

**Empowering International Trade Leaders  
Trade Negotiators Club (TNC#2)  
Strengthening Economic Diplomacy through Collaboration  
“Cocktail Networking”  
27 August 2026 at 18.00 – 21.00 hrs.  
Eastin Grand Hotel Phayathai,  
Bangkok, Thailand (TBC)**

**Background:**

The global trading system is undergoing one of its most consequential transformations in decades. The post-war multilateral order – long anchored in predictable rules, open markets, and cooperative institutions – is now being tested by forces beyond the control of any single country. Strategic tariffs are re-emerging as tools of foreign policy, supply chains are fragmenting under geopolitical pressure, and artificial intelligence is rapidly reshaping how trade is executed, monitored, and negotiated.

For senior trade and investment professionals, this environment calls for a more sophisticated model of commercial diplomacy – one that is proactive, data-driven, and deeply attuned to both the enduring frameworks of international trade law and the disruptive forces redefining them. Negotiations today extend far beyond tariffs and market access, increasingly intersecting with national security priorities, technological leadership, and sustainability imperatives.

Recognizing this need, **the 2<sup>nd</sup> cohort of Trade Negotiators Club (TNC # 2)** serves as a platform for current and former trade negotiators, policymakers, academics, industry leaders, and diplomatic corps to exchange knowledge, discuss best practices, and foster professional collaboration.

**Objectives:**

The evening event aims to:

1. **Provide a unique platform for leading trade negotiators** to discuss and share experiences, paving the way for mutual understanding and deal-making for regional prosperity.
2. **Foster a Network of Trade Professionals** – Strengthening connections among Thailand’s trade negotiators and stakeholders from both public and private sectors.
3. **Enhance Knowledge Sharing** – Providing insights on emerging trends in trade negotiations, digital economy regulations, and global trade policy priority beyond 2026.

**Expected Participants (100 individuals or more):**

- Government officials from the Ministry of Commerce and related agencies
- Trade negotiators and policymakers
- Representatives from private sector organizations
- Academics and researchers in international trade
- Diplomatic corps and international organization representatives.

## Tentative Agenda

**Language:** English

**MC & Moderator:** Mr. Varin Sachdev (TBC)  
News Anchor, TNN / News 1 / MCOT & Nomad Media Thailand

**17.00 – 18.00 hrs. Registration**

**18.00 – 18.10 hrs. Welcome Remarks**

Mr. Suphakit Chareonkul, Executive Director, ITD

**18.10 – 18.40 hrs. Opening remarks “Strategic Positioning in an Era of Great Power Rivalry: Thailand’s Perspective”**

The remarks outline how intensifying competition among major powers – particularly the United States, China, and the European Union – is reshaping the global economic and political landscape. The session focuses on how governments and business leaders can strategically position themselves amid rising uncertainty, geoeconomic fragmentation, and shifting alliances.

**Speaker:**

**18.40 - 19.10 hrs. Keynote address “The Future of Commercial Diplomacy: Thriving Amidst Uncertainty”**

Join a once-in-a-lifetime session with a highly experienced top Thai trade negotiator, whose insights will shed light on how commercial diplomacy can address geopolitical tensions, economic uncertainty, and rapid technological change. The session highlights the growing role of governments and businesses in advancing national economic interests while navigating complex global markets.

**Speaker:**

**19.10 – 19.20 hrs. Photo Session**

**19.20 – 21.00 hrs. Cocktail Networking**

A cocktail networking reception will bring together alumni of the Advanced Program on Commercial Diplomacy and International Trade Negotiations from previous cohorts to exchange insights, share negotiation tactics, and strengthen a dynamic network of trade professionals in an evolving global landscape. A photo booth will be provided.

\*Please kindly note that the schedule is subject to change as appropriate.

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As of 01 May 2026