

AACC SRD Newsletter, July 2026

Dear AACC members,

Greetings from Seoul!

Looking back on the first half of 2026, this newsletter highlights some of the recent news and activities of the AACC SRD.

Yours sincerely,

AACC SRD (iod@ccourt.go.kr)

For more information on the AACC SRD and its activities, please visit <http://www.aaccsrd.org/en/main.do>

1. Annual book project: “Recent and Current Issues in Constitutional Law”

Since 2018, the AACC SRD has so far published eight books. They have either focused on systems of constitutional review, the protection of constitutional rights, or a topic that combines both aspects.

In 2026 the AACC SRD aims to take stock of constitutional developments within the AACC context since the 2018 inauguration of the annual book series. This year’s book project is therefore entitled “Recent and Current Issues in Constitutional Law”. Almost ten years ago, in August 2016, the AACC Board of Members decided to create the three Permanent Secretariats of the AACC. Today, it is beneficial for the AACC SRD to plan for the coming ten years. By gaining a cumulative sense of constitutional developments within the AACC context since the annual book project started in 2018, the AACC SRD can better decide on future research topics.

For this year’s book project, the AACC SRD therefore invited AACC members to provide information on the following three sub-topics: 1) Constitutional amendments since 2018; 2) major (“landmark”) constitutional judgments since 2018; and 3) constitutionally significant legislative initiatives and changes since 2018. Although able to occur independently, these three aspects may also potentially be frequently interlinked. Gathering information on all three aspects will therefore provide a well-rounded overview of constitutional developments since 2018 at various levels. This ninth volume in the series will be published in December 2026.

Such a stock-taking volume will allow all AACC members to gain an even better understanding of each other’s jurisprudence and constitutional environments, which is the ultimate aim of the AACC SRD. It can further contextualize the various discussions that are documented in the previous volumes. This 2026 volume may be of particular assistance to current and future AACC Presidencies, enabling them to quickly gain an overview of recent constitutional developments relevant to AACC members. For the same reason, it may also be useful for the activities of the AACC Secretariat for Planning and Coordination (at the Indonesian Constitutional Court) and the AACC Center for Training and Human Resources Development (at the Turkish Constitutional Court).

Previous publications in this series can be found as PDF files under the publications section of the AACC SRD’s homepage (<http://www.aaccsrd.org/en/pubsLst.do>):

2018: *Jurisdictions and Organization of AACC Members*

2019: *Constitutional Review at AACC Members*

2020: *Freedom of Expression: Experience of AACC Members*

2021: *Constitutional Rights and AACC Members*

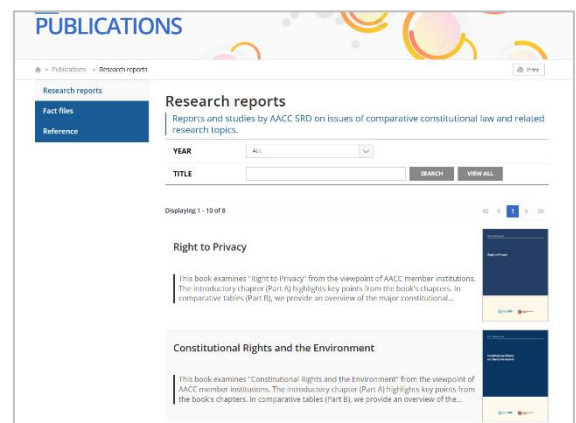
2022: *Right to Life*

2023: *Access to Justice: Constitutional Perspectives*

2024: *Constitutional Rights and the Environment*

2025: *Right to Privacy*

2026: *Recent and Current Issues in Constitutional Law*



2. The 5th Research Conference of the AACC SRD



From 18 to 21 May 2026, the AACC SRD successfully held its 5th Research Conference. This was a researcher-level event and all AACC members were invited to participate. Just as at previous annual conferences, this gathering was closely linked to the AACC SRD's annual book project (see above), sharing the same title and examined timeframe: "Recent and Current Issues in Constitutional Law" (since 2018). The conference was conducted via three main sessions, which cumulatively also reflected the chapter structure that the AACC SRD suggested to AACC members when drafting their respective submissions for this year's book project:

- 1) *Constitutional amendments*
- 2) *Major constitutional judgments*
- 3) *Constitutionally significant legislation*

Regarding constitutional amendments, discussions focused on reasons and procedures for amendment, the issue of constitutional rigidity, referendum requirements, and the role of constitutional courts in enforcing procedural and substantive limits to amendments. In terms of major judgments in recent years, it is impossible to exhaustively summarize all the major topics that were covered. Yet



the following can provide a representative snapshot: Limits to constitutional amendments; judicial independence, rights to judicial protection, jurisdiction of courts, statute of limitations, extrajudicial acts of criminal prosecution authorities; right to die with dignity; labour and social rights, social justice; right to property, the inviolability of the home, right to privacy in the digital age; climate change and the rights of future generations; women's rights, rights of disabled persons, and rights of refugees. On the matter of constitutionally significant legislation, one key aspect concerned major amendments to legislation governing the system of constitutional adjudication.

Thanks to the valuable contributions by all of the conference participants, the event proved to be a fruitful exchange of insights on the AACC SRD's 2026 research topic. The conference materials are available in the "Archive" section of the online Database of the AACC SRD's website (<http://www.aaccsrd.org/en/dbLst.do>).



3. New seconded officers from Mongolia and Thailand

As seconded officer from the Constitutional Court of Mongolia, Ms. Oyumaryl Bold (right) joined the AACC SRD on 6 April 2026. Her secondment will be one year. Prior to her arrival in Seoul, she worked as Senior Specialist and Justice's Assistant at the Constitutional Court of Mongolia. During her stay at the AACC SRD, Ms. Oyumaryl Bold is conducting comparative research under the working title of the "Legal Framework and Current Challenges in Adjudicating Impeachment Disputes before the Constitutional Court", focusing on Mongolia and Korea (Rep.).



From the Constitutional Court of Thailand, Ms. Patcharida Vechosotsakda and Ms. Nichanan Pheugphoolphol (left) joined the AACC SRD on 5 June 2026 for a short-term secondment of three months. At their home institution they serve as Constitutional Court Academic Officers. During their stay in Seoul, Ms. Patcharida Vechosotsakda and Ms. Nichanan Pheugphoolphol are working on a comparative Case Study with the following working title: "The Role of the Constitutional Court in Reviewing the Ethics of Persons Holding Political Positions". They will introduce key cases from Thailand and investigate potentially relevant comparative aspects from the Korean context.

The Working Papers and Case Studies by former seconded officers, are available in the "Archive" section of the online Database of the AACC SRD's website (<http://www.aaccsrd.org/en/dbLst.do>).

The following provides an overview of seconded officers to the AACC SRD so far:

Home institution (AACC member)	Secondment period to the AACC SRD in Seoul	Seconded officers	Topics of research during secondment
Constitutional Court of Indonesia	Feb 2018 - Feb 2020	1	• Systems of constitutional complaint • Freedom of expression
Constitutional Court of Mongolia	May 2018 - Dec 2019	1	• Constitutional review
	Feb 2020 - Aug 2021	1	• Right to privacy
	Sep 2023 - Sep 2025	1	• National human rights institutions • Individual access to constitutional courts
	Apr 2026 - Mar 2027	1	• Impeachment proceedings
Constitutional Court of Thailand	Aug 2025 - Sep 2025	2	• Gender equality
	Jun 2026 - Aug 2026	2	• Impeachment proceedings

Any member of the AACC can assign their staff for secondment to the AACC SRD for a duration of up to a year, with the possibility of extension. The AACC SRD warmly invites applications for the secondment program from interested staff of AACC members. For further information about the AACC SRD's secondment program, please visit the AACC SRD's website (<http://www.aaccsrd.org/en/secondment.do>) or contact the AACC SRD's liaison officer, Ms. Sunyoung Kim (ksysy302@ccourt.go.kr).

4. New liaison officer

Ms. Sunyoung Kim joined the AACC SRD in January 2026 as an Assistant Director.

From 2026 onwards, Ms. Kim will simultaneously act as the new liaison officer of the AACC SRD, being the first point of contact for AACC members at the AACC SRD.

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