

## Assignment 4 - ICGS112

1. What are the potential consequences of re-criminalizing recreational cannabis use for investors and entrepreneurs who recently launched businesses in this industry?

Aside from protests from people who benefited from the legalization of cannabis; losses for the ones who occupies in the field and to the country's overall economic should be considered by the law makers. The most apparent loser is the cannabis vendors and producer, since the entirety of their occupation revolves around the plant – criminalized cannabis would mean loss of jobs, with a hard reset. Additionally, since Thailand's economy rely heavily on tourism, of which cannabis tourism exist – legalized cannabis is quite an odd thing in the region; re-criminalized recreational cannabis will destroy this niche tourism. Lastly, uncertainty in policies will leads to decline in investment that will worsen the economy in the long terms; the investment on cannabis is voided, and it will be a reminder for the investor about the instability of this country.

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2. In what ways might the illegalization of recreational cannabis use impact Thailand's tourism industry and overall economy?

As mentioned in the first question, Thailand has become another hot spot for cannabis related tourism: from the "OG" to youngster seeking to try new things. Aside from cannabis vendors closing, by banning cannabis, Thailand's tourism reputation got worsen. This will affect the economy to some extent due to the decline in Tourism and the loss in taxes from those cannabis businesses; unregulated products in black market is also concerning.

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3. Do you think banning recreational cannabis use can help address certain social issues in Thailand (e.g., youth addiction, public health, crime)? Why or why not?

From my experience, cannabis user are surprisingly chill and reveling – I have never been assaulted by one. Especially, after the legalization of cannabis, there are proper cafes that can accommodate users – when they're high. I don't think pure cannabis can stimulate aggression, only when used with other drugs, addicted, that will do harm. It is true that cannabis became accessible after legalization, which the youth might get addicted to (I think they have age limit, which the vendors strictly comply though), leading to mental and physical health problem, but most people wouldn't bother using it anyway – they might try it once, just to get the feeling. My point is that, drugs addicts will take drugs anyway – illegal ones, it doesn't have to be cannabis. Having a proper regulated vendors is easier to control.

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4. Could the legalization of recreational cannabis use—if properly regulated—offer long-term benefits to Thailand in terms of economic growth, tourism, and alternative health treatments?

In my opinion, the legalization of cannabis is more of political shit show, rather than the intention for it to benefits the country in the long-term, but if properly regulated can leads to:

- Growth in tourism sector, which is Thailand's main income – cannabis related tourism. Cannabis makes the tourist trip more memorable, i guess?
- Tax revenue from cannabis vendors, with foreign investments
- Medical tourism, cannabis research and innovations
- Jobs opportunity: sellers, producers, tourism
- All of these leads to opportunities and economic growth
- By legalized cannabis, the government got control over the whole thing. They can introduces standards, regulations, ect.

Although these benefits seems tempting, theres also downsides to this action: crime rates, public health concerns, youth addicting to it (its drugs after all) and working class productivity. Thailand is at the forefront of the cannabis legalization, trial and error are expected, and the benefits are there, if taken the right path.