context of the ASEAN region that provides clear recommendations which should prove of value to practitioners and policymakers around the world. It is not only one of the TJ’s efforts to produce evidence-based information on women empowerment, but also reflects the determination to advocate for women’s role as the agents of change in the justice system too.
JEREMY DOUGLAS
Regional Representative
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) for Southeast Asia and the Pacific

The TIJ occupies a unique space in Thailand and has stepped into a unique space in Southeast Asia. The region does not have a long history of think tanks, and in only 10 years, the TIJ has become a catalyst for discussions and the sharing of ideas on the rule of law and justice issues.

As I was thinking about the 10th anniversary, I recalled discussions with HRH Princess Bajrakitiyabha both in Bangkok and around the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice that predated the TIJ, about the need for an organization that could convene experts and governments in the region to compare notes and experiences. The TIJ emerged, and the 2014 Bangkok Dialogue on the Rule of Law provided incredible momentum for the organization within the country and region, getting noticed even at a global level.

Congratulations to the TIJ, its visionary executive team, and talented staff on a great first 10 years. I look forward to working together in the decade to come.

MOHAMMAD NACIRI
Regional Director
UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

The TIJ has long been an outstanding partner with UN Women in advancing gender equality and access to justice for all women and girls. The partnership has enabled environments and resources for gender-responsive criminal justice system and policy through capacity building, information campaigns, and research that contributes to policy recommendations at national and global levels. With high-calibre expertise, the TIJ is one of the leading agencies in translating international agendas into actions, including those of SDGs, CEDAW, and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

We are proud to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the TIJ and the partnership between UN Women and the TIJ to improve justice mechanisms for women and girls across the country and strive to protect and empower women and girls and to create a gender-equal world for today and the future. Let’s continue to move forward together.
On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) warmly congratulates the TIJ for its work and results. In a short period of time, the TIJ has emerged as a leading organization on issues related to the rule of law and governance.

UNDP is honored and proud to work with the TIJ in a number of initiatives such as the treatment of transgender prisoners, youth engagement, and enhancing the rule of law through fostering inclusive justice and introducing more innovation in the justice system. Moreover, as the custodian of the Bangkok Rules and the work to promote their dissemination and implementation around the world, the TIJ demonstrates its capacity to act as a global leader on justice innovation and people-centered rule of law, bringing together government, civil society, and private sector to strengthen social cohesion.

In today’s world marked by increasingly complex and multi-faceted challenges, organizations like the TIJ are critical to sustaining our common efforts to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and leaving no one behind in the fulfillment of people’s rights.

UNDP is committed to continuing working closely with the TIJ and wishes the leadership and team of the TIJ great many more years ahead.

The TIJ has always been a great partner for the UN. We are like-minded in our thinking about the critical role of SDG16, and the rule of law and justice in particular, within the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, and the respect the TU commands within Thailand, regionally, and internationally has given its voice great weight. It has achieved an extraordinary amount in its 10-year history, including the Bangkok Rules which set the international agenda for the treatment of women prisoners, and in generating the support from Bhutan, Indonesia, Thailand, and others for SDG16, have made a real difference to the promotion of the rule of law at the international level. Within Thailand, the Executive Leadership Programme has created an impressive movement of senior government, business, and civil society leaders who have learned the power of the rule of law and justice to accelerate Thailand’s development. Always proactive, creative, and entrepreneurial, the TU punches above its weight and is a huge asset to its country. I wish the TIJ every success for the next 10 years, in helping Thailand—and the broader region—to achieve the SDGs through a focus on the rule of law!
PIET HEIN VAN KEMPEN

- Secretary General
  International Penal and Penitentiary Foundation
- Dean
  Professor of Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure
  Faculty of Law
  Radboud University, Nijmegen, the Netherlands

The Thailand Institute of Justice is one of the great innovative institutions in the world of criminal justice. I have had the pleasure to work with the staff of the TIJ on several projects, including the international congress of the International Penal and Penitentiary Foundation on Women in Prison and the Borderless Youth Forum in cooperation with Radboud University. Each and every time I was impressed by the professionality, enthusiasm, and creativity of the TIJ’s colleagues in realizing valuable impact for the criminal justice system and the people in it. One of the secrets of the success of the TIJ is that it is incredibly well advanced in using scientific and scholarly knowledge in a way that immediately benefits society. In doing so, the TIJ plays a key role in effectively connecting theory, policy, practice, and people. There is still much need to make criminal justice systems around the world fairer and more humane. That the Thailand Institute of Justice tirelessly works to trigger, catalyze, and achieve such improvements indeed brightens the future.

KES KYUNGSOON CHOI

- Director
  International Statistical Cooperation Division,
  Statistics Korea
- Former Head
  UNODC Centre of Excellence for Statistics on
  Crime and Criminal Justice in Asia and the Pacific

It is my great pleasure to congratulate the Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ) on its 10th Anniversary. I also congratulate Dr. Phiset on his appointment as the Executive Director of the TIJ.

The TIJ has contributed to the improvement of crime and criminal justice statistics at both the national and regional levels. It has been an important partner in the region since the first Regional Meeting on Crime Statistics and Victimization Surveys in 2014.

My first partnership experience with the TIJ was for the Regional Training Course on the Implementation of the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes (ICCS) in 2017, which was co-organized by UNODC, ESCAP, TIJ, and KOSTAT. The impression of working with the TIJ can be summarized in three words: professional, passionate, and compassionate. Thanks to the TIJ, KOSTAT’s first collaborative work in the area of Crime and Criminal Statistics was a big success.

The partnership continued when the UNODC-KOSTAT Centre of Excellence (CoE) was established in 2019. Dr. Phiset and colleagues of the TIJ were kind enough to visit Daejeon, Republic of Korea, and celebrate the opening of CoE. The cooperation between the two agencies has continued at the Third Regional Meeting on Crime and Criminal Justice Statistics (China, 2019) and at the First Meeting of the Regional Advisory Group (Thailand, 2020). Now that I am back at KOSTAT, I look forward to many future years of cooperation among TIJ, CoE, and KOSTAT.
SITA SUMRIT
• Head of Poverty Eradication and Gender Division
• Assistant Director, Human Development Directorate
ASEAN Secretariat
It is truly inspiring to witness the remarkable impacts that the TIJ has generated through its work and initiatives on the protection and empowerment of vulnerable groups in the area of access to justice and legal empowerment throughout the years. As one of the trailblazers and thought leaders in the field, the TIJ has tremendously contributed to increasing the visibility of these marginalized stakeholders in the justice system.

Through the work in policy advocacy, awareness-raising, and campaign as well as research, the TIJ has not only offered us holistic understanding on the challenges faced by women, children, and other vulnerable groups along their path towards justice, but also practical policy solutions.

I am humbled to have been a part of such journey. It is with trust and confidence that the TIJ will continue to be a catalyst in justice research, programmes, dialogues, and exchanges in Thailand and beyond.

SALOMÉ FLORES
Coordinator
INEGI-UNODC Center of Excellence in Statistical Information on Government, Crime, Victimization and Justice

The Center of Excellence’s staff has been honored to collaborate with the TIJ on several occasions. Either through training, conferences, or study visits, each of them has been an inspiring opportunity to witness the professionalism and commitment of every TIJ staff member to strengthen the rule of law and prevent crime. The work that the TIJ does is exceptional, and we can only hope for it to keep that pace in the coming years. May you keep transforming the lives of offenders, women, and children.

Best wishes on this 10th anniversary.

ROSIE MEEK
Professor
Royal Holloway, University of London, UK

It has been a pleasure and a privilege to collaborate with colleagues at the TIJ as part of my research into the role of sport in criminal justice settings, and before that, in my teaching of the importance of the Bangkok Rules to my students here in the UK.

I have worked closely with the TIJ on a number of innovative initiatives, including the recent UN Crime Congress, a current collaborative research study into the use of sport as a youth crime reduction initiative and an excellent event hosted by the TIJ in Bangkok. In all of these contexts, I have enjoyed fruitful discussions and a refreshingly forward thinking outlook from our TIJ colleagues. I look forward to continuing our partnerships into the future with the ultimate aim of improving conditions for the most vulnerable in society and supporting efforts to reduce crime and create safer communities. The TIJ is one of the global leaders in this work and I am proud to be a partner.
MAURICE DENYYS ODHIAMBO

Human Rights Educator
Kenya Prisons Services

My first experience working with the TJ is when I was invited to participate in the Training on the Management of Women Prisoners for Senior Correctional Staff in the ASEAN Region (Bangkok Rules Training) in August 2016 in Bangkok.

As a Human Rights Educator to correctional personnel back in Kenya, the knowledge acquired during the training was very timely. I have been able to conduct training for over 300 officers working with female offenders on the Bangkok Rules, both custodial and non-custodial, this, I will say has been very informative to the officers since the Bangkok Rules are gender-specific and focus on the distinct and unique needs of women prisoners since the pathways to female offenders are very unique.

One significant change I appreciate since I started training the correctional officers in Kenya is that the correctional officers in the institution now acknowledge that women commit crime due to a number of underlying factors, which include; history of violence, trauma, and poverty among others. This, therefore, informs the kind of treatment plans, programs, and regimes for the female prisoners while in prison, making it easier for the women prisoners to participate in the programs leading to smooth reintegration into the society.

I feel privileged to have worked with the TJ since 2016 and personally after the training, it exposed me to the Bangkok Rules and the pathways to prison for women prisoners and female offenders, above all it has also made me approach my work professionally, guided by the Bangkok Rules.

SAMANTHA JEFFRIES

Senior Lecturer
School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Griffith Criminology Institute, Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia

For the past six years, I have had the great pleasure of working on numerous gender-focused projects with the, now, Office for the Bangkok Rules and Treatment of Offenders (OBR) at the TJ. What has become clear is the strong and unwavering organizational commitment to social justice. This is what makes the TJ unique. There is a genuine ethic of care driving all the TJ’s work, as well as a heartfelt commitment to making a positive difference in the lives of vulnerable and marginalised people.

In addition, the TJ’s commitment to empowering the young generation through the provision of voice in youth forums has left a lasting impression on me. The TJ hosts numerous youth forums seeking young people’s input into a plethora of crime and criminal justice issues. In fact, one of the highlights of my ongoing relationship with the TJ occurred in 2018 and 2019, when they graciously supported me to bring two groups of undergraduate criminology students from Griffith University to Thailand for a study tour. My students were able to meet and engage with the TJ staff who then arranged, supported, and provided their invaluable expertise on field visits to prisons, drug rehabilitation centres, youth detention facilities, and women’s shelters. One of the many highlights of both study tours was the opportunity for students to engage with their Thai peers at a TJ youth forum. My students subsequently described participation in these study tours as being a “once in a lifetime experience,” “eye-opening,” the “highlight” of their criminology degree programme, and the youth forum as “fantastic”. In a sentiment shared, one student commented, “I only wish the trip was longer,” so we could keep “working with the TJ.”

Thank you for your commitment to social justice. Thank you for welcoming me and my students into the TJ family. Thank you for all you have achieved so far. I look forward to the achievements yet to come.
Dr. Kittipong and I have met on several occasions since the 1990s. Our paths crossed when we attended UN Congresses and served as ad hoc experts at the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute but our contacts intensified during the 11th UN Congress in Bangkok in 2005 and the many times we met since then.

I attended that congress in my capacity as Secretary-General of the International Penal and Penitentiary Foundation (IPPF), the successor of the IPPC, a former commission of the League of Nations. I have been impressed by his knowledge and with the consent of the Board of the IPPF, I had the pleasure to invite Dr. Kittipong to become a corresponding member. Since then, he and members of his staff are regular participants in the annual meeting and contribute to scientific colloquia of the IPPF.

The excellent contacts with Dr. Kittipong and the TIJ culminated in 2014 when the IPPF colloquium on Women in Prison was held in Bangkok, resulting in an impressive book volume under the same title dealing with the situation in various Asian, European, American, and Pacific countries.

On the occasion of the first national justice congress, he invited me to discuss in my keynote speech the challenges of non-custodial sanctions and measures as alternatives to deprivation of liberty. At that time in Europe, the alternative sanctions were on the rise, but in the discussion it was made clear that in Thailand a long way had to be gone. Since then, much energy has been invested in the development of non-custodial sanctions and measures. A major event has been the 2009 Expert Roundtable Meeting on the Development of the Draft Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders and the adoption of the Bangkok Rules in 2010.

In October 2019, Dr. Kittipong Kittayarak was granted an honorary doctorate at the Radboud University in Nijmegen, the Netherlands. In the honorary doctorate not only Dr. Kittipong is honoured for his work as a visionary lawyer but also the institute he serves as executive director, because he believes that the most effective way to reform human rights and the rule of law starts with the education of practitioners whatever age. That education is one of the major activities of the institute.

There might be a long way to go before the criminal justice system of Thailand can be seen as a system where the rule of law prevails, but the TIJ is working hard to aim at this situation. The publications by the TIJ make clear that criminality in Thailand, more in particular drugs criminality, is of a completely different nature compared to criminality in the USA and European countries. In Thailand drug criminality is poverty-driven, in Europe and the USA it is money-driven organized crime. In Thailand it is small-scale criminality, in Europe it is a very large scale with the import of tons of cocaine and millions of hard drug pills. Furthermore, in Thailand drugs criminality seems not to be violent criminality like it is the case in Europe and the USA.
TIJ and Thai Government

The TU was established by the Thai Government and positioned as a national institute with strategic alignment to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme. One of the key mandates is to improve the effectiveness of the Thai criminal justice system by bridging global ideas, including the international standards and norms, to local practices, as well as promoting excellence in research and capacity building in related areas.

We were fortunate to have had domestic friends that were, directly involved in the TU’s inception, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Office of the Attorney General, and the Office of Justice Affairs under the Ministry of Justice. They have been supportive especially in the early years, when the TU successfully gained international recognition but still quite lacking in creating domestic impact. It took some time for us to build trust and prove our intention, which is not competing but supporting other organizations in common areas of interests. As such, a substantial part of the TU’s domestic work revolves around engaging various sectors of the government on the issue of the gender-sensitive criminal justice system, rights of vulnerable groups, and the rule of law and development. It works closely with many governmental organizations in the criminal justice system and others to try to understand the context of the existing problems, make suggestions about measures or practices that could possibly be the solutions, and offer assistance where necessary.

The primary mission was to push for the implementation of the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules) in Thailand, where there was the highest rate of female incarceration in Southeast Asia. We conducted research focusing on the characteristics of women offenders, their needs and impacts of incarceration on their lives, as well as the policy that resulted in the increasing number of female inmates. The conditions, programs, and services available in prison facilities were also assessed, using a set of indicators based on the Bangkok Rules to determine the progress made, limitations, and challenges in applying the recommendations of the Bangkok Rules. During this extended process, we had exchanged experiences and established close ties with the correctional officers in many prison facilities. The process has strengthened the TU’s collaboration with the Thai Department of Corrections and led to the launch of the “Model Prison Project”, which became our main flagship activity in the domestic arena.

In a similar manner, we have developed a strong partnership with the Department of Juvenile Observation and Protection. In the effort to protect the rights of children who come in contact with the criminal justice system in line with the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against
Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the TJI was interested to understand the history of violence that juvenile offenders had experienced before entering the system. We have collaborated with the research personal of the Department of Juvenile Observation and Protection to conduct years of ongoing research and survey that help shed light on the prevalence of violence against children in Thailand. The knowledge led to further collaboration in developing the capacity-building project for the person in charge of juvenile offenders care, which hopefully will contribute to the successful rehabilitation.

On policy advocacy, the TJI encourages the criminal justice system to focus on the people-centered approach in order to effectively respond to the needs of the society. A notable project we introduced in line with this concept was the study on Criminal Justice Performance Indicators, which encourages the criminal justice agencies to take into account the public perception when setting their performance measurements. This is because, most of the time, the performance measurements are designed with the internal perception that may not represent the people’s need or conflicting with other agencies that in fact should be working together. The recommendation is that a set of well-defined indicators that reflect the performance of the entire coordinated criminal justice system on the tangible aspects that people really care about, like timeliness, services, and fairness, are likely to promote trust and people’s participation. The concept was later adopted by the Ministry of Justice and developed into a working set of indicators.

In recent years, we have stepped up our role and gradually gained trust and recognition from peers. The TJI has become the go-to name in almost every conversation about knowledge, best practices, and international standards and norms for better criminal justice administration, as well as the rule of law and development. We have been working on expanding partnerships with the Court of Justice and the Royal Thai Police, particularly on new technologies and emerging solutions to better serve the people. In addition, it is grateful for the opportunity to establish a new collaboration scheme when invited by the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security to assist in developing a recreation program for at-risk youth as a crime prevention measure. This is in line with the concept of Youth Crime Prevention through Sports introduced by the Doha Declaration that builds on the power of sports as a tool for peace, which is another area that the TJI has been advocated for.

To ensure that the knowledge and lesson learned from its decade of operation are not lost, we set up a new office with the specific mandate of providing training and capacity building to criminal justice personnel on international standards and norms, best practices, as well as new concept ideas and innovative thinking for criminal justice reform that responds to the future trend. With the positive feedback in the past few years and the new expanding role as a knowledge provider, the TJI expects to be able to gather more long-term partners in the government sectors and create greater domestic impact. It is committed to fulfilling the founding expectation of becoming the national institute with the international caliber that genuinely contributes to the advancement of the Thai criminal justice system, benefiting all Thai people and society.
Congratulations on the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ).

I first became aware of the TIJ's work in the area of criminal justice, in particular, the rights of women offenders and prisoners. From then on, I have seen the increasing breadth and depth of the legal domains that the TIJ has been involved in, including the protection of women and children against violence, the rule of law and development, restorative justice, and, more recently, justice indicators.

Furthermore, the TIJ has hosted and co-hosted a number of thought-provoking and impact-driven conferences, high-level discussions, and expert group meetings that have resulted in improving existing guidelines, creating new models for regulations as well as raising awareness among the related authorities and the public at large. I personally participated in the 2019 TIJ International Forum, entitled Innovation and Technology for Justice. In my keynote address, I mentioned that platforms – such as this event – help elevate the standards of justice to better provide fairer and up-to-date justice administration to all people in our ever-changing society.

I also noted the importance of the relevant parties in the justice system working with one another in a network. With this in mind, during my time as Chief Justice, I carefully recruited and nominated the most promising new generation of judges to take part in the TIJ Workshop for Emerging Leaders and the Rule of Law and Development (RoLD) Program. Upon completion of each program, the selected participants reported back to me in positive terms about how each course expanded his or her perspectives.

The Supreme Court has worked closely with the TIJ since its inception. Since my retirement, I am glad to have learned that this cooperation has continued. I wish the TIJ, its Executive Director, and staff success for many more years to come.
KHEMCHAI CHUTIWONGSE

- Professor
- Former Attorney General of Thailand

I had heard about the Thailand Institute of Justice’s (TIJ) for several years before I joined it as one of its ex-officio board members in 2017, in the capacity of the Attorney General. Although I had many other similar appointment and could have assigned others to handle it on my behalf, I had decided to work with the TIJ by myself. Working alongside other TIJ board members, the Executive Director, and its staff, I have recognized it to be an exceptional public organization with great visions, great standards. With its solid team effort, the TIJ is well recognized in the international level, having played a prominent role at the UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and many other important international meetings.

Knowledge of every discipline requires research and development to advance. In Thailand, I must admit that I have seen so little research and development that has led to tangible success in the justice sector. It is probably because the main justice organizations such as the police, the prosecutors, the courts, and the corrections have significant power over practices and any development that research conducted by academia cannot alter the direction. Thai justice system has progressed rather slowly and mostly dominated by operational organizations. With the TIJ, it is hopeful that research and development may eventually be integrated into practices, as well as leading and recommending the successful reform. I think that the TIJ has the potential to take up this mission and guide the reform of Thai justice system in the near future.

KANCHANA PATARACHOKE

Ambassador of Thailand to the Kingdom of Sweden

In 2015, I had the honor of representing the TIJ as panelist at the 13th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Doha, Qatar, in a panel on criminal statistics. In fact, during my time at the Department of International Organizations, I often had the good fortune to take part in various TIJ activities.

I served as an executive board member of the TIJ and was always impressed by the high qualities and strong determination of the TIJ staff members. In the early years, the TIJ focused more on getting the PNI status which it did in 2016 and a number of board members including myself would ask the TIJ to also step up its work at domestic level. And the TIJ has done much in that regard, especially in improving women prisoners’ quality of life, preventing recidivism, introducing sport and youth crime prevention, reducing violence against women, to name a few.

The TIJ’s success also arises from its belief that justice is everyone’s matter. The TIJ has successfully created an executive course on the rule of law and development (RoLD Program), drawing in top leaders from various sectors of the Thai society. Through these participants, the TIJ has managed to make changes and impact people in all walks of life.

Lastly, the TIJ has always upheld the guidance provided by His Majesty the late King Rama IX that a just law must serve its people. The TIJ is passionately pursuing its mission to ensure that the rule of law serves the people both in Thailand and beyond.

Happy 10th Anniversary, TIJ!
SANTANEE DITSAYABUT
Director
Secretariat Office, Nitivajra Institute
Office of the Attorney General, Thailand

I have had many occasions working with the TIJ since its establishment in 2011. This relatively new public organization has an ambitious goal to improve the Thai criminal justice system to be in line with international standards. The TIJ has quickly strived and by 2016, just five years from the start, it received the endorsement to be the new addition to the eighteen members of the United Nations Programme Network (PNI), the only one from the Southeast Asian region. It is a known fact among people in this field that being recognized at such level is not easy. However, the TIJ succeeded in a short time and even become a prominent player in the international stage and the pride of Thailand.

Through the years, the TIJ has worked alongside government organizations addressing many important issues. I took part in many of its activities especially related to transnational organized crime suppression and protection of children in contact with the criminal justice system. The more I have known the TIJ, the more I am impressed with its competence, its dedication, as well as the cooperation and friendship extended by its personnel. It is worth noted that the development of the Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, which is an international instrument that Thailand had been very active in the drafting process, is a great success resulted from the close collaboration between the Office of the Attorney General and the TIJ.

I hope that the TIJ will continue the steady steps and be the strength in advocating for true justice in Thailand where everyone is treated with fairness.

YUTTHANA NAKREUNGSRI
Superintendent
Samut Prakan Central Prison

Collaborations with the TIJ have given me many good impressions. Firstly, the TIJ is very much like an encyclopedia for prison operations. Via its website and Facebook page, the TIJ has published useful articles, knowledge, and new ideas that kept practitioners up-to-date all the time. With such information, it is easier for us to explore methods, guidelines, or standards for treatments of prisoners.

Secondly, in addition to conceptual frameworks, theories, articles, or trends about Thai and foreign prisoners, the TIJ has provided supports for various activities aiming to return good citizens to society while also taking into account prisoners’ quality of life during their imprisonment.

Thirdly, the cooperation projects with the TIJ have been really helpful in connecting prisoners with society. This is because, after being released, former prisoners will never be successful if they have had no ties with their family or society. By exchanging viewpoints with the TIJ, I have learned a lot from these projects which place emphasis on such tie. I think it is a good model.

Lastly, the relationship with the TIJ has been two-way. The TIJ is a giver that supports us in several projects in my view suit the current situation well. For example, there are projects to develop new vocational skills for prisoners where prisoners learned how to create LINE stickers or learned English language online. On the other hand, I have welcomed many of the TIJ’s guests when they made educational visits to our facilities whereby visitors can see the works that result from ideas we have got from the TIJ and theories that it has promoted. The visits are the occasions for the TIJ to check our progress and determine whether we truly understand what the TIJ has been pushing for.

I applaud the TIJ in its mission of making better changes in the justice system through promoting the international standards of correctional operations and related guidelines.
PEABPROM MEKHIYANONT
Deputy Superintendent
Thailand Internet Crime against Children,
The Royal Thai Police

Throwback to 10 years ago today, while most people feel overwhelmed and despaired about the magnitude of the criminal justice problems. The TIJ was established among those masses of despair. The first and foremost organization with the vision that is badly needed in the current situation says “to be a promoter of change to enhance the rule of law, criminal justice systems and crime prevention.”

For 10 years of important steps, the vision expressed on that day has been partly fulfilled and partly been in progress. The TIJ already became a beam of light amid the darkness in criminal justice reform. More than five years I have been working closely with the TIJ and so fortunate to witness these efforts. It has never lost sight of the challenges and the complexities in every aspect of the problems. It also shined a spotlight on many critical issues in the justice system, bringing a diverse group of stakeholders; judges, prosecutors, police, probation officers, policymakers, academics, community leaders, and business leaders—those often with diverse views and perspectives, agreed to sit around at the same table in order to take stronger action to advance the justice system.

Throughout this journey, I am certainly sure that the TIJ had succeeded in so many ways. However, there is still much work left to do in the years to come in order to ensure that our criminal justice system shall equally serve all.

GISLE KVANVIG
Head
UNPOL Secretariat
Norwegian Centre for Human Rights,
Faculty of Law, University of Oslo

It is a privilege to be asked to write a few congratulatory words to the Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ). The TIJ immediately put us at ease with their courtesy and professionalism. I know for a fact that we would be nowhere near reaching our objectives without their guidance and wisdom. Partners like the TIJ are crucial to success when working in another country, culture, and language. We frequently discuss how international agencies and organizations should coordinate their efforts. What is often ignored is recipient countries’ capacity to coordinate and organize foreign assistance. The TIJ represents a model for how international and domestic efforts can and should be organized. The TIJ has been, is, and will continue to be an outstanding partner to us in the work we do together on the fairness and efficiency of criminal investigations and interviewing.

Warm regards and congratulations.
T Jennings and the Society

A statement that best sums up the TJJ's underlying missions and belief is "Justice is Everyone’s Matter." This is because the TJJ is well-aware that justice influences society and affects people in their daily lives. While it involves everyone, it is unrealistic for a single institute to push for better justice, equality, or a peaceful society without the help from other members of the society. In order to fulfill its aspiration of being the promoter of change, the TJJ decided that it needs to create a sustained network of change-makers from all walks of life to collaborate in a collective action of making a difference in their respective fields.

The 2030 Agenda acknowledges, as explicitly stated in Goal 16, that access to justice, the rule of law, and accountable institutions are not only desired outcomes but also enablers of sustainable development in all aspects. The rule of law and effective justice institutions are prerequisite for stable environment needed for economic activities to thrive, as well as ensure equal access to the benefit of development for everyone, especially in the time of violence, conflict, and suffering. Nevertheless, many people still consider laws and justice as complicated subjects that have nothing to do with their lives, unless they are really in trouble.

The TJJ is committed to promoting public conversation on the importance of justice, and at the same time, constantly recruiting new partners to advocate for the rule of law and the culture of lawfulness. Whether it be introducing media personnel to the overcrowded correctional system as the direct result of over-criminalization policy, presenting data scientists with the problem of domestic violence, or drawing the attention of businesses to the concept of social justice, we take every opportunity to communicate to people we cross path with about angles of common justice issues that would otherwise be easily overlooked.

**The Rule of Law and Development Program** or “RoLD Program” is at the center of the TJJ’s effort in engaging emerging leaders and executives of various professions in the public and private sectors, as well as civil society and academics. Participants in this executive program are introduced to justice issues in Thailand and elsewhere, and invited to share their perspectives on how changes can be created. Through knowledge-sharing, the RoLD Program successfully raised awareness among people from every discipline that justice is not only about the laws, lawyers, or the process, but a matter for every member of society. The RoLD Program has built a strong network of people with different expertise who realized their roles and potential to contribute to reducing conflict and inequality and promoting respect for the rule of law. The network has become a platform for cross-sectoral collaboration and a source for mobilizing support needed to experiment on new solutions for justice issues.
Corresponding with the primary mission of the TIJ, many of the social partnership projects that we supported focus on enhancing the life and welfare of inmates inside the prisons and after release. The Thai criminal justice system has been struggling with the problem of overcrowded prisons and the cycle of recidivism for too long. The majority of the prison population is of working age and should be contributing to the country’s labor market. We were fortunate to have connected with like-minded partners who put effort into turning prison confinement into a space for rehabilitation that equips inmates with skills the market requires and provides opportunities for their successful reintegration into society. One notable project that resulted from the partnership between members of the RoLD network is the “Street Food Project”, a model of micro-entrepreneurship aiming to provide ex-inmates with tools and skills to start a new life in an efficient way.

On the other hand, the TIJ also focuses on making the criminal justice system and the people within the system welcoming to changes and innovative ideas. In order to create an ecosystem where passionate people have the channel to step in and contribute, it invests in establishing a dialogue between people and practitioners in the field, which at the same time serves as an opportunity to reflect on what people actually need. This goes in line with the TIJ’s effort to encourage criminal justice institutions to use the people-centered approach when considering improving their working process to effectively respond to the situation at hand. One prominent example that demonstrates how the criminal justice system should reach out to society was when we addressed the roles of crime prevention and criminal justice through a development-led perspective. Reflecting on the prevalence of crimes derived from the motive of illicit financial gain and the nature of these offenders, it broadens the scope of attention to not only focus on fact-finding and subsequent sanction, but also take into account the various factors, including social-structure-related ones that led to the decision to commit a crime or to reoffend. We try to get the message across that effective responses to crimes require an understanding of the root causes and structural disadvantages that lead people to come into contact with criminal justice system. Through the lens of a development-led approach, it seems that the most important persisting problem, like overcrowding, may be larger than the criminal justice institutions or even the government, thus, it needs private sectors and the entire society to come on board.

With a simple belief that one cannot keep doing the same thing and expect a different result, the TIJ continues to draw upon new partners and new perspectives in promoting positive changes in criminal justice and social justice issues. Through knowledge and understanding that everyone is inevitably affected by injustice and also everyone can make a meaningful contribution, we are confident that the network of change-makers will keep expanding. Respect for justice and the rule of law, which are vital enablers for sustainable development, can only be permanently instilled in Thailand if the right environment is created to nurture the passion, dedication, and perseverance of the people who want to make a difference.
NARONG JAIHARN  
Professor of Law  
Thammasat University

Congratulations for the 10th Anniversary of the TIJ and for the greatest success as the leading institution to promote ideas, concepts, and lots of activities and cooperation projects for the development of criminal justice and crime prevention to all sectors in Thailand, together with an excellent collaboration with other international institutions for the TIJ activities.

On behalf of my research team doing a three-year research project to classify offences in Thai penal laws which relate to sections 01-11 of the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes – ICCS Version 1.0, we have received great support and encouragement by top executives of the TIJ and all staff. We successfully reach the final report of this research and propose our recommendation to develop Thai penal law to harmonize with the International Classification. This evidence has shown that the TIJ had taken a masterpiece project on the major issue of criminal law in Thailand and an upgrade to international standards.

Finally, I have been deeply honored to be a part of the TIJ activities on the pathway of developing the Thai criminal justice system, and I would like to express my gratitude to the TIJ for all benefits and supports. I wish and am confident that for the next decade, the TIJ can run all projects to investing in the rule of law for a better future and a better Thai society.

DAVID KENNEDY  
Director  
The Institute for Global Law and Policy (IGLP)  
Harvard Law School

The TIJ’s powerful commitment to the rule of law in Thailand animates a brilliant effort to strengthen leadership across the region. The TIJ has built a network of young leaders thinking creatively and collaboratively about law’s many possible faces – problem solver, democracy guarantor, rights protector – alongside the danger of law’s use by political and economic forces determined to stymie effective reform. Attuned to comparative and global perspectives, the TIJ has immeasurably strengthened understanding and respect for law’s potential in Thailand and beyond. The IGLP at Harvard Law School has been proud to work closely with the TIJ and I have always been impressed by their amazing professionalism, institutional excellence, and friendliness. A wonderful and talented community indeed!
In this harsh and confusing society where people of diverse minds and diverse lives – the rich, priests, singers, prostitutes, drug peddlers, YouTubers, and laborers – cross paths in the same small and crowded city, to each of them “justice” can be differently defined.

“Justice” may be rigid and strict to some, and more relaxing to others. Because of these differences, they feel the need to build up walls. The bigger the difference, the thicker the wall. The clearer the contrast, the higher the fence. So members of our society treated one another like complete strangers.

“That wall is our safety.”

When I was mature enough to stand up for others, I joined the TIJ’s RoLD program. It was the opportunity to meet people from various walks of life who came with the same aspiration, to create a society where all humans are recognized as equal.

“Justice” might still mean differently to us, but such common goal brought us close together. The ties will not stop just within the TIJ or within the RoLD network, but will expand further and connect every sector of our society.

“Relations” will be the new safety for people of diverse backgrounds. Get to know different people and one day the walls will crumble down.
NATTHA KOMOLVADHIN
ASEAN News Editor and Anchor
TeeNee ThaiPBS
Thai Public Broadcasting Service (Thai PBS)

I participated in many seminars organized by the TIJ, whether as a speaker, a moderator, an audience, and also in the capacity of media. The TIJ always highlights the dynamic of justice issues and able to integrate vital issues such as gender identity, equality, or the rule of law into their work so seamlessly. One of the TIJ’s key missions is for the better treatment of female inmates. And among many activities, the TIJ invited reporters to report about the lives of female inmates who were about to be released from prison and reintegrating into society. It was an excellent opportunity for us to meet the prisoners and the prison staff, enable us to understand the dynamic of the problem, and understand more about the Bangkok Rules both theoretically and practically.

I am impressed about working with the TIJ’s staff. The former Executive Director, Professor Dr. Kittipong Kittayarak, and everyone seems to have the determination and the volunteer spirit to advocate for the rule of law and carry out the criminal justice reform.

CHAIRAT THOMYA
Executive Editor
The Opener (News Web Page)

I was invited to do a documentary on the 13th UN Crime Congress in Doha, Qatar, in 2015 and that was the first time I have got to work with the TIJ. I initially thought that the TIJ would be another bureaucratic organization, but actually the nature of their work is surprisingly fast-paced. The staff members are active and knowledgeable in various disciplines. Having witnessed the acknowledgment the TIJ gained from the international community and the goal sets by the TIJ in trying to reform criminal justice grasped my attention. It was a courageous step in challenging the criminal justice system as the TIJ is the precursor to campaign for creating and implementing the rule of law indicators, which is essential to the criminal justice system.

In this challenging time where people are out on the street demanding that their rights be protected, including the Black Lives Matter movement and many other movements of diversity, it is obvious that criminal justice is losing momentum worldwide. To me, the TIJ had been ahead of its time. The notion of the rule of law is vital for the peace and stability of society. And the TIJ, with great ambition, has been trying to advocate for the respect of the rule of law for quite some time.

The TIJ shows me that there are more important players, more perspectives in the entire criminal justice ecosystem than just the Judge and the police. Still, the TIJ’s work and intention are not recognized enough by the public. I wish that the TIJ could better convey their work to get more recognition, so that the public would understand or be more informed about the justice issues in society.
Seven or eight months ago, the Ratchaburi Central Prison informed me that I had been a successful applicant to join this new vocational training course. I went to the first cooking class and found out about the TIJ. I was so glad and thankful for the course. I was taught how to cook properly and following hygienic standards for food safety. I was selected to open a food stall at Central World on the day that the TIJ had its activity. I am delighted that the TIJ has given me such honor and the opportunity for people to know about my business. With proper knowledge, I am more confident in conducting the trade. The TIJ also has given us street-food carts that I still use until now. But during the COVID-19 outbreak, I cannot open my food stall every day and need to look for other income sources to send my kids to school.

I think what the TIJ is doing is very good and has given real moral support to people like me. On the 10th anniversary of the TIJ, I wish that it will continue its work for a long, long time. I would like to thank the TIJ for giving people who had made mistakes a new chance for a good life. Thank you for the warmth and the encouragement extended every time I attend the TIJ activities. Thank you for putting a smile on my and my family members’ faces. I LOVE TIJ.

About three years ago, I started teaching yoga to the TIJ staff. I was initially very worried about what the students would think of me. I was afraid that my history might be a problem. But no one look down on me. The TIJ staff treated me with respect and I regained my confidence. Being an ex-prisoner, I was always afraid people would judge me, but working with the TIJ has really changed my perspective.

While I was teaching weekly, the TIJ also invited me to be a speaker several times. I talked mainly about my life behind bars, the prison rules, and how different it was from living in the outside world. The TIJ has given me opportunities to speak up. I was not used to speaking my mind and even asked them whether speaking frankly about the prison would get me in trouble. But they have been very supportive. Most importantly, the TIJ has given me lots of moral support. Everyone I worked with would repeatedly ensure me that society is ready to embrace me back. I have gained more confidence and strengths because of the guidance from the TIJ.

Although I no longer teach at the TIJ, the student introduced me to teach yoga in other offices. I would like to thank the TIJ for letting me be the teacher and the speaker for its people. These opportunities made me realized my self-worth. I used to be afraid to face society. But now, I have the courage to live on and share my experiences with others. Without the TIJ, I would have still been so afraid and scared.
Time flies!

Looking back, I recall how the TIJ was established based on the goodwill and deep involvement of HRH Princess Bajrakitiyabha soon after the adoption of the Bangkok Rules by the UN General Assembly in 2010. Since then, the TIJ has made numerous contributions to development and improvement in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, especially in terms of implementation of the Bangkok Rules. The TIJ has also been substantially involved in various international conferences in every manner and maintains a notable presence in the international community.

Considering that the Bangkok Rules’ focus is along the same lines as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (Tokyo Rules) to which UNAFEI made a contribution, I feel close ties and affinity between the TIJ and UNAFEI/ACPF as well as between “Bangkok” and “Tokyo”.

Time really flies!

This year is the TIJ’s 10th anniversary, but our relationship dates back 25 years when I first met Dr. Kittipong Kittayarak, former Executive Director of the TIJ, at the 99th Senior International Seminar of UNAFEI. I heard that he was so impressed with UNAFEI’s approach and methods as well as the ACPF’s principle of “Prosperity without Crime”, especially the working style of Mr. SHIKITA Minoru, former Chairperson of the ACPF. The TIJ has recently been conducting a 10-Day Training Programme on the Management of Women Prisoners in the ASEAN Region (Bangkok Rules Training) every year by inviting participants to the TIJ from Southeast Asian countries. I feel there is some similarity to the UNAFEI training courses, which may be based on our experiences at UNAFEI.

More recently, I have been impressed with the continuous cooperation and support provided. The TIJ and ACPF held the “ACPF Thailand Seminar” for Japanese business sectors in Bangkok, a total number of six times from 2013 to 2019. What struck us particularly was the TIJ’s working style demonstrated during the seminar. The management of the seminar was excellent in all aspects. The Japanese participants were enlightened by contemporary information useful to understand the real situation in Thailand. Due to this, I can say with no hesitation that I am convinced that the TIJ is one of the best institutions in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice.

Since the TIJ joined the PNI in 2016, it has expanded the work to an impressive range of topics. I have confidence that the TIJ is fully ready to properly and effectively manage international programs over the coming decades.

“Time will tell” us about the steady progress and success of the TIJ as symbolized by its inspiring logo showing the sun strongly uplifted by a pair of hands.
Sustainable development emphasizes the obligation to take into account the future generation. The concept was described by the 1987 Brundtland Commission Report as “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.” However, with the waves of social movements, the unprecedented technological disruption, the rapid deterioration of the environment, and the current global pandemic that put everything on hold, it is almost too ambitious to pinpoint what the future generation will need and how they should be prepared to face their time.

Empowering the younger generation is one of the missions that we have taken seriously. From the early years, we aimed to promote the right based juvenile justice system to better the situation of children who come in contact with the criminal justice system. We supported the development and the implementation of the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. In line with this United Nations instrument, the TIJ invests in conducting research on the situation of violence against children and creating platforms to facilitate discussion among players of all sectors involved in child protection in Thailand. We advocated for an integrated policy of protecting children through comprehensive prevention focusing on the needs of child victims and witnesses of violence, and proper safeguards for young offenders in conflict with the law. The TIJ also took part in many capacity-building activities to disseminate knowledge about child rights and related standards of law enforcement and criminal justice personnel to support the prevention and elimination of violence against children in the system.

The younger generation not only needs to be protected, but they also need to be heard. Realizing that children hold the power to change the future, the TIJ supports cross-generational dialogue through many long-term collaborative projects with universities and encourages youth engagement.
in many of its activities. “TU Youth Forum” is the flagship project inspired by the Youth Forum of the United Nations Crime Congress in Doha, Qatar, where the host country invited youth ambassadors from many countries, including two Thais nominated by the TU, to hold a meeting in parallel and present report to the Congress.

Since its introduction in 2015, TU Youth Forum has welcomed teens and young adults from every discipline to independent workshops and ancillary, workshops of international meetings with the objective of promoting open dialogues on topics including the rule of law, the culture of lawfulness, diversity, inequality, and gender. For the first few times, the participants are selected from applicants in Thailand and neighboring countries. But in recent years, with the help of technology, TU Youth Forum has expanded to include young people from around the world who participated via online platforms. Thus, it is currently known as the “Borderless Youth Forum”. The forum proved to be a very productive venue in disseminating knowledge and raising awareness of the rule of law and justice issues among the “Young Agents of Change”. Through discussion and experience sharing, participants gained a deeper understanding of how the rule of law and effective justice administration are fundamental for stability and development in their respective countries and the global context. The latest workshop also adopted design thinking methods aiming to ground young participants with innovative tools by which they can evaluate current situations and craft effective, thorough and sustainable solutions to promote justice for all.

Apart from the continuing work on juvenile offenders and young agents of changes, we see the urgency to also focus on at-risk youths who require immediate intervention to break the onset of serious behavioral problems. The TU launched the Youth Crime Prevention through Sports project scheme in Thailand with the belief that sports-based learning programs and well-designed physical recreation activities can play a constructive role in providing practical life skills such as problem-solving, communication, and self-awareness. These life skills are essential for young people to develop a positive and growth mindset that strengthens their resilience to a cycle of violence and crime. Taking into account the good practice of the BBG Club initiated by HRH Princess Bajrakitiyabha in providing professional sport skills for vulnerable children and youth, the TU and the Government of Thailand proposed the resolution “Integrating Sport into Youth Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Strategies” to urge United Nations Member States to recognize sports as a crime prevention tools for youth at risk and a social reintegration tool for young offenders. We organized campaigns, discussion panels, and an Expert Group meeting to develop a tangible framework for policymakers and practitioners by underlining the role of sports in achieving sustainable development, justice, and peace. Young athletes from the BBG Club were invited to the side event at the twenty-eighth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) in Vienna, organized by the TU and its partners to share experience on how sports turned their lives around and become productive members of the society. On a similar note, the TU and the BBG Club have just started working with at-risk children in the care of the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security. It is hoped that by addressing the needs of children and youth in vulnerable circumstances, it can eventually reduce the prevalence of crime and violence among the younger age group and steer them toward a better path.

The United Nations has indicated that it is everyone’s responsibility to advocate for the rule of law, peace, and stability as the vital enabler for sustainable development to ensure a better future. However, the future never seems more uncertain. The best possible way to prepare for the unknown is by protecting the younger generation from harm or violence and empowering them with the knowledge of their limitless potential to shape the future. Despite our commitment to inspiring the next generation in a variety setting, the most significant impact we witnessed was the children’s passion, enthusiasm, and creativity which in turn inspired everyone around them.
TATIYARERG CHAISINLAPA

Sub-inspector
The Royal Thai Police

In 2015, I was selected by the TIJ to be a Youth Ambassador to the Doha Youth Forum and the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. I also participated in many other events hosted by the TIJ, such as the first TIJ Youth Forum and Speak Up Speak Out Campaign.

And now, as a law enforcer, the TIJ is a valuable partner whose goal is the same as mine, which is to promote laws and order in society. I have met a lot of inspiring people there who I am still friends with today. We keep in touch and collaborate to make this society a better place. That is all about my work with the TIJ but not all I want to express.

The TIJ is my inspiration. It is worth saying that my first activity with the TIJ in 2015 is my first time in an international event. It was not easy for someone like me to have an opportunity to participate in an event this big. It broadened my horizons and taught me that there were still many things to learn. Therefore, I never stop learning and it leads me to more opportunities. However, all of this would be worthless if I keep it only to myself. I, therefore, spread what I have learned to people around me with the hope that it will benefit and inspire them the way the TIJ inspires me.

Thank you will never be enough. The TIJ is one of the most important turning points in my life. If it were not for the opportunity the TIJ gave me, I would not be who I am today.

JAKARIN TREEDARA

Attaché
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Thailand

The TIJ is a place where people can gain lots of inspiration. With an open-minded attitude of the executives, voices of young generations are heard there. My first interaction with the TIJ was to be the TIJ’s Rule of Law Youth Ambassador in 2015. Chosen to be one of the first two Rule of Law Youth Ambassador is one of the most prestigious opportunities I have ever had.

The TIJ then pushed forward its first youth forum to raise public awareness of the importance of the rule of law. However, setting up this forum was challenging as the rule of law and justice is new to youths in Thailand and Asian countries. With strong support from the TIJ’s academics and staff, the discussion turned out to be very productive.

The TIJ also inspires my career life and to become a Thai diplomat. I then started my job as a project coordinator at the TIJ working closely to collaborate with international agencies, mainly the UN agencies and PNI network. The TIJ becomes a bridge connecting Thailand with global standards in the area related to social justice and crime prevention.

During my time at the TIJ, we also pushed forward to set up the first ASEAN Conference on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (ACCPCJ) as another significant diplomatic channel for ASEAN’s law officials to discuss cross-sectoral issues. I am proud to hear that this mechanism has been very active and, so far, has made a lot of progress in the region.

The TIJ is not just an ordinary workplace but a home. It is where passionate people with the same ideology gather and drive for a change to society.
BUSAYAPA SRISOMPONG

- Domestic Violence Advocate
- Lawyer
- Founder of SHero Thailand

In 2015, early in my legal profession, I volunteered to join the organizing committee for the TIJ-ASIANSIL youth forum on Justice and the Rule of Law. Soon after, I had a privilege to work with the TIJ’s Office of Knowledge Management which had helped deepen my legal and political analysis skills. My interests turned towards the issue of Access to Justice in vulnerable groups, particularly women and children.

As my interests become my passions, I have become a human rights lawyer and the founder of SHero Thailand advocating for better access to justice for women. In 2019, I received a scholarship from the UK’s Chevening programme and graduated with an MSc in Human Rights and International Politics (with merit) from the University of Glasgow in 2020. Meanwhile, working as a consultant for UN agencies and NGOs, I have continued to do pro bono legal aids through SHero – up to 329 cases until today.

The TIJ colleagues remain my sources of power and great supporters. Many wonderful joint projects have been completed and keep rising through such innovative and empowering discussions. I thank the institution for having inspired me to become a human rights lawyer and work to support women rights until today. I hope the TIJ will continue its missions and reach the point where human rights and democracy are educated, respected, and upheld in our country.

Happy 10th anniversary!

BOWORNLUK THONGMARK

Consultant
Bolliger & Company (Thailand)

I started my career here at the TIJ as a project coordinator. I had such valuable opportunities to join the substantive team representing Thailand Delegation during sessions of the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ), the main UN policymaking body in the criminal justice area, held in Vienna. I feel very privileged to be a part of this multilateral policymaking task, not only because of the success in pitching the policy suggestions in the international arena but also the contribution in pushing domestic criminal justice policy reform forward. One of the resolutions highlights the importance of development-oriented interventions addressing prison overcrowding and prevent recidivism. This lays the foundation for a holistic capacity-building programme like the Training on the Management of Women Prisoners designed to provide participants guidance and practical knowledge in applying the Bangkok Rules.

At the TIJ, we also value domestic engagement with all sectors, believing it is the factor driving changes across society. Being responsible for organizing three sessions of Public Forum on the Rule of Law and Sustainable Development, I have been a part of bringing together Thai policymakers and practitioners to explore values on law enforcement, considering development context and social justice, and to foster cross-sectoral collaboration.

What the TIJ has given to me is the belief that a peaceful, just, and inclusive society where our fundamental rights are protected and equal opportunities are ensured is a prerequisite for all areas of development. I am still driven by such a belief to continue working on public policies that ensure good quality of living for everyone in society.
NATTANUN SOMCHOE

Trainee
TIJ scholarship recipient for 2020

If you are familiar with the Marvel universe, I would say that the TIJ is simply the S.H.I.E.L.D. in the real world who assembled a team of extraordinary individuals from diverse backgrounds. Working with the TIJ has taught me a lot of lessons. It encourages me to see the world from a different perspective; even if you haven’t reached your ultimate goal, you can still feel accomplished during the process of achieving something. The TIJ ignites and inspires hope in society simply by daring to make dreams into reality. And hope can be a powerful force. Because you can make things happen when you know what you hope for the most, and the TIJ hopes for the better in the criminal justice system. Hence, I started to have hope and see possibilities for Thailand again through the lens of the TIJ. If someone can make “justice rolls down like water and righteousness like a mighty stream,” it would be the TIJ.

I’m grateful to be a small part of the team and wish the TIJ nothing but continued success in its future endeavors.

Child Resident
Rayong Child Welfare Protection Center

Dear Uncle [Dr. Kittipong, Former TIJ’s Executive Director]

I want to tell you that I like to go to school [and] help teacher with some work.
[I] want to finish school fast to go back home and help dad works.
I like to study Math and English.
I will focus on studying for my dad. I want to have a job to get money for dad.
Lastly, I thank you and [project staff] for thinking of [us] and let me write this letter.

Love and good thoughts
1 February 2021
10\textsuperscript{th} Anniversary of Thailand Institute of Justice
In recent years, global society has faced a slew of new trends and challenges. Major social movements, violent political protests, and the era-defining COVID-19 pandemic have become facts of life in countless societies. Many highlight the widening inequality in society and the fragility of the systems we take for granted. As the TIJ navigates through the eleventh year of operation amid such uncertainty, our ability to carry out the underlying mission of improving justice everywhere hinges more and more on our resilience to change. We need to strengthen the foundation from within, expand partnerships based on knowledge, and produce empirical evidence and innovative solutions. We need to make our work count, with an impact, especially in the domestic arena.

The TIJ builds on the passion of its people and peers. The founders were those who have experienced first-hand the persisting problems in the justice administration in desperate need of alternative solutions. As the institute grows, an increasing number of staff from diverse backgrounds and generations have come to enrich the mix, providing new perspectives on the existing issues. Now is the time to invest in building a strong organizational culture and core values that provide a positive environment to nurture passion. The TIJ is committed to empowering our staff across generations. We need a strong team who are also the agents of change. They will carry on the earnest endeavor of instilling justice and the rule of law in society regardless of obstacles.

In ten years, the portfolio of the TIJ has grown to encompass various aspects of criminal justice reform efforts and advocacy. For the next ten years, our key concern lies in not what more to do, but rather how to do what we do more effectively. We witness many success stories resulting from investing in partnerships with like-minded people. To expand our network of collaboration, we have established two new offices to take on this task. The “Office of Justice Innovation” will
engage the TJ with various stakeholders in search of solutions to both the enduring problems and the new ones arising from the disruptions. The “TJ Academy” will be responsible for engaging the Thai criminal justice personnel through training and capacity building on the international standards and norms, best practices, and the knowledge and lessons acquired from the institute’s operation. These networks represent exciting opportunities for collaboration that will produce domestic impact.

The pandemic that abruptly interrupted the operation of the criminal justice system also reveals that the system lacks concrete evaluation of performance. Without such a baseline, it will be hard to identify and address the vulnerable components under unexpected circumstances that require immediate attention. Therefore, we commit ourselves to improving measurement, scientific evaluation, and result-based management for activities conducted in cooperation with the Thai criminal justice system. We will strive to enhance the performance assessment matrices to strengthen crime prevention efforts and access to justice. We commit ourselves to deliver on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Reinvesting in knowledge creation will be the continuing focus for the TJ.

As we chart our journey, the TJ is aware of the spreading polarization in Thai society and elsewhere. We stand firm on the need to adhere to human rights principles and respect for diversity, equality, and the rule of law. We believe in the core value of due process and impartiality in criminal proceedings and commit ourselves to support peaceful conversation on sensitive issues.

Our future depends on our ability to learn to respect and bridge the gap in understanding through knowledge and joint efforts to make a difference in a challenging time.
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GROWING BRIGHT
10th Anniversary of Thailand Institute of Justice