

Project Title: International Human Rights Standards, Juvenile & Family Law

Date: 21 June – 2 July 2010

Location: University of Nottingham

Unit: Training and Short Courses

Core staff: David Harris, Bailey Grey, Agnes Flues

Funder: Office of the Judiciary of Thailand

Project Summary

In June 2010, HRLC hosted a two-week residential training course for a delegation of 46 judges and court officials from the Office of the Judiciary of Thailand. The training covered the main principles of international human rights law and the criminal justice process. Classroom sessions were supported by practical study visits to key legal institutions in the UK.

Objectives

The course provided:

- Advanced knowledge on the international human rights regime in general as well as specific civil and political rights, such as freedom from torture, the right to a fair trial, freedom of expression and the right to life;
- In depth knowledge of the international human rights standards pertaining to vulnerable categories such as women and children;
- Specialized knowledge on human rights pertaining to the adjudication of criminal justice, including the conduct of trials, pre-trial treatment of suspects, fair trial rights, imprisonment and sentencing;
- Understanding of the British legal system by offering knowledge and practical insight into the criminal law process within the UK.

Participants

The course was attended by 46 judges and court officials from the Office of the Judiciary of Thailand.

Activities

The seminar included academic study of civil and political rights relevant to the criminal justice process and the UK's compliance with obligations under international law. The classroom sessions were supplemented by study visits to HMP Lowdham Grange and Nottingham Magistrates and Crown Court.

Outcome

- Sixteen theoretical sessions on international human rights standards and the main elements of family and juvenile law conducted by renowned experts and practitioners in international human rights law and the British criminal justice system.
- Three study visits to key institutions of the British Criminal Justice system.