

Mathis Lohatepanont

Email: mathis.lohatepanont@gmail.com • Website: kenlmathis.com • LinkedIn: linkedin.com/in/mathis-l/

Education

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Ph.D. Political Science

Expected 2026

- *Dissertation Project*: “Making Parties Last: The Dynamics of Unlikely Party Institutionalization”

M.A. Political Science

2023

University of California, Berkeley

B.A. Political Science

2020

Research

Affiliations

ISEAS Yusof-Ishak Institute

Visiting Fellow, Thailand Studies Programme

2026–Present

Thammasat University

Visiting Researcher, Faculty of Political Science

2025–Present

Publications

Journal Articles

Hicken, Allen, Napon Jatusripitak, and Mathis Lohatepanont. “A New Tale of Two Democracies? The Changing Rural-Urban Dynamics at Thailand’s 2023 General Elections.” *Contemporary Southeast Asia* 45, no. 3 (December 2023): 345–54.

Book Chapters

Lohatepanont, Mathis. “Thailand in 2025: Intertwined Crises Within and Without.” In *Southeast Asian Affairs 2026*, edited by Terence Chong and Daljit Singh, 265–77. Singapore: ISEAS Publishing, 2026.

Think Tank Publications

Lohatepanont, Mathis. “Assessing the Bhumjaithai Party’s Technocratic Turn: Cosmetic Change or Catalyst for Reform?” *ISEAS Perspectives* 2026, no. 61 (August 25, 2026).

Jatusripitak, Napon, and Mathis Lohatepanont. “After the Grand Compromise: Voter Profiles in Thai Politics.” *ISEAS Perspectives* 2025, no. 25 (March 28, 2025).

Lohatepanont, Mathis, and Napon Jatusripitak. “Causes and Effects of Pheu Thai’s Grand Compromise: The Lurking Instability of Thailand’s Post-2023 Party System.” *ISEAS Perspectives* 2024, no. 52 (July 12, 2024).

“A Progressive Victory in Thailand’s 2023 General Election.” *Strategic Comments* (International Institute for Strategic Studies) 29, no. 3 (June 6, 2023): xi–xiii.

**Commentary and
Analysis (Selected
Pieces Only)**

Lohatepanont, Mathis. “[Thailand’s Democrat Party: A Political Institution Survives.](#)” Fulcrum, February 27, 2026.

Lohatepanont, Mathis. “[Why Bhumjaithai Won.](#)” Asialink Insights, February 17, 2026.

Jatusripitak, Napon, and Mathis Lohatepanont. “[Grand Compromise or Grand Damage to Thailand’s Party System?](#)” Fulcrum, October 27, 2025.

Lohatepanont, Mathis. “[The Decline of the Shinawatras Promises New Political Era for Thailand.](#)” Asialink Insights, July 21, 2025.

Lohatepanont, Mathis. “[Thailand’s Grand Political Compromise Cracks Under Pressure.](#)” East Asia Forum, June 15, 2025.

Lohatepanont, Mathis. “[Political Will Sorely Lacking in Thai Educational Reform.](#)” Fulcrum, October 4, 2024.

Lohatepanont, Mathis. “[Thaksin Shinawatra’s Poisoned Chalice.](#)” Asialink Insights, August 23, 2024.

Lohatepanont, Mathis. “[The New Thai Senate: Less Powerful and Less Predictable.](#)” 9DashLine, July 25, 2024.

Jatusripitak, Napon, and Mathis Lohatepanont. “[Move Forward Stands at the Brink of Dissolution.](#)” Fulcrum, February 2, 2024.

Lohatepanont, Mathis, and Chitchaya Chimtanoo. “[The Strength of Party Brands at the 2023 General Election.](#)” Thai Data Points, December 18, 2023.

Lohatepanont, Mathis. “[Pheu Thai Foots the Political Bill for Thaksin’s Return.](#)” East Asia Forum, September 25, 2023.

Lohatepanont, Mathis, and Napon Jatusripitak. “[One Constituency, Two Parties: Ballot Splitting and Divided Loyalties in Thailand’s Election.](#)” Fulcrum, July 28, 2023.

Jatusripitak, Napon, and Mathis Lohatepanont. “[Political Dealmaking Will Determine the Winner and Twist Policy Outcomes in Thailand’s Election.](#)” Fulcrum, April 6, 2023.

Lohatepanont, Mathis, Allen Hicken and Joel Selway. “[Has Time Run Out for Thailand’s Prime Minister?](#)” Washington Post (Monkey Cage Blog), September 9, 2022.

Lohatepanont, Mathis. “[New Bangkok Governor Challenges Government’s Grip on Power.](#)” East Asia Forum, July 15, 2022.

In addition, my writing has appeared in the *Bangkok Post*, *Thai Enquirer*, *Latitude Ten* and *101 World*. I also write in [The Coffee Parliament](#), a Substack on Thai politics and policy.

Professional Experience

Thailand Development Research Institute

Researcher, Innovation Policy for Sustainable Development

2021–2022

Assigned Projects:

Rattanakhomfu, Saowaruj et al. “Public Procurement for Innovation in Thailand’s Medical Devices Industry.” TDRI Research Publication, 2022.

Rattanakhomfu, Saowaruj et al. “Restructuring of Creative Labor in the Thai Creative Industries in the Post-Covid-19 Era.” TDRI Research Publication, 2021.

“Designing Thailand’s Research and Innovation Ecosystem.” TDRI Research Publication, 2021.

Teaching

As Teaching Assistant at the University of Michigan

State Repression of Human Rights

Fall 2024

Chinese Politics

Winter 2024

Southeast Asian Politics

Fall 2023

Presentations

Conference Presentations

“Authoritarian Collaborator Parties: Why Thailand’s Democrat Party Deinstitutionalized.” Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 3, 2025.

“Who Knows Best? Political Awareness in Thailand.” Poster presented at the Southeast Asia Research Group (SEAREG) Winter Conference, Boston, December 6, 2024.

Invited Talks and Panel Discussions

“The Bhumjaithai Era Begins.” Briefing delivered to the Delegation of the European Union to Thailand, Bangkok, Thailand, March 12, 2026.

“Thailand’s 2026 General Election and Referendum: What to Expect?” Webinar panel hosted by the ISEAS Yusof Ishak Institute, February 2, 2026.

“Making Sense of the 2023 Thai Elections.” Panel discussion at the University of Michigan Center for Southeast Asia Studies, Ann Arbor, MI, October 24, 2023.

“Thai Democracy: Future, Present, Past.” Webinar panel hosted by the Walter H. Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center, Stanford University, May 31, 2023.

Service

Departmental Service at the University of Michigan

Co-organizer, Interdisciplinary Workshop on Comparative Politics

2024–2025

Co-founder/Co-organizer, Southeast Asia in Social Science Group

2023–2025

Journal/Commentary Referee

Contemporary Southeast Asia, Sojourn: Journal of Social Issues in Southeast Asia, East Asia Forum, Fulcrum

Skills

Technical skills: R, L^AT_EX, Qualtrics

Languages: Thai (native), English (fluent), Mandarin Chinese (intermediate), Japanese (intermediate)

Media**Interviews****Print and Online Articles**

Al Jazeera, Australian Financial Review, Benar News, BBC News, Bloomberg, China Newsweek, CNBC, DW, Financial Times, Foreign Policy, The Guardian, Lianhe Zaobao, The New York Times, Phoenix Weekly, Reuters, Sanlian Lifeweek, The Straits Times, South China Morning Post, Southeast Asia Globe, The Telegraph

TV, Radio, and Podcasts

ABC Radio National, BBC Radio, Channel News Asia, CSIS Southeast Asia Radio, Dialogues at Fulcrum, The Nordic Asia Podcast, NPR, Straight Talk Southeast Asia, Suthichai Live, Taiwan Plus