## Democracy is harder than western flipflops make out

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This is an opinion item.

**Author(s)** Jonathan Steele

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Quote

"Each country's politics are specific. But one guideline should surely be clear: removing the army from its role as the arbiter of politics and transforming it into a normal civic institution that serves rather than runs the state is a crucial principle for any new or old democracy. What happened in Thailand this week was therefore a step backwards."

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This item argues against the position The coup was justified on the topic 2006 Thailand coup d'état.

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