Thai Style Judicialization and the Problem of Parliamentary Supremacy

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Judicial review is a new phenomenon in Thailand that could be traced back to Thailand’s early political crisis in 2006. The judicial review has been adopted and translated into Thai as “tulakarnpiwat”, which has been divided into at least two different views. The first one believes that judicialization is a way to rescue Thailand political crisis. The judicialization is meant to correct politician’s corrupts and return normalcy to Thai politics. On the other hand, the judicial review was heavily criticized by academics and activists as a disruption of democracy. I argue that judicialization does not only contribute to a series of political crisis but pushes further the problem of parliamentary supremacy, which is one of the core values of democratic regime. My paper offers a reading of constitutional court decisions and orders as political documents, the ways in which its practices involve with the problem of Thai democratization process.

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