

The Role of the EU in Thailand and the wider Asian region



March 16, 2023, the International Relations and Global Affairs major of Mahidol University International College hosted His Excellency David Daly, Ambassador of the European Union to Thailand for a guest lecture on “The Role of the EU in Thailand the Wider Asian Region”.

Ambassador Daly noted the contemporary challenges to Asia and the world at large concerning the effects of the war in Ukraine. H.E. highlighted the EU rapid policy adaptations with regard to energy, climate change, migration and maritime security. Ambassador Daly pointed towards the EU’s foreign policy principles of human rights, democracy and rule of law as guiding interactions with Asian and other partners. Of importance in the conversation was the recently concluded European Union/Thailand PCA. Importantly, the Ambassador emphasized that these principled interactions with partners was one of complexity and reciprocity and not a one-way discussion.

Student and faculty participants were able to pose a number of questions the Ambassador Daly on issues of maritime security, multilateral diplomacy, EU/China relations and EU/Thai relations. The event was well attended with students from many majors in attendance, numbering over 90 in total. The International Relations and Global Affairs major will be hosting the EU ambassador and other European Ambassadors in the coming term for more engaging panel discussions on security and the conflict in Ukraine.