Europe Solidaire Sans Frontières > English > Asia > Thailand > Is Thailand ready for this? The 10 demands to reform the monarchy institution

Is Thailand ready for this? The 10 demands to reform the monarchy institution

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This morning, 20 September 2020, the pro-democracy protestors marched across the street from Sanam Luang to the Supreme Court building to submit the ten demands to reform the monarchy institution.

Here's the translation of the 10 demands.

- 1. Abolish Article 6 of the constitution, which dictates that no one can make legal complaints about the king. Add an article to give the parliament power to perform checks and balances on the king, similar to the Khana Rasadon's constitution.
- 2. Abolish Article 112, the lese majeste law, which states that anyone who "defames, insults or threatens the king, the queen, the heir-apparent or the regent" will be punished with a jail term between three and 15 years. Allow the people the freedom of speech to criticize the monarchy.
- 3. Separate the king's personal wealth from the royal budget, which comes from taxpayers' money, and have the latter be under the Finance Ministry's supervision.
- 4. Reduce the royal budget accordingly to the country's economic situation.
- 5. Abolish unnecessary bodies, such as the privy council. Remove the king's military power.
- 6. Abolish donations of any kind to the monarchy. Install a system of checks and balances for royal spending.
- 7. The king shall not make public his political view.
- 8. Abolish public relations campaigns and educational curriculums that idolize the monarchy institution (too much).
- 9. Find the truth about the killing of civilians who were critical of and were connected to the monarchy.
- 10. The king shall not endorse a military coup.

The following is an excerpt from the letter accompanying the 10 demands.

"The purpose of these demands is not to overthrow the monarchy institution. Instead, it is with good intentions to honor and maintain the monarchy institution under the democratic system, to sustain the institution in the context of the modern world. The monarchy institution must not have political powers, must be subjected to checks and balances, must be opened to criticism, and must not burden the people. Therefore, the monarchy institution shall exist honorably under an internationally accepted democratic system."

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P.S.

- Thisrupt. September 20, 2020: https://thisrupt.co/current-affairs/10-demands-reform-monarchy/
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