

A Choice of Means of Dispute Settlement in International Practice: Thailand's Experience

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Abstract

This article addresses the use of mediation as a means of resolving international and regional disputes. It explains, with case examples, that while Thailand has not had a particularly positive experience in attempting to resolve this level of dispute by means of third-party intervention, because of its similarities to the highly accepted concept of 'good offices,' mediation has emerged as an acceptable procedure of dispute settlement at regional and international levels.

I. Introduction: A Broader Perspective on the Settlement of International Disputes

The purpose of this article is to present 'mediation' as one of the available practical means of international dispute settlement at the option of parties who are voluntarily disposed to peacefully seek a viable solution to their differences. In the current context of dispute settlement, the concept of international disputes appears to be multi-dimensional. To present a full and accurate picture of the topic of international dispute settlement, it appears useful and even necessary to recount at least three dimensions of what may be described as 'international disputes'.

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