

Human Rights Defenders at the UPR Thailand 2016: A civil society perspective

Palais des Nations

Date: Wednesday, 11 May 2016, 13:00 – 14:30

Location: Room XXII (tbc)



A side event of the 25th Session of UPR

Panellists

Mr Phnom Thano

The Network of Indigenous Peoples in Thailand - NIPT

Mr Surapol Songkrak

Southern Peasants' Federation of Thailand (SPFT)

Mr. Decha Khambaomuang

The Udon Thani Conservation Group, Thailand

Moderator: Liliana de Marco, Protection International

Human rights defenders (HRDs) in Thailand are facing increased risks, threats and an intimidating environment: HRDs are working in a context of expanding militarization, criminalization, surveillance and violence. Of particular concern is the dire situation of community-based HRDs, women HRDs, and young HRDs. Against this background, state authorities have consistently failed to protect and give an inadequate response to attacks on HRDs perpetuating a climate of impunity and insecurity, which has led to over 50 killings of environmental and land rights activists in the past decade.

The side event will hear the views of civil society immediately after the review of Thailand by the UPR Working Group. What were the main outcomes in relation to HRDs protection? What was the progress and what were the setbacks? What are the recommendations to the Thailand government over the coming months? How can the international community continue to assist?