

## **Dr. Thitinan Pongsudhirak**

Professor of Political Science and Director of the  
Institute of Security and International Studies  
Chulalongkorn University

Commentator and Speaker on Thai Political Economy



### **Professional Experience – an independent commentator on Thailand**

- one of the leading analysts on Thailand's politics and macro-economy based in Bangkok with over 20 years as a political observer and commentator of Thailand and its relations in ASEAN
- a freelance writer and outspoken columnist with the *Bangkok Post*
- respected for his research and analytical skills, he brings great depth to presentations and discussions
- regularly provides briefings or facilitates discussion on economic and political developments in Thailand
- presentations on key industry sectors including airlines, real estate, retail, hotel & tourism, banking and finance and conversant with central bank monetary policy and Thai baht currency management

### **Published papers and media engagement – Thailand and South-east Asia affairs**

- a regular contributor of opinion and analysis for the *Bangkok Post*
- an op-ed contributor to a number of outlets publications, including *IHT* and *Project Syndicate*
- currently writing a series of articles on Southern Thailand and Thailand's political zenith and nadir
- a former contributor to the Economist Intelligence Unit and a former contributing editor to the *The Nation*
- writes various papers and articles, including for the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS), the European Institute of Asian Studies (EIAS), Asia Pacific Centre for Security Studies (APCSS) and the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)
- regularly interviewed on television, including CNN International, CNBC, Channel News Asia, Reuters, Bloomberg, BBC World, Al Jazeera and local Thai news stations,
- quoted in international press, including *Financial Times*, *The Economist*, *Time*, *Newsweek*, *International Herald Tribune*, *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *The Guardian*, *The Times*, *Le Figaro*, *Der Spiegel*, *Straits Times*, *Asahi Shimbun*, *Mainichi Shimbun*, *Far Eastern Economic Review* etc. and also interviewed on the world's international radio stations
- part-time producer 1997-9 for the BBC World Service - Thai Section of *East Asia Today* programme

## Thitinan Pongsudhirak – Personal Bio-data

- A Thai national, based in Thailand
- Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand (1993-present) - currently Assistant Professor, Department of International Relations and Director of the Institute of Security and International Studies, Faculty of Political Science, formerly Deputy Dean for International Affairs and previously Lecturer in the Department of International Relations
- Visiting Research Fellow (2005) to the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) in Singapore
- formerly freelance Thailand Country Analyst (1998-2006) for the Economist Intelligence Unit
- was Research Associate with the Thailand Development Research Institute (TDRI)
- employed as a Staff Writer with *The Nation* (1992-1993)
- holds a PhD in International Relations from the London School of Economics, UK, a M.A. (Hons) from The John Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Washington D.C. USA and a B.A, (Hons) in Political Science from The University of California, Santa Barbara. USA
- his PhD thesis on the Thai economic crisis in 1997 won the UK's best dissertation prize (2001) which is now being turned into a book
- fluent in Thai, English and proficient in French

## Sample assignments

- sought after by senior executives of international companies and financial institutions to provide confidential briefings on the political and macroeconomic environment in Thailand and its impact on business and investment
- regularly delivers Thailand country briefings for fund managers and corporates in Thailand, Singapore, London and various other cities around the world
- conducted a Thailand country briefing to an international energy and resources company in London
- specific clients have included British Gas, Royal Dutch/Shell, Goldman Sachs, Fidelity, Bernstein, UBS, Airports of Thailand (AOT), Preuksa Real Estate, to name a few
- gives presentations and moderators discussion with small client groups focusing on Thailand and the its relationship within South-east Asia