The Futurista’s Guide
Future Forward Party
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Why Future Forward Party?

What kind of future will our children and grandchildren have growing up in a country where political conflict has rooted for over a decade?

Thailand is under the crossfire of repeated coup d’états, constitutions are arbitrarily torn up, the military constantly takes advantage of political crises to seize power from the people.

Our country, Thailand, is in such a state of affairs
A deeply fractioned community without anchored consensus is obstructive to constructive political dialogues. Moreover, the military dictatorship has been curtailing civil and political rights as well as freedom of expression. This only escalated political conflicts, making it impossible for the Thai people to find consensus, hence, aggravating the overall situation.

Thai people are divided as political fractions, where supporters from different spectrums have been prompted to eagerly confront and destroy their opponents. Yet we must remember that, regardless of factions or political views, we are all Thai citizens with the common goal of improving politics, quality of life and economic prospects for ourselves and future generations. Such political conflict among the “people” only deteriorates conditions of life for the people, while those in power take advantage of the turmoil to amass profits for themselves.

**How are we going to get out of this situation?**
Now is the time to restore the stolen democracy, so that Thailand can emerge from the crisis. We therefore establish the Future Forward Party with the aim of returning Thailand to democratic rule, creating positive changes and restructuring Thai politics to build a better future for our country.
A decade-long crisis has allowed a military dictatorship to take advantage of the Thai people and remain in power for a long time under the false pretext of acting as a ‘mediator’ of political conflicts. In reality, they are one of the factions fueling the conflict, only worsening the situation by perpetuating myths that aim to terrify the people into believing that democracy and elections are the ultimate cause of ongoing socio-political conflicts and violence. The people are, therefore, forced to succumb to military dictatorship ruling. Hence, leading many to give up hope and dismiss the return of democracy as a dead idea.

By building a completely new political party based on a new model of politics, we aim to give back hope and inspire the Thai people that democracy is the solution and that an alternative political model is possible. We are offering hopeful alternative for a more transparent politics, a return to democracy and free and fair elections. Most importantly, we reaffirm that political conflict is a common occurrence of democratic society which urge its people to learn and find solutions collectively.
The Future Forward Party embraces new and inclusive management methods, combining both practical and theoretical knowledge to build a new model of politics and to design progressive policies.

The policies we propose will transform Thailand for the better, starting with a decentralization of government power in order to reform inefficient centralized system of bureaucratic polity. The policies we propose will promote equal social and economic opportunities, eliminate monopolized economy, and offer equal access to capital and resources, thereby reforming a system tailored to serve only a handful number of people. We also aim to establish universal welfare system to guarantee that Thai people will live with dignity from birth to death.

We propose policies that will empower people to fulfill their potential and enable them to adapt to global changes and new challenges. Our policies set out a new educational, cultural and legal framework suitable to the changing ecosystem of modern economy.
The Future Forward Party aspires to put forward creative and practical policies.

We strive to be a political institution in which all members own the party equally. We encourage public participation in our brainstorms, decision-making processes, fundraising and operations through an inclusive bottom-up model. Our policies are based on both detailed research and public opinion.

Our innovative structure and philosophy will allow us to set an important precedent and foster a new environment that will gradually transform Thailand’s political landscape.
Politics is finding creative solutions, and not a means to destroy one’s enemies. 

Politics provides the inspiration to make positive changes, and not to conduct dirty business.

Politics is a competition in the interest of the public, and not a means to obtain personal advantages.

Politics should belong to the people, who should hold the ultimate power, and should not be monopolized by a few technocrats and bureaucrats.

The Future Forward Party is building a new model of politics that is unprecedented in Thailand and we are going to make it a reality.

We should certainly draw lessons from the past, but we should not let it determine our future. The future is in our hands. If you believe that a new, different future is possible, then stand up and take action! We have the capacity to determine our own future.

Thailand can no longer waste even more time and opportunities. Thai people deserve a better life and should have the opportunity to fulfill their potential and make changes in a creative and democratic environment.

The rights and legitimacy to determine our future belongs only to we, the people, not anyone else.

We have now reached a crucial moment in our history. If we, the Thai people, do not stand up, take our future into our own hands and drag Thailand out of its ‘lost decade’, then our country risks irreparable ruin.

Together, we must break free from our country’s lost decade and restore hope and prosperity for the next decade.

Together, let’s restore our own future and the future of our country.

Together, let’s build a new future where the ultimate power truly belongs to the people.

Together, let’s strive for a new future for Thailand!
Dear Futuristas,
The potential of our country has long been hindered by the existing economic, social, cultural and political structures. Now is the time for those who refuse to be defeated by the current state of affairs to stand up and make a difference.

Together, let’s build a progressive, just and equal society, so that we may pass on a better future to the next generations.

It is high time for us to steer Thailand’s potential with our own hands. Don’t just wait for change to happen, but be a part of it!

The future we aspire to is a future where the ultimate power truly belongs to the people.

Thanathorn Juangroongruangkit
Leader of the Future Forward Party
The Future Forward Party adheres to the principles of democracy, the rule of law, human dignity, human rights, political and socio-economic equality, decentralization, gender and cultural diversity, non-monopolized economy under free and fair competitions, sustainable and environment-friendly development, welfare system, quality of life and equal opportunity to live with dignity.
We believe that we can all make a change. Human beings are endowed with the rights to pursue their vision of a better society and determine their future.

We believe that a new world, a new society, a new kind of politics are possible.

We are firmly committed to the belief that the ultimate power belongs to, and must come from the people.

We rely on the participation of our members to cultivate a democratic culture within our party and make our party more efficient.
Our Vision

Democracy and human rights

Equality and human dignity

Progressive and creative economy
Our Mission

- Regardless of their political stances, every Thai citizen is counted as equal individual. Dissenting opinions among Thai people during recent decade should be deemed as a healthy discordance within democratic system. Those who hold different opinions are therefore not enemies; the real enemy of the people is dictatorship. Our party’s mission is therefore to reunite the people of Thailand in opposition to dictatorship, to strengthen democracy and human rights, to rid the country of a regime that was set up through a military coup, to remove the military from Thai politics, to establish a civilian government ruling over the military, and to return ultimate power to the people. In sum, we are committed to rebuilding political consensus and drafting a new constitution that truly belongs to the Thai people.

- Establishing an equal and nationwide welfare system to promote human dignity, thereby bolstering the potential and capabilities of the Thai people.

- Fostering a progressive and creative economy through free and fair competition and equal access to capital and resources. Demonopolizing the economy and eliminating economic inequality.

- Nurturing a culture of values and principles to replace the current political model based on narrow self-interest and patronage, harnessing the distinctiveness of our party’s political stance, ideology and approach. Altogether, aspiring toward the achievement of global cooperation with international political parties and non-governmental organizations.

- Comprehensively decentralizing the bureaucratic system by empowering local administration in all aspects: public services, budgets, personnel management, economic development, and income distribution, thus unlocking Thailand’s full potential.

- Fostering an environment of gender and cultural diversity as well as supporting freedom of expression, association, and assembly.

- Advocating environmentally-friendly policies for sustainable development.

- Transforming the culture of oppression into one of creativity that embraces both local identity and internationalism.
The Future Forward Party’s New Model of Politics

Our ‘new politics’ model is based on three principles.

How Does The Party Work? A New Political Model
Future Forward Party is determined to advocate progressive policies, decentralization, anti-monopoly economic policies, and equal access to resources, capital, and welfare.

We consider other political parties to be our competitors, not our enemies. We therefore compete to win the people’s trust, instead of engaging in destructive rivalries to achieve our goals.

We are going to draw the line between traditional politics and a new one. We seek to do away with the old style of politics: abuses of power, ‘poaching’ MPs from one party to another, spreading defamatory claims against opponents, dirty politics, corruption, patron-client relationships and demagoguery. These are bottom-lines to demarcate the boundary between old and new model of politics. The boundary is going to become more and more apparent over time and the people should decide for themselves what kind of politics they really want.
Common ownership of the party by its members by way of their participation in processes including fundraising, decision making, and party administration.

Funding from members and supporters will contribute to guarantee the feature of party’s common ownership and remain free from any hierarchical order and patron-client relationship. Senior ranking party officials cannot dictate the party to their own will as all key decision need to be made through member voting. Moreover, the party’s financial records will be accessible for the public audit in order to ensure transparency and accountability.

2 A Party Model Based on Collective Ownership Instead of Monopolistic Private Ownership

Winning votes by campaigning, instead of bribing MPs

Working towards long-term goals, instead of short-term election-winning strategy

Cooperating on a global scale
Common ownership enables members to determine the direction of the party. The party’s structure and its ways of working are designed to respect democratic principles and political participation and decentralization.

As for our organizational structure, the party’s constituent meeting is set to consist of delegates from regions and electoral districts across country. The structure of the constituent meeting encourages nationwide participation, thus preventing any oligarchic decision-making from senior party officials.

The party executive committee consists of a party leader elected by the national constituent meeting, proportional committee members appointed by the leader with the constituent meeting’s approval, and general committee members elected by the constituent meeting who proportionately represent different regions, professions, and genders. Moreover, we highly prize the importance of labour and youth. For this reason, seats in the committee will be reserved for representatives of labour and youth networks. The organizational structure of the executive committee ensures effective leadership while preventing the party leader from exercising excessive influence.

Member participation is a core principle of our party. We encourage direct democracy within the party, which not only means that members are entitled to elect the party’s executive committee and candidates, but also have the right to put forward a petition, to propose policies, to remove party officials from offices, to summon extraordinary sessions and conventions, to call for a referendum within the party, and to vote on referendums.

People and party members are not only voters; they also are stakeholders and companies who share our goals.
The Future Forward Party does not aim work only toward short-term goals during election seasons. Elections are, of course, crucial to politics and are the essential mechanism through which the party can assume the power needed to implement its policies. Nevertheless, elections are not the ultimate goal of politics.

We are willing to work effortlessly all year round and will not only be active during election seasons. We will keep working constantly both within and outside of the parliamentary system. We pledge to have our candidates run for every electoral district in the elections and to campaign without rest. After elections, all of our party’s MPs will be obliged to fulfill their parliamentary duties, engage in intellectual activities and propose our policies for the sake of the public. We also have the long-term ambition to empower the people to make progressive changes. This is why the “Open Market for Ideas” project will be established to advocate for democracy and spread knowledge about social sciences, economics and innovation. We also plan to host cultural events and activities, which will liberate artists from oppressive conservative ideas and enable them to freely express their creativity.

The Three Pillars Of Our Long-Term Plan

To represent public interest and operate within the parliamentary system
The party will not be a mere springboard for certain members to gain political standing. On the contrary, we are a party based on an ideology and that advocates ideas to make a real change and progressive politics.

Political victory cannot, in fact, be determined by the number of seats won in the Parliament. If this were the case, the large political parties in our country would have already made fundamental changes. Political victory cannot either be achieved through brute force, otherwise the military dictatorship would already have achieved its goals. Real political victories are won by convincing society as a whole to make a change. It is about changing the minds of people. This is why we place intellectual debate and reflection at the forefront of our work.

In addition to the political party, we aim to set up a foundation and social enterprises.

The foundation is an independent organization working alongside the party. The foundation provides support for youth activism, democracy, education, research, as well as art and culture projects. In this respect, the foundation will serve as a ‘Think Tank’ focusing on spreading knowledge, research and policies and on promoting democracy and human rights. The foundation is essential to our belief in promoting intellectual debate.

The social enterprises will act as ‘Policy Design Labs’ where policies conceived by the party are experimented, while the party has yet to hold official political positions.

The social enterprises will also help strengthen the relationship between the party’s head office and its local network, thus enabling members of the networks to develop solutions to local economic issues. This system will replace the old style of Thai politics predicated on clientelism.

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**Foundation**

To work as a Policy Think Tank coordinating with local and international academics and scholars

**Social Enterprise**

To operate as a Policy Design Lab and encourage participation among the party’s networks, members and supporters
Our Policies

We resort to three channels in order to design our policies:

1. Hearing from residents across the country.

We ground our policies in the core principle of human dignity, so that each individual can live with dignity and achieve their full potential from birth to death. We value everyone as dignified human beings, and not merely as potential voters to support us.
Academic analysis and in-depth research.

Studying cases from other countries.
THE THREE POLICY FRAMEWORKS

that will unlock Thailand’s potential

RECONSTRUCT
REFORM
REINFORCE
The Future Forward Party aims to ‘reconstruct’ the structures, laws, and regulations that hinder the potential of individuals and Thai society and that preserve political and economic monopolization. For instance,

- Amending the 2017 Constitution to authorize the drafting of new constitution by the people.
- Eliminating the ‘NCPO’s legacy’; demilitarizing Thai politics; and strengthening the civilian government’s power over the military.
- Revoking laws that favor economic monopolization and unfair competition.
- Abolishing laws that infringe on freedom of expression.
- Insuring the notion of common property whereby state and the people have the rights to mutually use and manage.
REFORM

The Future Forward Party aims to ‘reform’ unfair, unbalanced, and unavailing structures that hinder Thailand’s potential for example;

• Comprehensively decentralizing the bureaucratic system and strengthening the powers of local government.
• Fundamentally reforming the education system.
• Establishing a standardized, equal, and nationwide welfare system.
• Advancing decent living wages to promote human dignity.
• Restructuring the tax system to reduce inequality.
• Implementing land reform to fairly allocate resources and the factors of production.
The Future Forward Party aims to ‘reinforce’ individuals to fulfil their potential, so that Thailand could emerge into a new economy forcefully. For instance,

- Local banks that enhance access to capital for all.
- Open government, through the electronic disclosure of public information to enhance transparency, public participation and checks and balances.
- Youth allowances and senior pensions.
- Creative economy.
- Debt relief plans for farmers and innovative agricultural production.
- Promoting Thai culture while maintaining an international perspective. Diversity of culture, ideology and gender.
| 1 | Adherence to democratic principles and human rights as well as a stance against dictatorship. |
| 2 | The people hold the ultimate power. |
| 8 | Commitment to the party’s crowdfunding and transparency goals and vision through the exercise of prudence, aptness, effectiveness and accountability on all of the party’s activities and operations. |
| 9 | Devotion to the party’s core values and basic principles. |
| 10 | Fostering a culture of equality in all aspects: ideological, religious, gender and cultural, under a democratic and human rights-based framework. Standing against all forms of discrimination, and actively encouraging the participation of women and LGBT+ communities in politics. |
Promoting a culture of active citizenship

Promotion of a culture of creative dialogues and toleration, especially as a course of action to have a constructive debate and reach consensus.

Adhering to political participation and respecting democratic principles. Following the principles of democratic decision-making, openness and equal participation at all levels within the party, ranging from primary elections for candidate MPs to the appointment of the executive committee and decision-making on key policies.

Any Futurista who is elected to any official political position should be righteous and trustworthy toward the public.

Believing in human’s potential and ability to achieve change. Openness and adaptation to any creative idea and invention, no matter how disruptive.
The future we aspire to is a future where the ultimate power truly belongs to the people.