

Title: Beyond Connectivity: Development and Emerging Challenges in Thailand

Convener: Kwanchit Sasiwongsaroj

Brief description & explanation of the chose formal

The panel format is a single session (90 min.) with 4 presenters in a presentation style and open for audiences to participate discussion. A planning process of organizing a panel includes the beginning part of welcome and introduction, the panel presentation part, discussion, and panel summary. First is a 3-5 minute welcome and brief introduction of the theme, topics and panelists by convener. Then is a 60 minute presentation, each panelist spends 15 minutes of sharing facts and experiences of her topic and perspective. After that, the convener will keep the momentum going. The discussant also manages questions from audiences and invites panelists to address each question within 25 minutes. The panel will next ending with concluding remarks by convener in about 3-5 minutes.

Brief description of panel

Connectivity and migration are elaborated in conjunction with the country's economic development purposes. Thailand has become the choice of the destination country not only for purposes of economic migration, education or family, but also healthcare. The improvement of connectivity in and beyond Thailand expedites mobility and migration. The diverse types of migration have a potential to strengthen the development and economic gains due to the contributions of migrant workers and other foreign settlers. Nonetheless, as the destination county, Thailand has also inevitably encountered emerging challenges. In this panel, we discuss various types and consequences of migration occurring in Thailand in relation to Myanmar, Indonesia, and the global north. The first paper on the panel describes the arduous migration process from their hometown in Myanmar and the factors affecting risky journeys. Once arrived at Thailand, migrants' families are set to comply with Thai law. The next paper introduces racism and prejudice against migrant children in schools as (un) anticipated outcomes of citizenship education and global migration. The paper explores concepts of transnational citizenship, ambivalent identity, and symbolic violence. As migration involves the cooperation of member states in Southeast Asia, the following paper evaluates the state policies on educational cooperation within the ASEAN Community concept by examining a case of School Partnership Program between Thailand and Indonesia. The paper highlights policy and agenda settings as well as implementation and on-going evaluation. Finally, the closing paper goes beyond migration within Southeast Asia. It discusses ageing and transnational care: growing old and getting care of retirees from the global north in Thailand. It analyses the use and demand of aged care among Thais and foreign retirees in the face of a "mobility turn" based on a critical reflection of balancing economic development and health care disparity.

Single session:

1. Ampa Kaewkumkong

Institute of East Asian Studies, under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, Thammasat University

Enhancing ASEAN Community Educational Cooperation through a Thailand-Indonesia School Partnership Program: Policy and Practice

2. Kwanchit Sasiwongsaroj

Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia, Mahidol University

Ageing and transnational care: Growing old and getting care of retirees from the Global North in Thailand

3. Sirima Thongsawang

Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Faculty of Political Science
Chulalongkorn University

Leaving Myanmar to Thailand: Migration Routes and Risks

4. Thithimadee Arphattananon

Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia, Mahidol University

Symbolic Violence and Ambivalent Identity: Migrant Children from Myanmar and their Education in Thailand

Discussant: Thithimadee Arphattananon