

Annual Report 2025

Faculty of Political Science, Thammasat University

รายงานประจำปี 2568

คณะรัฐศาสตร์ มหาวิทยาลัยธรรมศาสตร์



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Introduction to the Faculty



The Faculty of Political Science at Thammasat University was established on 14 June 1949 and is regarded as one of the university's four founding faculties. Its first Dean was Professor Direk Jayanama, a former Minister of Foreign Affairs. Since then, the Faculty has produced tens of thousands of graduates at bachelor's, master's, and doctoral levels who have gone on to serve society in a wide range of capacities. At the same time, the Faculty has continuously generated new knowledge in political science and disseminated it through books, academic journals, and scholarly activities. Today, the Faculty's academic structure is organised into three departments: Politics and Government, International Affairs, and Public Administration. Teaching and learning take place at both the Tha Prachan and Rangsit campuses. The Faculty offers a total of eight academic programmes, covering all levels of higher education from undergraduate to doctoral study. These include regular programmes, international programmes, and executive education programmes. In addition, the Faculty maintains partnerships with numerous leading organisations in Thailand and abroad through student and staff exchange programmes, collaborative research projects, double-degree programmes, consultancy services, and the organisation of academic conferences and seminars.





Message from the Dean



One year ago, the Faculty of Political Science, Thammasat University, entered its 76th year amidst a rather sombre atmosphere, following incidents of sexual harassment that had caused unease across the entire community. Surely, the Faculty upholds a zero-tolerance policy towards all forms of harassment and is firmly committed to becoming a “safe space” for everyone. These incidents therefore served as a wake-up call, prompting the Faculty to take an even more serious approach to the issue of sexual harassment. This led to the establishment of a comprehensive reporting system, the design of monitoring measures, and the organisation of awareness-raising campaigns, as will be detailed further in this report. It should also be added that, throughout the process of advancing the safe space agenda, the Faculty has received cooperation and support from all sectors of the community, which has not only reflected deep concern but also a shared commitment to equality and inclusivity.

In addition to addressing the above issue, the Faculty has made strong progress in almost every area, to the extent that it may be said that the past year marked a period of significant upward momentum. This is largely because many initiatives launched over the past one to two years have begun to bear tangible results. Beginning with teaching and learning, the Faculty successfully completed the revision of both undergraduate programmes – the regular programme and the BIR programme – in order to modernise their content

and improve the quality of instruction. At the same time, the first cohort of master's students graduated from the dual-degree partnership between the Faculty and the Université de Bretagne-Occidentale (UBO) in France, enabling graduates to obtain two master's degrees simultaneously. The Faculty also strengthened linkages between the MPE programme and the Advanced Certificate Programme in Politics and Governance in Democratic Systems for Executives of King Prajadhipok's Institute by allowing students of the latter programme to enrol in the MPE programme with credit transfers. In addition, the Faculty launched the D-EPA programme, its first doctoral programme designed for executives.

In terms of internationalisation, Thammasat University achieved a joint first-place ranking in Thailand in Politics and International Studies according to the QS World University Rankings. The Faculty played an important role in contributing to this achievement through a marked increase in international publications, enabling it to move towards becoming a regional academic institution rather than one limited to the national level. Furthermore, the Faculty initiated a Visiting Postdoctoral Fellowship scheme to attract early-career international scholars to conduct research at the Faculty for periods of six months to one year.

Finally, in terms of physical development, several large-scale renovation projects have been undertaken at both Tha Prachan and Rangsit campuses to improve the overall environment. It is particularly noteworthy that some of these projects have received million-baht donations from generous alumni.

The developments described above represent only part of the progress achieved, with many more initiatives not mentioned here. It can be said that virtually every unit within the Faculty has been engaged in new projects aimed at driving institutional transformation. However, such rapid and extensive progress has not come without cost. If one were to compare it to a car, the Faculty over the past year has been like a vehicle travelling continuously at 120 kilometres per hour – inevitably resulting in heat and wear. In other words, the rapid expansion across all dimensions has created internal organisational strain. The challenge for the year ahead, therefore, is to adopt a more inward-looking approach in order to care for personnel who have been working at full capacity and to put the house in order. This will help ensure that the progress achieved is not only substantial but also genuinely sustainable.

Puli Fuwongcharoen

Dean of the Faculty of Political Science
Thammasat University



Teaching and Student Activities



Over the past year, it has been an exciting period for teaching and learning at the Faculty of Political Science, Thammasat University, with developments that are expected to have long-lasting impacts. The principal reason is the major revision of both undergraduate programmes: the regular undergraduate programme at the Rangsit Campus and the international programme, BIR, at Tha Prachan Campus. The curriculum revision process involved stakeholders from all sectors, including current students, alumni, and employers. The committee responsible for revising the curricula carefully reviewed all recommendations and engaged in multiple rounds of thorough deliberation. Members also assessed the expertise of the current academic staff and examined comparable programmes at other universities, both in Thailand and abroad, before finalising the revised curricula. These revised programmes will be implemented from the 2027 academic year onwards. Overall, both programmes have reduced their credit requirements by 3-6 credits in order to shorten the duration of study. At the same time, new courses have been introduced to address emerging fields of knowledge, such as cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, sustainability, environmental dynamics, and strategies

for human capital management. Existing compulsory courses have also been updated to be more contemporary and better aligned with the expectations of students and parents. The revised curricula are expected to help the Faculty continue producing high-quality graduates who will serve as important contributors to society.

Another important development worth mentioning is the collaboration between the Faculty's graduate programmes and leading external institutions. The MPE programme has begun jointly admitting students with the Advanced Certificate Programme in Politics and Governance in Democratic Systems for Executives of King Prajadhipok's Institute, creating opportunities for academic integration. Under this arrangement, approximately ten selected participants from the advanced certificate programme each year will be able to continue their studies in the MPE programme, with certain credits transferred towards the master's degree. In addition, the Faculty has accelerated efforts to establish a similar partnership with the Department of Provincial Administration under the Ministry of Interior. Most recently, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Thammasat University and the Department was formally signed, and concrete initiatives are expected to follow in the near future.

The final major development is the launch of a new programme: the Doctor of Philosophy Executive Program in Public Administration and Public Affairs (D-EPA). This part-time doctoral programme, offered at the Tha Prachan Campus, builds upon the existing EPA programme. The Faculty spent nearly a year developing the curriculum before opening admissions in early 2026, and it attracted considerable interest, enabling the programme to meet its enrolment targets. The D-EPA programme is expected to play an important role in enhancing the Faculty's teaching and learning capacity while addressing the needs of Thai society, in line with its mission to produce "Change Agents." Within approximately three years, graduates of the D-EPA programme are expected to begin contributing to Thailand's development and adaptation to future challenges.

As for the Faculty's regular operations, both undergraduate programmes – the regular programme and the BIR programme – continued to attract a large number of applicants. The regular programme, which is the Faculty's original undergraduate programme and is currently taught at the Rangsit Campus, received 6,307 applications through TCAS Round 1 (Portfolio) and Round 3

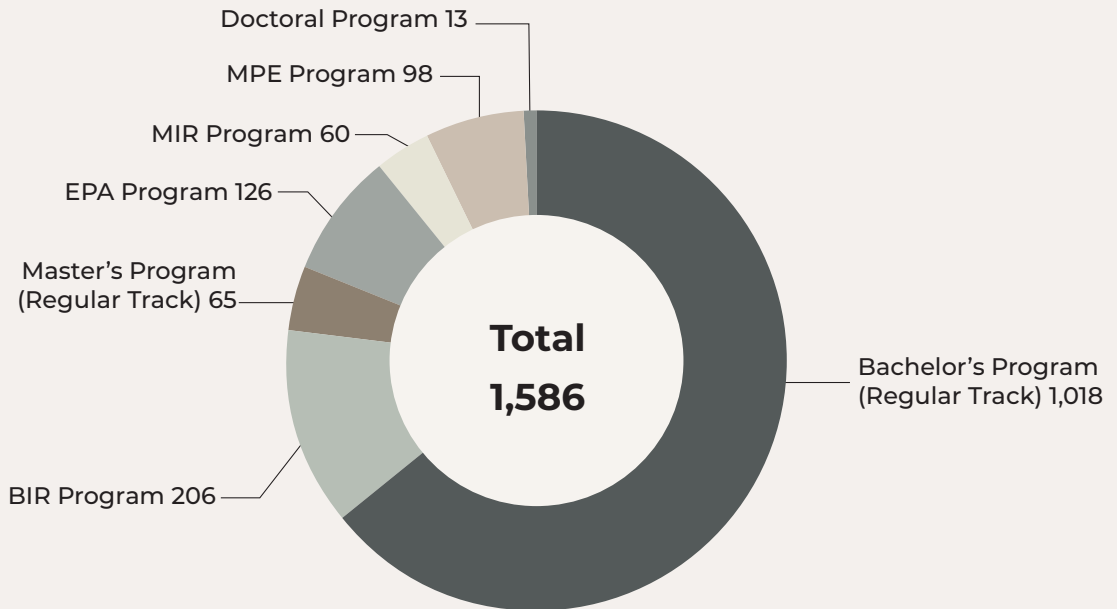


(Admissions) last year, a figure that remained virtually unchanged from the previous three years. The admission ratios were 1:10.96 for Admission 1 and 1:38.6 for Admission 2. In the case of the International Relations specialisation, the Admission 2 competition ratio reached as high as 1:49.84, clearly demonstrating the reputation and recognition the Faculty enjoys as an institution of higher education. The BIR programme also attracted a substantial number of applicants, receiving more than 200 applications through all admission channels. Compared with its annual intake of 70 students, this figure reflects the programme's popularity among secondary school students, a trend likely influenced by the growing visibility and achievements of its alumni.

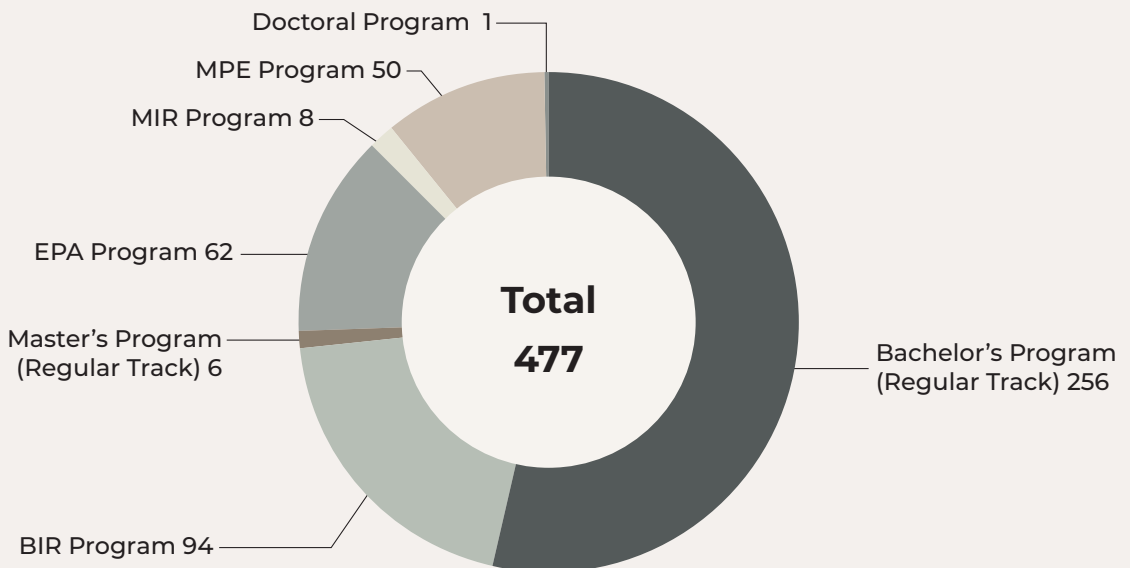
At the graduate level, all programmes met their enrolment targets, with some experiencing significant increases in popularity, particularly the MIR and MPE programmes. In the case of MIR, the programme received a total of 55 applications, representing a 45 per cent increase from the previous year. More importantly, 20 of the applicants were international students, giving this cohort a distinctly international character that is expected to enrich classroom discussions and contribute positively to the learning environment. The MPE programme also received approximately 70 applications through all admission channels, making the selection process highly competitive. However, admissions were not the only noteworthy aspect of graduate education during the past year. The Faculty also began restructuring the administration of both the EPA and MPE programmes. Although the process is expected to take another year to complete, it should help modernise both programmes in terms of management, teaching and learning, and student support services.

Finally, with regard to student activities, it is clear that throughout the past year the Faculty of Political Science, Thammasat University, has maintained the vibrancy and dynamism for which it has long been known. Activities have been organised continuously, both on and off campus, by students from the Rangsit and Tha Prachan campuses. Importantly, these activities have received support from the Political Science Association of Thammasat University under Royal Patronage, which generously provided financial assistance totalling 316,200 baht to the Faculty of Political Science Student Committee and more than ten student activity groups. This support has enabled numerous student-led initiatives and activities to be carried out successfully.

Total Student Enrollment (as of Present) (Unit: Persons)

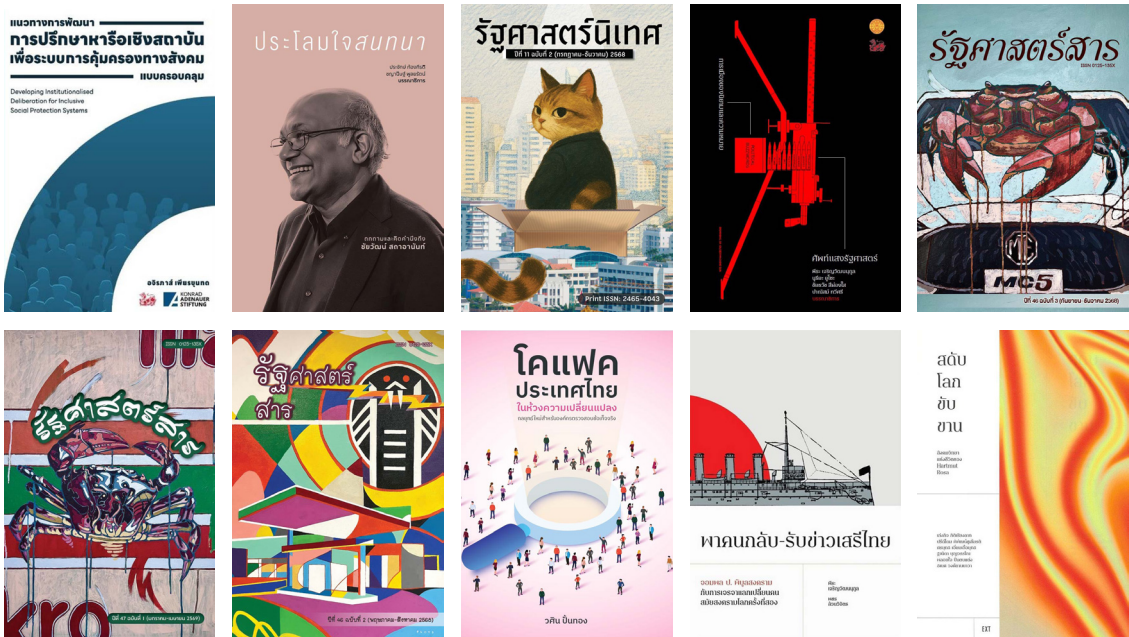


Number of Graduates for the Academic Year 2024 (Unit: Persons)





Knowledge Production and Dissemination



In addition to being an exciting year in terms of teaching and learning, the past year was also a year of remarkable achievements in research and publication for the Faculty. As some may already know, this year Thammasat University was ranked jointly first in Thailand in the field of Politics and International Studies by the QS World University Rankings. Naturally, this achievement may also have been supported by other faculties within the university, as scholars from different disciplines may conduct and publish research related to politics or international affairs. Nevertheless, it cannot be denied that the Faculty of Political Science played a significant – if not leading – role in this success. This is consistent with the substantial increase in international publications produced by our faculty members, an overview of which will be presented below. This outcome is the result of years of sustained effort, involving not only academic staff but also the administrative personnel working behind the scenes.

Compared with the previous three years, the Faculty of Political Science at Thammasat University achieved a record number of internationally published

academic works indexed in the Scopus database during the past year, totalling 15 publications. Of these, five were published in Q1 journals, the highest-quality category, accounting for one-third of all publications. These included well-known journals in the academic community, such as *International Theory*, *Cambridge Review of International Affairs*, and *International Studies Perspectives*. The remaining publications consisted of four Q2 journal articles, one Q3 journal article, and five book chapters. The increase in book chapters is particularly noteworthy, as there had been only one such publication per year in each of the previous two years. This success in international publishing is likely attributable to the growing number of younger faculty members who prefer to publish in English, combined with the Faculty's efforts to restructure incentives. These measures include publication awards and increased merit points for publications indexed in Scopus. The Faculty sincerely hopes that this positive trend will continue and help elevate Thammasat University to even higher rankings in the future.

Research, which forms the foundation of publication, also played an increasingly important role in helping address issues facing Thai society over the past year. This is reflected in the expansion of nationally significant policy research projects supported by external funding sources, totalling 19 projects. These were newly initiated projects, some receiving budgets of nearly 8 million baht, which is exceptionally large for the social sciences. Each project addresses policy-oriented research questions aimed at generating recommendations capable of producing tangible social change. At the same time, the Faculty allocated internal research grants to faculty members and researchers for seven projects, covering a wide range of topics, including decentralisation, environmental sustainability, intercultural relations, and the foreign policies of small states. In addition, a considerable number of grants were provided under the Routine to Research (R2R) initiative, which encourages the transformation of routine work into research activities.

The Faculty's emphasis on research has not only increased publication output and strengthened the university's global ranking performance but has also enhanced the recognition received by its faculty members, particularly through research awards at both the national and university levels. Over the past year, faculty members received a total of seven research awards. Among these were two National Outstanding Researcher Awards from the National Research Council of Thailand, one of the country's most prestigious research



honours. It was also a historic achievement for two academics from the same faculty to receive this award simultaneously.

Regarding academic services, the Faculty remains committed to producing high-quality academic publications, particularly those intended for teaching and learning. However, due to rising production costs, the Faculty has adjusted its approach by partnering with capable external publishers that possess expertise in both publishing and wide-scale dissemination. As a result, faculty members published nine books during the past year. Some were published directly by the Faculty, some through external publishing houses with which the Faculty negotiated agreements, and others through the independent efforts of the authors themselves. The Faculty also provides academic services through journals and online media. Its two academic journals – *Ratthasatsarn (Political Science Journal)* and *Ratthasatnithet (Political Science Review)* – continued to attract significant interest. Based on online access statistics through the Thai Journals Online (ThaiJO) platform over the past year, *Ratthasatsarn* received nearly 34,000 abstract views, while *Ratthasatnithet* recorded approximately 28,000 full-text article accesses. As for online media, although the Faculty continues to organise academic events and seminars, the number of on-site activities has declined significantly due to changing public behaviour. The response has been to focus more on online content production. During the past year, the Faculty released six video episodes and 24 podcast episodes aimed at providing knowledge to the public. Audience engagement was encouraging, particularly for the podcast series *Political Buzzwords*, which briefly explains fundamental political science terminology to a general audience.

In addition, the Faculty has completed the revision of its professional training programmes, placing particular emphasis on skills related to artificial intelligence and enhancing workplace capabilities through platforms such as Canva and CapCut. The response has exceeded expectations. The ChatGPT training course, in particular, proved to be the most popular, attracting a large number of participants and requiring multiple additional training sessions. It is therefore clear that the Faculty has chosen the right direction and should continue focusing on issues related to Digital Transformation when designing future training programmes. In doing so, it can contribute to improving workforce efficiency and capabilities in both the public and private sectors.





Toward Internationalisation



The Faculty's efforts to advance internationalisation over the past year have, by and large, proceeded smoothly. One of the most significant achievements has been the joint programme with Université de Bretagne Occidentale (UBO) in France. A total of 32 master's students enrolled in the Faculty's EPA, MIR, and MPE programmes participated in and successfully completed the programme as its inaugural cohort. Following a period of hybrid learning delivered by UBO academics who travelled to teach at Tha Prachan Campus, together with project work and assessments conducted between May and June 2025, these students fulfilled all graduation requirements. As a result, they were awarded an additional master's degree from UBO, alongside the degree earned from their respective Faculty programmes. The UBO graduation ceremony was held at Tha Prachan Campus in February this year, with the Director and Deputy Director of UBO's Institut de Préparation à l'Administration Générale travelling in person to confer the degrees upon the graduates. The programme remains ongoing, and the Faculty has recently completed admissions for its second cohort, which attracted considerably greater interest than the first.

Another similar initiative, this time at undergraduate level, is the Faculty's double-degree programme with overseas partner institutions. Last year

marked the first occasion on which the Faculty sent a student to study under such a programme at a partner university, namely Meiji University in Japan. The student spent one year studying and living at Meiji University before returning successfully. In the coming months, the Faculty will send a second cohort participant to join the programme. This achievement reflects several years of sustained effort to establish and promote the initiative. Two additional double-degree arrangements remain available – with the University of Bristol and Aberystwyth University – although no students have yet enrolled in either programme. The principal reason is the substantial financial commitment required.

The Faculty's efforts to connect its students with the international academic community extend beyond their period of study at the Faculty itself. During the past year, the Faculty began exploring another form of international collaboration through a 4+1 programme, which provides undergraduate students from all degree programmes with the opportunity to pursue a master's degree abroad under certain preferential admission conditions, while also benefiting from reduced tuition fees. At present, the Faculty offers a 4+1 arrangement only with the University of Bristol in the United Kingdom. However, negotiations are currently under way with several additional universities. If discussions proceed as expected, the Faculty hopes to announce further developments in the near future.

Another new initiative that has begun to take shape is the Visiting Postdoctoral Fellowship programme. The Faculty invited applications from individuals who have completed doctoral degrees at overseas universities and are under the age of 40. Successful candidates are appointed to the Faculty for either six or twelve months, depending on the nature of their project, in order to conduct research and publish in international academic journals. The programme attracted significant interest from scholars across Asia, with more than ten applications submitted. Most applicants possessed strong academic credentials and impressive publication records. The selection committee undertook a rigorous assessment process, including both document review and interviews, before selecting one fellow. The successful candidate is a Filipino scholar who will begin a six-month appointment at the Faculty from June onwards. The Faculty hopes that this initiative will further internationalise the academic environment, strengthen connections with global scholarly networks, and introduce promising early-career international academics to the Faculty at the outset of their professional journeys.



In addition to these initiatives, the Faculty hosted the international training programme “Financial Investigations Related to Digital Assets” in collaboration with the Department of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Anti-Money Laundering Office. The programme was held between 18 and 22 May 2026 and brought together 29 government officials from 12 countries, including Pakistan, Indonesia, Oman, Samoa, Paraguay, Nigeria, and South Sudan, for training in Bangkok. This represented the Faculty’s first international training programme in at least a decade.

Finally, over the past year, the Faculty initiated approximately ten Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with leading international educational institutions and organisations. Examples include the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) Thailand Office, Victoria University of Wellington in New Zealand, and the Institute of International Relations in China. These agreements serve as gateways for continued dialogue and collaboration between the Faculty and its partners, creating opportunities for more substantive cooperation in the future, whether through student exchange programmes, academic conferences and seminars, or joint research projects.

Today, the Faculty of Political Science at Thammasat University is considerably more international than it was in the past, in line with its vision of becoming a regional academic hub. During the past year, the Faculty welcomed more than 30 international exchange students at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. These students came from a wide range of countries, including Indonesia, the United States, Sweden, Germany, France, the Netherlands, Poland, Japan, Hong Kong, China, Russia, and Brunei. At the same time, the Faculty hosted seven visiting professors and researchers throughout the year. These included Hilmar Þór Hilmarsson (University of Akureyri), Rainer Hülse (LMU Munich), Yang Qian (Wuhan University), and Monika Gabriela Bartoszewicz, (Arctic University of Norway), among others. Their presence has contributed significantly to the Faculty’s increasingly international academic environment and strengthened its engagement with global scholarly communities.



Becoming a Safe Space for Everyone



Many people may already be aware that, over the past year, the Faculty of Political Science at Thammasat University has faced incidents of sexual harassment. As a result, creating a safe space that embraces diversity and inclusion has become an urgent priority from last year through to the present. The Faculty adheres to a zero-tolerance policy towards all forms of harassment, whether sexual or otherwise. To ensure that this policy is implemented effectively, the Faculty has pursued disciplinary action in accordance with university regulations in all cases where allegations have been substantiated, unless the survivor has expressed a preference for an alternative course of action. This approach is consistent with the principle of a survivor-centred approach. In mid-2025, following consultations with external experts, the Faculty accelerated the development of a reporting system to support those affected. Designated personnel were appointed, and coordination was established with student networks to identify representatives who would participate in the Faculty's reporting system. These individuals subsequently received training on 1 August to ensure they possessed the necessary understanding and preparedness to receive reports and refer cases appropriately. The training programme consisted of three components: laws and university regulations applicable when the alleged perpetrator is a

student; laws and university regulations applicable when the alleged perpetrator is a member of university staff; and psychological support and recovery for survivors. The trainers included legal officers, university personnel responsible for handling such matters, and psychologists. Following the completion of the training, the Faculty formally launched the reporting system and publicised it through all available communication channels.

At the same time, the Faculty has sought to raise awareness of gender issues and sexual harassment among nearly all sectors of the university community. A workshop entitled “Awareness of Harassment and Gender Sensitivity” was held at Tha Prachan on 21 July 2025 and was led by experts from SHero Thailand, a civil society organisation that works on issues related to domestic violence and sexual harassment. Nearly 50 members of the Faculty, including both academic and administrative staff, participated in the workshop. In addition, the Faculty has integrated awareness of gender and sexual harassment into a range of activities during the first semester of the 2025 academic year. For example, a dedicated session on sexual harassment was included in orientation activities for new undergraduate students. Content relating to gender and sexuality was also incorporated into four compulsory undergraduate courses taken by students in all regular programme specialisations, as well as one compulsory course within the BIR programme. Furthermore, issues concerning harassment and respectful interpersonal conduct were incorporated into discussions during student activity seminars. These efforts have been complemented by awareness-raising materials displayed throughout the Faculty’s premises at both Tha Prachan and Rangsit, as well as through online campaigns.

Since the introduction of these measures, the Faculty has received around 20 reports. The majority concerned sexual harassment, while a smaller number related to racial discrimination. All cases involved interactions between students and none were considered sufficiently serious to warrant formal disciplinary proceedings. In each instance, the survivors requested that the Faculty address the matter through counselling, warnings, and educational interventions. Consequently, no cases have yet proceeded to formal disciplinary action. Nevertheless, the Faculty intends to continue its awareness-raising efforts in the forthcoming academic year while maintaining the standards and effectiveness of the reporting system. The ultimate objective is to ensure that the Faculty becomes a genuinely safe space, while also instilling in its graduates the values of mutual respect, respect for rights and equality, and a commitment not to remain indifferent in the face of injustice.



Building Financial Sustainability



Continuing the efforts to overhaul its operations over the past three years, the Faculty of Political Science at Thammasat University has maintained a financial policy centred on preserving a balance between income and expenditure, managing the budget prudently and efficiently, and generating additional revenue and returns on assets. These measures are intended to strengthen the Faculty's long-term financial sustainability amid an increasingly uncertain environment. As many will be aware, throughout the past year the Faculty expanded its revenue base through academic services, short-term professional training programmes, and more effective asset management. These initiatives were undertaken alongside the promotion of all academic programmes, the development of evidence-based budgeting processes, the monitoring and evaluation of budget utilisation, and improvements to internal controls and audit systems. Efforts in all these areas progressed well and produced satisfactory results. Nevertheless, these achievements were insufficient to offset the decline in student enrolment in certain programmes and the substantial increase in expenditure experienced during the past year, issues that will be discussed below.

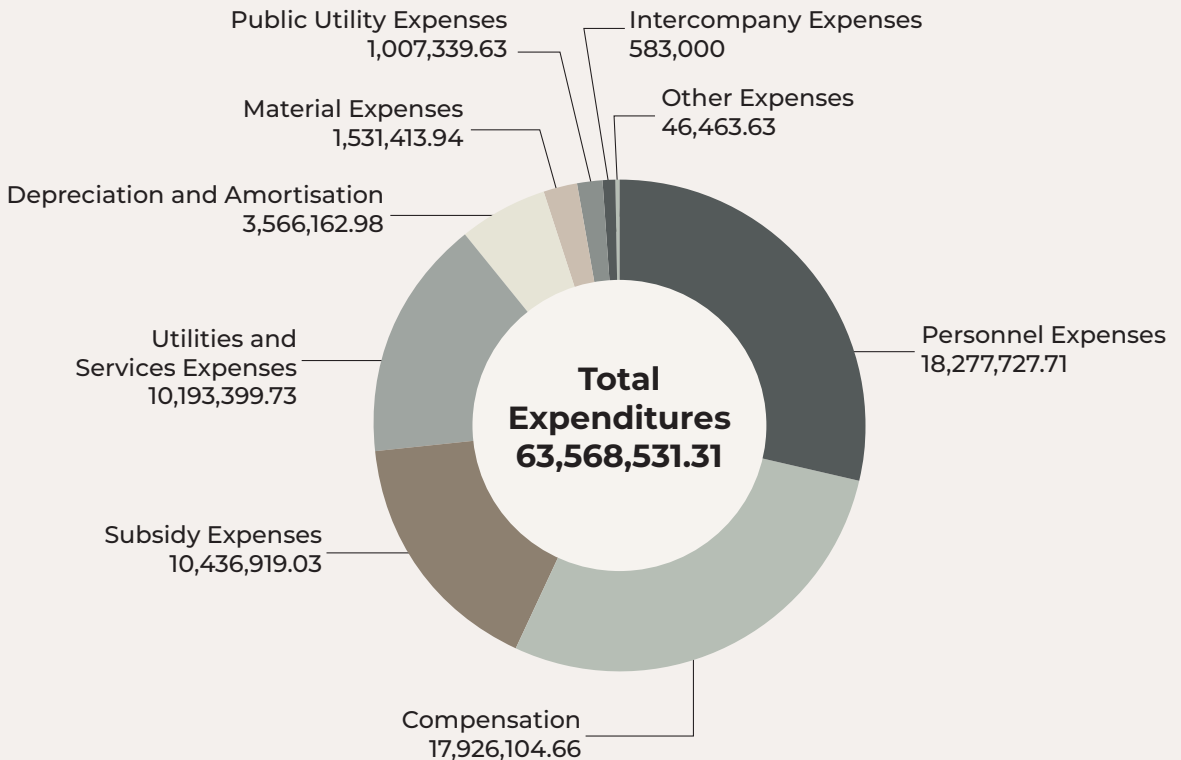
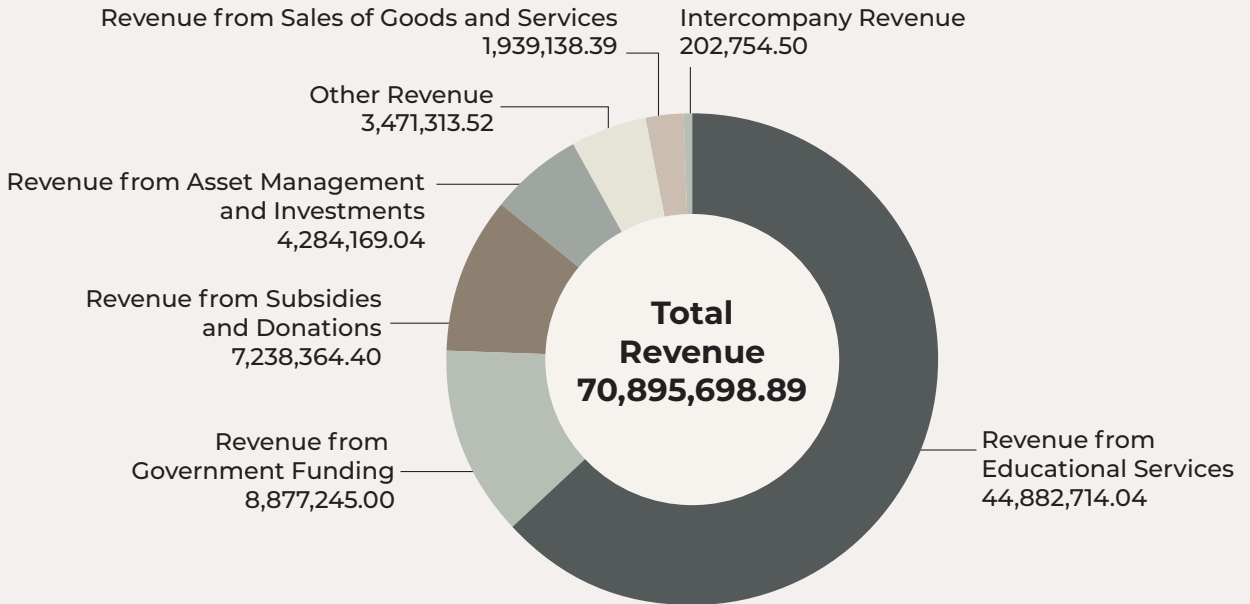
During the 2025 fiscal year, the Faculty recorded total income of 70,895,698.89 baht and total expenditure of 63,568,531.31 baht, resulting in a surplus of

approximately 7.33 million baht. However, when compared with the previous three years, this surplus has shown a continuous downward trend. The explanation for fiscal years 2023 and 2024 lies in the full resumption of normal operations following the pandemic period. Buildings and facilities were fully reopened, while teaching, learning, and other activities were no longer conducted primarily online. At the same time, numerous maintenance and renovation projects became necessary to prepare the Faculty for its return to full operation. For the most recent fiscal year, the principal factor was a decline in new student enrolment in the BIR programme, resulting in a loss of approximately 2.7 million baht in revenue. This was due to changes made to the programme's admissions procedures. While these changes were necessary, an unavoidable consequence during the first year was confusion arising from the transition, which affected enrolment numbers. In addition, there was a reduction in extraordinary income, as donations declined by approximately 1 million baht. This was largely because the Faculty had received an unusually high level of donations during fiscal year 2024 as a result of fundraising campaigns organised to mark the 75th anniversary of its establishment.

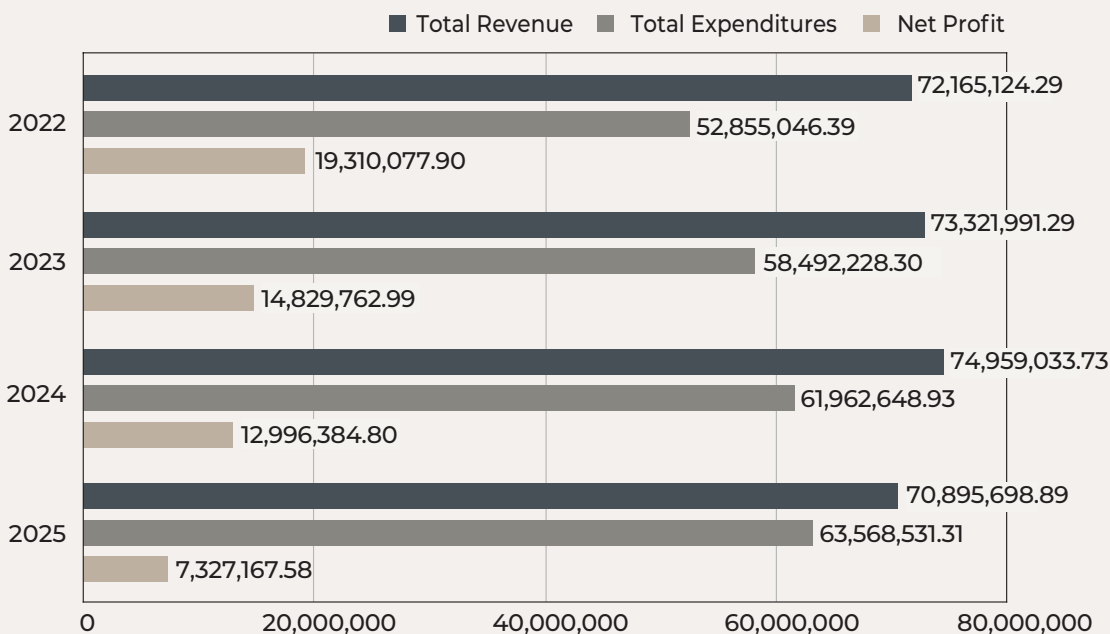
Turning to expenditure, several significant increases warrant particular mention. The BIR programme resumed its overseas study visit for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic, at a cost of approximately 320,000 baht. The University also began charging faculties for electricity consumption, creating a new expenditure item amounting to nearly 500,000 baht. In addition, the Faculty procured nine new projectors for the Rangsit Campus to replace obsolete equipment, at a cost of approximately 400,000 baht. More broadly, the Faculty experienced higher operating costs due to increases in the prices of nearly all categories of supplies and materials. Taken together, these increases added several hundred thousand baht to the Faculty's expenditure. In summary, the reduction of approximately 5 million baht in the Faculty's surplus compared with the previous fiscal year can largely be attributed to a decline in income of approximately 3.5-4 million baht, combined with an increase in expenditure of around 2 million baht. These financial trends have become a source of concern. Consequently, in fiscal year 2026 – the current fiscal year – the Faculty has continued its practice of preparing a surplus budget for the seventh consecutive year. At the same time, it remains committed to closely monitoring expenditure, strengthening financial discipline, and identifying new opportunities to expand revenue.



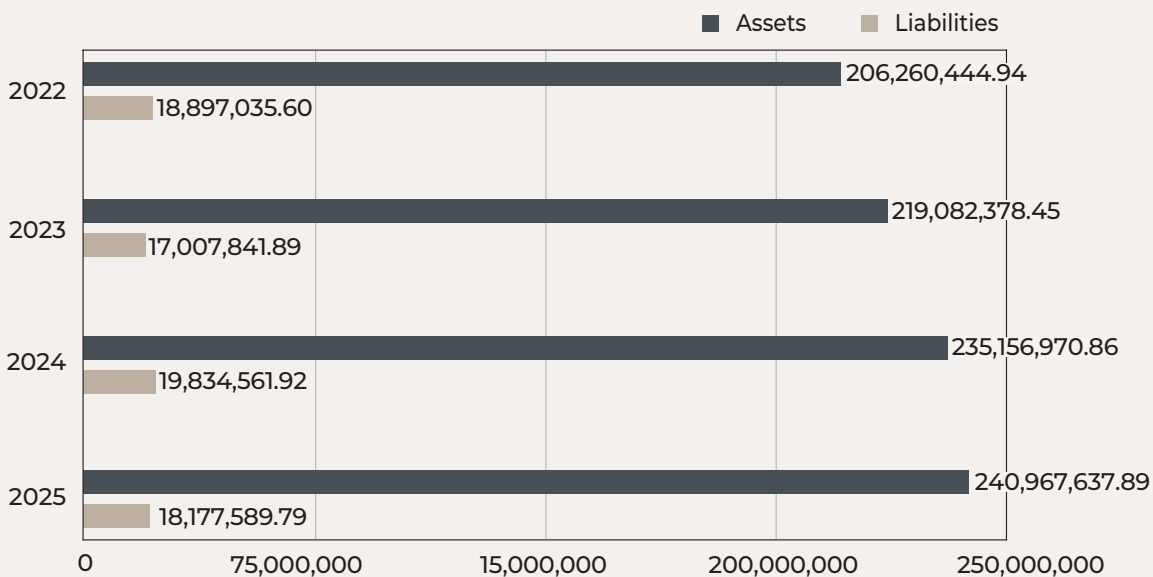
Financial Performance (Fiscal Year 2025) (Unit: Baht)



Comparative Financial Performance (Unit: Baht)



Comparative Financial Status (Unit: Baht)



Organisational and Personnel Development



Organisational and staff development is another key mission that has always received close attention from the Faculty of Political Science, Thammasat University. This is partly because the Faculty serves as a centre for the study and research of management and human resources. Over the past year, the Faculty has completed a major overhaul of the performance appraisal systems for both academic staff and support staff, prior to their implementation. The first system, which applies to academic staff and had not been revised for over 20 years, aims to create incentives aligned with the Faculty's vision and to enhance fairness in evaluation. The second system seeks to ensure that staff appraisal is conducted with greater integrity, enabling a more accurate reflection of each individual's capabilities and performance. However, following implementation, the Faculty continues to monitor outcomes and may further refine and improve the systems.

Following on from initiatives begun the previous year, the Faculty has also sought to promote the application of artificial intelligence in its operations in order to enhance efficiency and reduce staff workload. Guidance has been provided to staff who are less familiar with such technologies, and peer learning has been encouraged through demonstrations during monthly staff

meetings. In mid-February 2026, the Faculty organised a practical training workshop entitled “Developing AI Skills to Enhance Work Efficiency”, attended by more than 50 staff members from all divisions. The content covered a range of topics, from prompt engineering techniques and the use of AI in administrative work, to project drafting, meeting report preparation, data analysis, and media design. Importantly, participants were given the opportunity to practise hands-on skills directly on computers. In addition, the Faculty explored the feasibility of subscribing to certain AI platforms. However, due to high costs, this initiative had to be put on hold.

Artificial intelligence is an important area requiring close attention. At the same time, the Faculty has also sought to develop staff competencies in other areas. Of particular importance are occupational safety, awareness of gender issues and harassment, and research skills for work development. Each of these areas has been supported through training programmes and related initiatives. For example, in mid-July 2025, the Faculty organised a training session entitled “Techniques for Presenting R2R Research and Effective Operational Guidelines” for nearly 30 staff members in Chonburi. Later that same month, a training course on “Basic Firefighting and Evacuation Drills” was conducted in collaboration with the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Social Administration at the Rangsit Campus, including simulated emergency scenarios.

Finally, the Faculty continues its policy of reducing staffing levels by not replacing personnel who retire when funded through departmental revenue. As a result, personnel-related expenditure has remained relatively stable in recent years. However, due to the launch of the D-EPA programme, the Faculty was required to recruit one additional staff member, marking the first such increase in several years. In the case of academic staff, it is noteworthy that the Faculty was able to manage its approved staffing allocation within the required timeframe, resulting in the recruitment of three new academic staff members. Of these, two have already assumed their duties, while the remaining appointment is still undergoing university-level approval processes. To date, recruitment of new academic staff has proceeded in accordance with the Faculty’s six-year academic staffing plan, which identifies areas of expertise in which the Faculty faces shortages and should recruit accordingly, covering the period up to 2028.

Physical Improvement



The Faculty of Political Science, Thammasat University, has consistently prioritised the improvement of its physical infrastructure in order to create a safe, convenient, and pleasant environment that fosters well-being, thereby contributing positively to teaching and learning, academic reflection, and day-to-day operations. Over the past year, the Faculty installed a new IP-based closed-circuit television (CCTV) system with 4MP high-resolution cameras, together with network video recorders (NVRs) supporting H.265+/H.265 compression technology, covering key areas inside and around the Tha Prachan Campus buildings. This represents the first major upgrade of the CCTV system in over 20 years. At the same time, 35 new fire detectors were installed throughout the Tha Prachan buildings, replacing obsolete equipment and more than doubling the coverage area in order to enhance safety and emergency preparedness.

In addition to safety-related infrastructure improvements, the Faculty has also received generous support from Siam Yamato Steel Co., Ltd. (SYS), which helped develop Surin Pitsuwan Room (R.406) at Tha Prachan into a smart

classroom equipped with modern information technology systems suited to the digital era. The project had a total value of over 1.2 million baht and has now been successfully completed. Another project made possible through external generosity is the renovation of the MPE student dining area at the Rangsit Campus, supported by donations from a group of alumni totalling 558,000 baht, sufficient to complete the project without placing any financial burden on the Faculty. The renovation has now been completed, and the facility reopened at the end of May, providing students with a space to meet, interact, and build relationships during their free time.

As for major ongoing infrastructure projects, the Faculty is currently halfway through the renovation of toilet facilities and sanitation systems at Tha Prachan. This project arose from long-standing issues with restroom and sanitation facilities over more than a decade, leading to the decision to undertake a comprehensive renovation with a budget of approximately 3.8 million baht in order to resolve the problems decisively. The next projects include the development of a student activity courtyard at the Rangsit Campus (estimated budget 2-2.5 million baht) and the development of a student common room at Tha Prachan (estimated budget 1-1.5 million baht), both of which are currently in the architectural design stage. However, the Faculty is concerned that both projects may be affected by increased costs arising from the recent energy crisis, and therefore further consideration of expenditure and cost-effectiveness will be required.

It should also be noted that, for these two latter projects, the Faculty has received generous support from alumni: namely, Ongard Dejithirat, PhD, who contributed 1.1 million baht towards the student activity courtyard project, and Hiroshi Yamamoto, PhD, from Japan, who donated 1 million baht towards the student common room project. The Faculty of Political Science, Thammasat University, would like to once again express its sincere gratitude to these two benefactors.



Support the Faculty

The Faculty of Political Science, Thammasat University, is committed to advancing its core missions in education, research, and academic services. However, in the current climate of increasing uncertainty and volatility, the faculty is facing growing financial constraints. This necessitates prudent budget management to ensure efficiency and long-term financial sustainability, in line with our foundational principle of being a non-profit academic institution.

Should you wish to support the faculty's ongoing efforts, contributions can be made to the "Political Science Fund", which was established as a channel for mobilising resources to enhance the quality of education, provide scholarships to students, support academic service initiatives, maintain and improve physical infrastructure, and procure or upgrade teaching equipment. Donations can be made via the e-Donation system by scanning the QR code provided below. The faculty sincerely thanks you for your generous support.



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of knowledge in the field of political science in Southeast Asia,
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