



Report on the situation of the right to freedom of assembly in the third quarter of 2025

Preamble

This report summarizes the situation regarding the right to freedom of assembly from July-September 2025 including its overview and the number of assemblies, trend of assembly issues and how the authorities police such assemblies according to the Public Assembly Act B.E. 2558. Apart from offering such information, this report is also a review of domestic laws and international human rights standard.

Overview of freedom to peaceful assembly

During July to September 2025, **at least 52 public assemblies took place throughout the country. These included two sit-in assemblies.** If an assembly that lasts overnight counts as one sit-in assembly, there have been such assemblies taking place 229 times in the third quarter, three times more than the second quarter.

Most sit-in assemblies have persisted from the first and second quarters including (1) the assembly by the Yarnapund PCL workers and their alliances to demand the cabinet to approve the use of government contingency fund to address the needs and they have been staging their sit-in assemblies at the Office of the Public Sector Development Commission (OPDC), opposite the Government House since 12 March 2025 until now (30 September 2025), altogether 204 days, during which some participants have decided to start a hunger strike since 13 March 2025 until 8 April 2025, altogether 27 days of hunger strike. The participants have organized activities at various agencies to make important events. And (2) the assembly against casino led by the People and Student Network for the Reform of Thailand (KPT) in collaboration with the People's Center for the Protection of Monarchy (SPPS) and Kong Thap Tham to oppose the parliamentary reading of casino bill. Later, they have additionally demanded that Paethongtarn Shinawatra resign as Prime Minister and have been staging sit-in assembly by the Government House since 2 March 2025 until now (30 June 2025), altogether 213 days.

During the third quarter, the issue that triggered the most public assemblies was **political issues including 27 public assemblies**, different from the first and second quarters. Among the political issues included the right to bail of those being incarcerated in jail due to their exercise of freedom of expression and the public assemblies to advocate for the People's Amnesty Bill as in this month, the National Assembly was scheduled to convene to vote to accept in principle the People's Amnesty Bill. In addition, there has also been protest to demand the Prime Minister to resign from office. (For the sake of clarity, this was due to the assembly against casino led by the People and Student Network for the Reform of Thailand (KPT) in collaboration with the People's Center for the Protection of Monarchy (SPPS) and Kong Thap Tham, which has expanded their demand for Paethongtarn Shinawatra to resign as Prime Minister. Albeit a sit-in assembly, the participants have moved to organize activities in other places but since they were subject to the same organizers and shared the same demands, they thus count as one public assembly).

The second most important issue is concerned with **Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR) which triggered more than 20 public assemblies.**



(3) The Thai-Cambodian border dispute has led to four public assemblies, all of which took place in July prior to the signing of ceasefire deal following the meeting of the General Border Committee (GBC) on 7 August 2025.

And **(4) the issue of peace has led to one public assembly** since 21 September every year marks the International Day of Peace and members of the Muslim Students Confederation of Thailand (MUSTFETH) have been gathered to demand peace in the Southern Border Provinces without the use of arms.

During the third quarter of 2025, a ban was imposed to prohibit holding public assemblies within the radius of fifty meters around the Government House and the National Assembly. This has been effective since the first quarter invoking Section 7 of the Public Assembly Act B.E. 2558 and the order no. 375/2568 issued by the Metropolitan Police Bureau to prohibit public assemblies within the radius of fifty meters of the Government House from 29 August 2025 until 4 September 2025.” It could be presumed that such order has been issued since on 29 August 2025, the Constitutional Court was scheduled to rule the case against Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra as 36 Senators have filed complaint with the President of the Senate to ask the Constitutional Court to rule to remove Paetongtarn Shinawatra as Prime Minister due to her lack of integrity and honesty and appearing to breach ethical standards according to the Constitution B.E. 2560’s Sections 160 (4) and (5) following the leak of audio clip recording her phone conversation with Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, President of the Senate and father of Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Manet.

During this quarter, no report has been made for the offence against the Public Assembly Act, albeit **rulings have been made** in at least two such cases whereas the Courts imposed a fine in both cases.

Description of the assemblies

July saw at least 24 public assemblies, 16 of which in Bangkok and eight in the province. **13 of them were related to political issues** with details as follows;

1. The assembly “We Are Political Prisoners” on 8 July 2025 outside the Ratchada Criminal Court, Bangkok, by the People’s Amnesty Network including the 51-minute-standing, storytelling about 51 of those being incarcerated in jail due to politically motivated cases to make their voice heard in the National Assembly and to demand prompt deliberation of the People’s Amnesty Bill to restore freedom of political prisoners. The event took place one day before the reading of the four amnesty bills by the House of Representatives on 9 July 2025. Only the People’s Amnesty Bill would offer an immediate amnesty to those convicted in Section 112 cases.

2. The assembly by the People’s Amnesty Network to monitor and voice support for the People’s Amnesty Bill on 9 July 2025, the day the House of Representatives was scheduled to vote to accept in principle amnesty laws. The event was held at the People Plaza, the National Assembly in Bangkok before the House Speaker decided to end the meeting while not having voted whether to accept in principle any amnesty bill.

3. The follow-up assembly by the People’s Amnesty Network “Spark of Hope for People’s Amnesty” on 15 July 2025 at the lawn in front of the Bangkok Art and Culture Centre, Bangkok, before parliamentary voting on the five amnesty bills on 16 July 2025. Stories of political prisoners were recounted, and letters of political exiles who demanded political



amnesty including for those convicted in Section 112 cases and voice of those being incarcerated in jail due to politically motivated cases.

4. The assembly by the People's Amnesty Network to monitor and voice support for the People's Amnesty Bill on 16 July 2025, the day the parliamentary voting on the five amnesty bills would take place, as it had been rescheduled from 9 July 2025. The House of Representatives voted against the People's Amnesty Bill with 149 votes for and 306 votes against and 20 votes in abstention and 0 missing vote. After the voting, civil society organized further activities at the People Plaza giving participants a chance to express their feeling after the People's Amnesty Bill failed to pass the first reading in the House of Representatives.

5. The assembly to commemorate the passing of "Bung" Netiporn or "Bung Thaluwang" on 14 July 2025 outside the Klong Prem Central Prison, Bangkok, led by members of the public. She died while being placed in custody of the Department of Corrections during her remand in custody related to Section 112 cases and contempt of court on 14 May 2024.

6. The assembly to send a message to 50 friends in prison on 18 July 2025 outside of Klong Prem Central Prison by members of the public to raise the awareness of the first anniversary of the incarceration of Chain Chivabancha, aka "Khun Phaen Saen Sathan", freelance media and Ngernta Kamsaen who were convicted on Section 112 and to sing "Birthday" song to "Eye" Kanruethai to show their solidarity with political prisoners. Before ending their activity, flare was shot outside the prison to make it heard that they were yet to forget their friends.

7. The standing assembly known as "Stand, Stop, Tyranny" to demand the right to bail of political prisoners has been held every Saturday in Chiang Mai's Tha Phae by We, The People which has started its activity since August 2021. In July, three such assemblies were held including the 131st, 132nd and 133rd Stand, Stop, Tyranny, (three public assemblies).

8. The assembly by the Writing Thailand's Cannabis Future Network on 7 July 2025 at the Ministry of Public Health to demand the cancellation of an attempt to relist cannabis as narcotic substance following the interview of Minister of Public Health Pol Col Thawee Sodsong who discussed his intention to restrict the use of cannabis exclusively for medical purpose. The event was held in front of the headquarters building of the Ministry amidst at least a dozen of crowd control police who stood there in a row.

9. The assembly by two opposite groups on 11 July 2025 while the then Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra had gone to preside over the launch of the Korat Candle Festival at the Thao Suranari (Ya Mo) Monument, Tambon Nai Muang, Muang District, Nakhon Ratchasima. One of the groups belonged to the Red Shirt supporters who were there to show their solidarity with Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra, while the other group was there to demand her resignation. Steel barricades were placed in the middle of the two groups restricting the anti-PM group on the footpath, while the Red Shirt supporters were allowed to stand on the road which was part of the event venue. More than 100 khaki clad police and Territorial Defense Volunteers were deployed between the two groups. While the anti-PM group was blowing their whistles and jeering at Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra, the Red Shirt supports were chanting "Fight on PM" to show her their solidarity.



10. The assembly of over 100 villagers and peasants in District One, Muang and Pang Sila Thong Districts, Kamphaeng Phet Province at the office of the People's Party in Kamphaeng Phet on 12 July 2025 to voice their anger against Raschanok Srinok, Bangkok MP of the People's Party regarding her social media posts concerning the 2026 spending plan of Kamphaeng Phet Province made possible by the lobbying effort to Kamphaeng Phet MP Phai Lik from District One.

And 11. the assembly against casino led by the People and Student Network for the Reform of Thailand (KPT) in collaboration with the People's Center for the Protection of Monarchy (SPPS) and Kong Thap Tham to oppose the parliamentary reading of casino bill. Later, they have additionally demanded that Paethongtarn Shinawatra resign as Prime Minister following the controversial management of the Thai-Cambodian border dispute. They have been staging sit-in protest by the Government House since 2 March 2025. In addition to the sit-in protest, they have gone to various places to organize activities including the gathering outside the Cambodian Embassy in Bangkok to raise the awareness about the three Thai military officers who got injured while patrolling closer to the Thai-Cambodian border, and one of them has lost his leg due to landmine. They have also gone to outside the Royal Thai Armed Forces Headquarters to offer flower bouquets to the three armed forces who bravely protected Thailand's territory during the Thai-Cambodian border dispute, etc.

In addition, **seven public assemblies were held on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR)** with details as follows;

1. The assembly by the Yarnapund PCL workers and their alliances to demand the cabinet to approve the use of government contingency fund to address the needs by staging a sit-in protest at the Office of the Public Sector Development Commission (OPDC), opposite the Government House, throughout the month.

2. The assembly "Journey to Bangkok: Stop It Before Second Blast of Our Homes" by at least 30 human rights defenders from Dan Khun Thot Khon Rak Ban Kerd Group, Nakhon Ratchasima during 3-4 July 2025. On 3 July 2025, they were gathered outside the Embassy of The People's Republic of China to hand over a letter demanding an inquiry and the secret shareholding of a Chinese state enterprise in the construction contractors which developed potash mining for the Thai Kali Co., Ltd., at the mining site in Tambon Nong Rai, Dan Khun Thot district, Nakhon Ratchasima. They also demanded that the said Chinese state enterprise stop using explosives to excavate new tunnels for potash mining by the Thai Kali Co., Ltd. The protesters were gathered to hold banners showing the pictures of explosives and banners written in Chinese and English "Stop Potash Mining" amidst two dozen of police officers from the Huay Kwang Police Station and the Metropolitan Police Division 1, both in uniform and plain clothes, plus security staff of the Embassy who were all lined up to block entrance into the Embassy. The officers spoke to prohibit the Khon Rak Ban Kerd Group from gathering and blocking the entrance to the Embassy.

Later on 4 July 2025, the protesters were gathered at the Office of the Public Sector Development Commission (OPDC), opposite the Government House's Gate 4 to hand over a letter of petition to the Minister of Interior Phumtham Wechayachai and Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Interior Arsit Sampantharat to demand them to issue an order to



suspend the procedure to seek permission to purchase, procure and transfer explosive material to excavate tunnels for potash and rock salt mining by the Thai Kali Co., Ltd. (two public assemblies)

3. The assembly by the Labour Network for People Rights, the labour union of Thai workers abroad and workers affected by the recruitment to pick wild berries in Finland on 4 July 2025 at the Ministry of Labour. The participants were allowed to hold their assembly under the building of the office of the Minister. They used megaphone to call out name of Minister of Labour Pongkawin Jungrungrangkit asking him to come downstairs to listen to their problems and address their demands. After more than two-hour-wait, the participants have gone to downstairs elevator holding banners to demand the stoppage of the trafficking of workers to pick wild berries with the presence of eight police officers from the Din Daeng Police Station to maintain public order.

4. The assembly by over 50 villagers of Tambon Chiang Wang, Phra District, Udon Thani Province on 14 July 2025 who have gone there to hand over letter of petition against the community waste management project using closed-loop system to convert it into electrical energy by National Clean Energy Co., Ltd. and Chiang Wang Tambon Administration Organization. They were opposed to the public consultation and meeting to bolster understanding among the public and stakeholders at Udon Thani Vocational College, in accordance with the Regulation of the Energy Regulatory Commission concerning public consultation and meeting to bolster understanding among the public and stakeholders during the review of the application for licenses of electricity generation business, B.E. 2565, on 5 June 2025, with the protesters citing the reason that procedure was unlawful.

5. The assembly by the Dan Khun Thot Khon Rak Ban Kerd Group on 14 July 2025 outside the Dan Khun Thot District Office, Nakhon Ratchasima to hand over letter to demand the District Chief Officer to explain and disclose documents to allow Thai Kali Co., Ltd., to use explosives for the purpose of potash and rock salt mining in Tambon Nong Sai.

And 6. the assembly Labour Network for People Rights on 16 July 2025 at the entrance of the National Assembly, the building of the House of Representatives, to demand all MPs to vote to approve the Bill to revise the Labour Protection Act which essentially expand protection to employers of government sector and increase maternity leave to 180 days while allowing spouses to take a child-care leave.

In the same month, public assemblies were also held **on issues concerning the Thai-Cambodian border dispute**, with details as follows;

1. The assembly by the People's Network Against Thai-Cambodian Border Hostilities on 25 July 2025 at the headquarters of the Pheu Thai Party to hand over letter of petition demanding that the Pheu Thai Party as the key member of the coalition to promptly offer help to the people who have been affected by such hostilities, to restore peace to the border and to mitigate any loss urgently.

2. The assembly and symbolic performance on 25 July 2025 by artists and art activists, with an art performance under the name Cease the War at Thapae Gate, Chiang Mai Province, to call for a ceasefire at the Thai-Cambodian border.



3. The assembly by the Socialist Workers' Alliance at Peace Park, Bangkok, on 26 July 2025, to demand an immediate ceasefire from the Thai and Cambodian governments.

And 4. the assembly of members of the public, with a musical performance under the name "*Harmony Beyond Borders: Music Without Borders, Hope Without Borders*" in front of the United Nations Thailand, on 30 July 2025, demanding peace at the Thai-Cambodian border

Later, in **August, at least 14 public assemblies were held** including three in Bangkok and 11 in the province. Among them, **six were public assemblies on political issues**, with details as follows;

1. The standing assembly known as "Stand, Stop, Tyranny" to demand the right to bail of political prisoners has been held every Saturday in Chiang Mai's Tha Phae by We, The People which has started its activity since August 2021. In August, three such assemblies were held including the 134th, 135th, 136th, 137th, and 138th Stand, Stop, Tyranny, (five public assemblies).

And 2. the assembly against casino led by the People and Student Network for the Reform of Thailand (KPT) in collaboration with the People's Center for the Protection of Monarchy (SPPS) and Kong Thap Tham to oppose the parliamentary reading of casino bill. Later, they have additionally demanded that Paethongtarn Shinawatra resign as Prime Minister following the controversial management of the Thai-Cambodian border dispute. They have been staging sit-in protest by the Government House since 2 March 2025. In addition to the sit-in protest, they have gone to various places to organize activities including the gathering "United the Land to Protect Sovereignty: Repeal MOU43 and MOU44" at the People Plaza, the National Assembly on 21 July 2025 and two large-scale gatherings at the Victory Monument on 2 and 31 July 2025 under the theme "United the Land to Protect Sovereignty: Stop! Shinawatra Clan! Stop Cronyism", etc.

In addition, **eight public assemblies on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR)** were held with details as follows;

1. The assembly by the Yarnapund PCL workers and their alliances to demand the cabinet to approve the use of government contingency fund to address the needs by staging a sit-in protest at the Office of the Public Sector Development Commission (OPDC), opposite the Government House, throughout the month. This month, the workers have gone to stage their protest in various places including outside the Samut Prakan Provincial Hall to oppose bail application of their former employers, etc.

2. The assembly "March to Stop the Land Bridge" by the Ranong People Movement, the Ranong Conservation Group, and the Phato Conservation Network, with no less than 50 participants. They walked from Ao Ang, the deep-sea port construction site, from 2 August 2025, to the Ranong District Office to demand that the government cancel the third public hearing on the Chumphon-Ranong Land Bridge project, which would be held on 5 August 2025. The campaign was called "Walk with Ma Thom, Stop the Land Bridge". On 5 August 2025, officials placed steel barricades around the entrance to the Ranong District Office, with the deployment of Territorial Defense Volunteers (TDV) stationed at an unknown number of points in the area (four public assemblies).



3. The assembly by approximately 200 villagers from Satun Province and the general public on 19 August 2025 at the Songkhla Administrative Court to file a lawsuit to revoke the NS3 Kor land title deed issued over the Pak Bara beach area, preventing villagers from using the area and against the legal action taken against them on trespassing charges.

4. The assembly against the sugar mill cum biomass power plant by the Rak Ban Kerd group in Na Pho District, Buriram Province, on 19 August 2025. Approximately 400 demonstrators protested against the sugar mill and biomass power plant project of Kiat Thai Buriram Co., Ltd., with a production capacity of 12,000 tons of sugarcane per day and a 24 megawatt-biomass power plant, to be built in Ban Non Sa-at, Tambon Ban Khu, Na Pho District, Buriram Province.

And 5. the assembly by a network of workers at the Ministry of Labour on 20 August 2025 to hand over letter to Minister of Labour Pongkawin Jungrungruangkit regarding the collection of contributions to the "Employee Welfare Fund," which was scheduled to begin on 1 October 2025. Security guards blocked the gate, claiming it was an executive order, despite prior coordination with the Minister of Labor and an agreement for the Permanent Secretary to receive the letter on his behalf. Some protesters decided to climb over Gate 3 of the Ministry of Labor before officials later allowed everyone in.

Last but not least, in **September, at least 14 public assemblies were held** including nine in Bangkok and five in the province. Among them, **eight public assemblies were held on political issues** with details as follows;

1. The standing assembly known as "Stand, Stop, Tyranny" to demand the right to bail of political prisoners has been held every Saturday in Chiang Mai's Tha Phae by We, The People which has started its activity since August 2021. In August, five such assemblies were held including the 139th, 140th, 141st, and 142nd Stand, Stop, Tyranny, (four public assemblies).

2. The assembly by the Red Shirt outside the National Assembly on 5 September 2025 to show their solidarity and to monitor the voting of the 32nd Prime Minister.

3. The assembly by 75 organizations to "submit bail applications" outside the Supreme Court on 15 September 2025, after the Court of Appeal overturned previous verdict in Section 110 case related to a peaceful protest to sentence the four defendants to 16 years and another defendant to 21 years in prison.

4. The assembly "Run2Free: Run for Freedom" on 27 September 2025, organized by iLaw, ThumbRights, Thai Volunteer Service Foundation (TVS) and their alliances as a symbolic action to mourn the justice process that restricts people's rights and freedoms as at present, a number of people are being incarcerated in jail due to politically motivated cases, and there were at least 57 political prisoners.

And 5. the assembly against casino led by the People and Student Network for the Reform of Thailand (KPT) in collaboration with the People's Center for the Protection of Monarchy (SPPS) and Kong Thap Tham to oppose the parliamentary reading of casino bill. Later, they have additionally demanded that Paethongtarn Shinawatra resign as Prime Minister following the controversial management of the Thai-Cambodian border dispute. They have been staging sit-in protest by the Government House since 2 March 2025. In addition to the sit-in protest, they have gone to various places to



organize activities including the public assembly “*No More Pheu Thai PM, Lack of Legitimacy, New PM Must Concede to Conditions to Serve National Interest*” at the National Assembly, and to hand over letter of petition to demand urgent action taken against government officials who offered Thaksin Shinawatra help to evade his jail time at the Office of the National Anti-Corruption Commission, Sanambin Nam, to hand over letter to oppose the transfer of Thaksin Shinawatra from the prison to outside detention at the Department of Corrections, and to handover letter to the Attorney General to urge him to appeal the Section 112 case against Thaksin Shinawatra regarding his interview to South Korean media in 2015 at the Office of the Attorney General, etc.

In addition, **five public assemblies on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR)** were held with details as follows;

1. The assembly by the Yarnapund PCL workers and their alliances to demand the cabinet to approve the use of government contingency fund to address the needs by staging a sit-in protest at the Office of the Public Sector Development Commission (OPDC), opposite the Government House, throughout the month. This month, the workers have gone to stage their protest in various places including outside the Samut Prakan Provincial Hall to oppose bail application of their former employers, to demand their severance pay, etc.

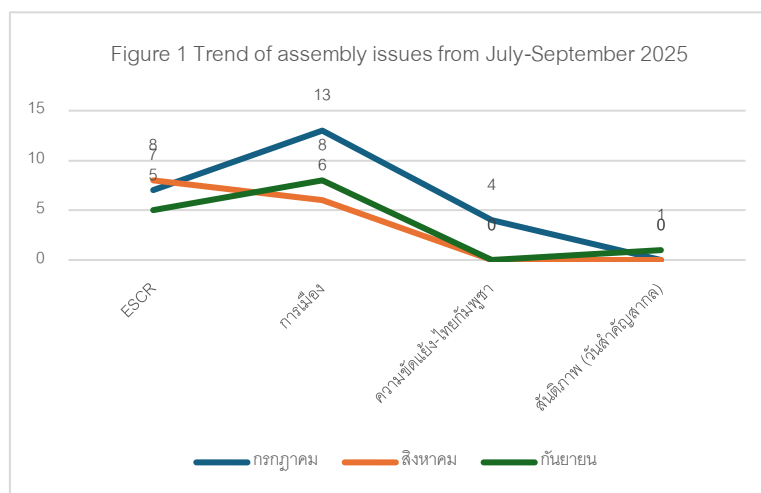
2. The assembly by the Dan Khun Thot Khon Rak Ban Kerd Group on 15 September 2025 as they have gone to the Dan Khun Thot Police Station, Nakhon Ratchasima to inquire about progress of investigation into cases concerning the breach of EIA, failure to lay a rubber sheet under the potash mine's saltwater storage pond, a mysterious pile of dirt, blocking the route of the “Stop It Before Second Blast of Our Homes” rally, and having unauthorized explosives.

3. The assembly by the Labour Network for People Rights on 18 September 2025 holding banners to greet the MPs and to demand all MPs to vote to approve the two Bills to revise the Labour Protection Act proposed by the People’s Party.

4. The assembly by the People’s Network from the South and East, about 50 participants, on 18 September 2025 at the office of Bhumjaithai Party (BJT) to hand over letter of petition to Prime Minister Anutin Charnvirakul asking him to review the Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC), the Southern Economic Corridor (SEC) and the Lang Bridge.

- And 5. the assembly by the Poor People's Movement for Land and Housing Rights on 23 September 2025 submitted a letter to the Prime Minister inviting him to participate in the World Habitat Day campaign. They also stated that a meeting place must be opened to discuss policy proposals to move forward with equitable and sustainable solutions to structural problems related to land and housing for the people.

Last but not least, a public assembly on the issue of peace has led to **one public assembly** since 21 September every year marks the International Day of Peace and members of the Muslim Students Confederation of Thailand have been gathered to demand peace in the Southern Border Provinces without the use of arms.



According to Figure 1, it could be surmised that throughout the third quarter of 2025, **the issue that triggered the most assemblies and their increase was related to politics**, different from the first and second quarters when most public assemblies stemmed from Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR). During the past quarters, most public assemblies were related to freedom of expression and demand of the right to bail for those being incarcerated in jail due to politically motivated cases and demand for their amnesty. This was also due to the souring number of cases being ruled and prison sentences during the third quarter. According to the Thai Lawyers for Human Rights (TLHR), during September-July, only for Section 112 cases, rulings have been made in 32 cases, of which only three were dismissed. While some defendants were allowed to post bail, others were not. In addition, in a Section 110 case, the Court of Appeal overturned the previous verdict to sentence the defendants to jail and did not allow them to post bail.

This has brought the numb of those being incarcerated in jail due to their exercising freedom of political expression or their politically motivated cases to at least 57 people (30 convicted in Section 112, 5 in Section 110 case).¹ This happened even though the right to bail is enshrined in the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand B.E. 2560's Section 29/2 which states that *"A suspect or defendant in a criminal case shall be presumed innocent, and before the passing of a final judgment convicting a person of having committed an offence, such person shall not be treated as a convict. Custody or detention of a suspect or a defendant shall only be undertaken as necessary to prevent such person from escaping. In a criminal case, a person shall not be forced to make a statement incriminating himself or herself."* In addition, it is recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)'s Article 11 and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)'s Article 9, to which Thailand is a state party.

As to **the issue that triggered the most public assemblies and their increase in the first quarter including Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR)**, the number of public assemblies stemming from the issue has not really deceased. It was indicative of how such problems continue to persist affecting various aspects including housing right, health right, the right to work, the right to welfare and social security, among others. Most problems have continued from

¹ TLHR, Situation of political prisoners, July 2025, (online). website <https://tlhr2014.com/archives/76620>



the first and second quarters and have not been addressed by the government's policies including Southern Economic Corridor (SEC), potash industrial mining projects in Dan Khun Thot district, Nakhon Ratchasima, etc. In addition, there are other large-scale projects by the state and private sector. Such projects have been proposed without taking into account human rights and compliance with international treaties, particularly the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) which is a multilateral treaty with legal obligation that force states to act in its compliance. Otherwise, such projects have been proposed without taking into account comprehensive impacts including basic rights such as housing right, health right, cultural right, or they may bring about conflicts and environmental impacts.

In addition, multiple demands pitched by the people have yet to be addressed by the government and they have prompted sit-in public assemblies, some of which have lasted from the first quarter, or a series of protest including the case of the former workers of Yamapund PLC who have been dismissed without receiving severance pay, etc.

As to new issues since the first quarter including protests related to the Thai-Cambodian border dispute which has resulted in the impact of civilians and their houses and hospitals, most of such public assemblies tend to demand a cessation of hostilities and to restore peace at the Thai-Cambodian border as well as to demand the government provide remedies to affected people based on international human rights principles and the Geneva Conventions including fair protection and remedy covering compensation, restoration of livelihood, security and human dignity.

The authorities' implementation and legal frameworks applying to public assembly

The Public Assembly Act B.E. 2558 is a key legal instrument being applied to peaceful assemblies in the first three months of 2025, particularly public assemblies held around the Government House and the National Assembly in Bangkok. They have become major provisions being enforced stringently to impede the exercise of the right to freedom of peaceful protest recently as follows;

Section 7, paragraph one: No public assembly shall be held within the radius of one hundred and fifty meters from the boundary of the Grand Palace, Royal Palace,....

Paragraph two: No public assembly shall be held within the National Assembly, the Government House and the Courts; provided that, the specific place for public assembly is provided therein. In case of necessary and for the maintenance of public safety and public order, the Commissioner General of the Royal Thai Police or his entrusted person shall, after having considered the numbers of participant and related circumstances of each public assembly, have the power to notify no public assembly zone within the radius of not exceeding fifty meters from the boundary of the places under paragraph two.

Particularly, paragraph two is concerned with the use of discretion by the authorities. The area around the Government House and the National Assembly has traditionally been used for holding public assemblies. Still, the competent official is authorized to impose a ban on public assemblies within the radius of fifty meters of such places, albeit this has to be imposed based on a case-by-case basis. However, in the third quarter of 2025, a ban has been imposed to prohibit public assemblies within the radius of fifty meters around the Government House and the National Assembly and



such order has continued to be effective since the first quarter pursuant to Section 7 of the Public Assembly Act B.E. 2558 and the order no. 375/2568 issued by the Metropolitan Police Bureau to prohibit public assemblies within the radius of fifty meters of the Government House from 29 August 2025 until 24 September 2025 (no detail about this)."

Meanwhile, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) upholds the right to peaceful protest. According to the General Comment of the Human Rights Committee, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, no. 37;

It further states that "States must leave it to the participants to determine freely the purpose or any expressive content of an assembly....and any restrictions imposed must thus in principle be content neutral,... participants must as far as possible be enabled to conduct assemblies within "sight and sound" of their target audience."

Legal actions invoking the Public Assembly Act B.E. 2558

In this quarter, no new complaints have been reported for an offence against the Public Assembly Act, albeit progress of the ongoing cases can be reported in at least two cases.

1. On 28 August 2025, the Dusit Kwaeng Court ruled in the case regarding the Public Assembly Act against Chamnong Noophan, P-Move's leader and fined him for 7,500 baht. He was charged under the Public Assembly Act for being an organizer of a public assembly within the radius of fifty meters of the Government House. The incident took place in October, from 3 - 17 October 2023.²

2. On 16 September 2025, at the Dusit Kwaeng Court, individuals were indicted with the Court in three cases including Chamnong Noophan, Vice Chair of the Four Regions Slum Network (FRSN) and advisor of the People's Movement for Just Society (P-Move) (two cases), and Teeranon Chaisuwan, board member of the Southern Peasants' Federation of Thailand (SPFT) as P-Move's Chair. The P-Move Reclaiming Rights took place during 5 – 28 February 2024. In both cases, the defendants were fined 10,000 baht by the Court.³

Analyzing the trend of public assembly

During the third quarter of 2025, public assemblies took place every month and most of them have stemmed from political motivation and based on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR). Although all of these public assemblies have since halted, their demands have yet been concretely met by the government. Mega projects including the Southern

² Community Resource Centre Foundation (CRC), 'Chamnong' P-Move fined 7500 baht for protesting within the radius of fifty meters, defendant vowing to fight to repeal Public Assembly Act, (online). website <https://crcthai.org/archives/5585>

³ ThaiNGO, the Dusit Kwaeng Court allowing two P-Move leaders to post bail after being indicted in three cases against Public Assembly Act, bail bond 30,000 baht in total (online). website <https://www.thaingo.org/content/detail/6106/1>



Economic Corridor (SEC) still press ahead and progress of the draft laws to implement such projects has been made to the public consultation phase (K3) amidst public outcries by the people's sector against such Special Economic Zones laws. Issues concerning potash mining have also not been addressed. Meanwhile, former workers of the Yarnapund PLC continue to stage sit-in protest to demand assistance from the government. Members of the People and Student Network for the Reform of Thailand (KPT) continue to stage sit-in protest, as well. In addition, public assemblies have constantly been held to demand a cessation of legal action against those exercising their right to freedom of expression and freedom of assembly. Another key issue that will prompt a slew of protest is the parliamentary voting on the People's Amnesty Bill during the next readings.

As the issues raised by the participants in each group have yet been addressed, and their problems shall persist into the third quarter of 2025, it can be predicted that in the final quarter of 2025, public assemblies will continue to happen, similar to the third quarter while the enforcement of public assembly law will continue to lack the underlying policies to concretely uphold the right to freedom of peaceful protest.