

Project Title: Consumer Protection Law

Date: 28 May – 7 June 2013

Location: Nottingham and London, UK

Unit: Short Courses and Training

Core staff: Professor Peter Cartwright, Amy Weatherburn

Funder: Office of the Judiciary of Thailand

Objectives

In accordance with a Memorandum of Understanding between HRLC and the Office of the Judiciary of Thailand, a tailor-made programme was designed to enable participants to carry out a comparative analysis of the current legal framework in Thailand against international and UK standards and principles.

Participants

The participants represented all levels of the Thai Judiciary, including Presiding Justices of the Supreme Court, the President of the Consumer Protection Division of the Supreme Court, the Chief Justice of the Civil Court and Presiding Judges from Regional Courts of Appeal and Civil Courts.

Activities

The main component of the course consisted of specifically tailored teaching sessions, delivered by highly renowned academics and practitioners, experts in their field. The seminars were complemented by study visits in London to relevant institutions, such as the Gough Square Barristers Chambers, Financial Services Ombudsman, UK Houses of Parliament, and the UK Supreme Court.

Method

The course provided a solid theoretical grounding in the subject area covering Consumer Protection in Context Institutions and Techniques, Unfair Commercial Practices, Dangerous Products, Enforcement and Consumer Redress, Contemporary Challenges in Consumer Practice. Seminars gave a holistic view of international standards and UK law and practice.

Speakers

The seminars were facilitated by academics and practitioners, all experts in their field, including Professor Geraint Howells, Head of School, School of Law, University of Manchester, Deborah Parry, Consumer Law Consultant, Dr Richard Hyde, University of Nottingham, School of Law and Helen Parker, Assistant Chief Executive and Head of Policy, Which?

Outcomes

The course provided the participants with the requisite knowledge and understanding of international standards and UK law and practice pertaining to consumer protection, to be applied and further disseminated to colleagues upon return to Thailand.