Iceland welcomes the Delegation of Thailand to the UPR and thanks them for their comprehensive national report.

We are deeply concerned by the weakening of human rights protection and democracy in Thailand since its last UPR review.

In particular we regret restrictions on the right of redress, freedom of expression and peaceful assembly. We are also concerned by a broader scope and application of the death penalty.

My Delegation further regrets that Human rights defenders are subject to prosecution, harassment, killings and enforced disappearance as a result of their legitimate activities. Arrests and convictions for offences under Article 112 of the Penal Code have dramatically escalated. Such actions are unacceptable and will only serve to undermine Thailand’s path towards a representative and full-fledged Democracy.

**Iceland makes the following recommendations to Thailand:**

* Immediately end all infringement on the rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly under section 44 of the 2014 interim constitution, the Computer Crimes Act, and articles 112 and 116 of the Penal Code - and unconditionally release persons detained or imprisoned for exercising these rights;
* Immediately establish a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty.
* Immediately set a timeline for a return to democratic civilian rule through a free and fair election.