

Critical Assessments of Contemporary Leadership in the Philippines



TOKYO LIAISON OFFICE

国連システム学術評議会 東京連絡事務所



Global Peacebuilding Association

特定非営利活動法人 日本国際平和構築協会



広島大学FE・SDGsネットワーク拠点
NETWORK FOR EDUCATION AND RESEARCH ON PEACE AND SUSTAINABILITY

Co-organizers:

Academic Council on the United Nations System (ACUNS) Tokyo Liaison Office

Global Peacebuilding Association of Japan (GPAJ)

Network for Education and Research on Peace and Sustainability (NERPS), Hiroshima University

Date and Time:

12 March 2021 (Friday), 16:00-17:30 (Japan time)

Platform:

Zoom webinar


Prior registration required at:

<https://bit.ly/2Nkypfz>

Rationale:

The Philippines has been under international scrutiny since the assumption into the presidency of Rodrigo Roa Duterte in June 2016. The United Nations, several international organizations, and leaders of Western countries have denounced the human rights violations associated with Duterte's strongman approach towards crime, illegal drugs, and terrorism. He has been labeled a populist leader with an illiberal democratic form of governance, and a master of divisive and combative language. At home, however, Duterte enjoys overwhelming public support despite international condemnation, and a consistently high approval rating even amid the botched strategy to contain the COVID-19 pandemic. He represents public resistance towards the political elite and public disappointment with the failures of the country's liberal political system. Love him or hate him, his controversial leadership has stirred passionate debates in both national and international deliberations.

How, then, do we situate Duterte's popularity within the context of Philippine politics? What are the implications of Duterte's leadership for human rights and liberal democracy in the Philippines and the region? Finally, with only about a year before the presidential elections in 2022, how will Duterte's distinctive approach to leadership shape the immediate and long-term future of the Philippine political landscape? This ACUNS Tokyo seminar aims to answer these questions to galvanize political leadership discourse around the most pressing issues in contemporary Philippine politics: political values and legacy, national interest and foreign policy, as well as democratic elections and public opinion. It does so by bringing in some of the most prominent thinkers in Philippine politics to discuss the pros and cons of Duterte's leadership and debate his legacy to Philippine society and beyond.



Programme:

16:00-16:05 Opening

Welcome Remarks:

Prof. Sukehiro Hasegawa

Director, ACUNS Tokyo Liaison Office
President, GPAJ

16:05-16:55 Panel Discussion

Speakers:

Prof. Clarita R. Carlos

University of the Philippines, Diliman

Prof. Julio C. Teehankee

De La Salle University Manila

Commentator:

Assoc. Prof. Nicole Curato

University of Canberra

16:55-17:25 Q&A

17:25-17:30 Closing Remarks

Moderators: Dahlia Simangan

Assistant Professor, NERPS, Hiroshima University

Raymond Andaya

Research Student, University of Tokyo

Speakers:



Dr. Clarita R. Carlos heads the Asia Pacific Institute of Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Foundation, Inc. (APICCMAFI) and the StratSearch Foundation, Inc. She is a distinguished professor of Political Science at the University of the Philippines, Diliman and an expert in foreign policy, defense and security, geopolitics, and climate change. For more than five decades, she has been a consultant at the Philippine Congress and various other government and non-government agencies. She has also undertaken consultancy work with the private sector. Dr. Carlos was a Fulbright Visiting Fellow at Cornell University and a Senior Fulbright at UCLA.



Dr. Julio Cabral Teehankee is Professor of Political Science and International Studies at De La Salle University where he served as Chair of the Political Science Department (1994-2007); Chair of the International Studies Department (2008-2013); and Dean of the College of Liberal Arts (2013-2017). He also served as President of the Philippine Political Science Association (2017-2019) and the Asian Political and International Studies Association (2009-2011). Currently, he is the Philippine representative to the Council of the International Political Science Association. He is also the Regional Manager of the Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem) for Southeast Asia and the Pacific, and a Founding Fellow of the DLSU Southeast Asia Research Center and Hub (DLSU SEARCH). He was recently a Distinguished Visiting Research Scholar at the Center for Southeast Asian Studies at Kyoto University, Japan. He appears regularly as a political analyst for local and international media outlets and his YouTube channel – “Talk Politics with Julio Teehankee.”



Dr. Nicole Curato is an Associate Professor at the Centre for Deliberative Democracy & Global Governance at the University of Canberra. She is the author of *Democracy in a Time of Misery: From Spectacular Tragedy to Deliberative Action* (2019, Oxford University Press) and editor of the *Duterte Reader: Critical Essays in Rodrigo Duterte's Early Presidency* (2017, Ateneo de Manila University Press).

ACUNS Tokyo Secretariat:



Sukehiro Hasegawa is the President of the Global Peacebuilding Association of Japan. He joined the United Nations in 1969 and held several senior positions in the United Nations System before he was appointed in 2004 Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) for Timor-Leste and as Head of three UN peacekeeping and peacebuilding missions, UNMISSET, UNOTIL and UNMIT from May 2004 to September 2006. Dr. Hasegawa holds a BA from the University of Michigan, a MA in public administration from ICU in Tokyo, and a Ph.D. from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. He is currently Executive Director for Academic Exchange, UN Association of Japan; Chair of the Council of Hiroshima Peacebuilders Center; Councilor of the National Federation of UNESCO Associations of Japan (NFUAJ) and member of the Earth Charter Commission for Asia and the Pacific. He is Special Advisor to former President José Ramos-Horta of Timor-Leste.



Dahlia Simangan is an Assistant Professor at Hiroshima University's Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences and one of the core members of the Network for Education and Research on Peace and Sustainability. She is a former JSPS Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the United Nations University in Tokyo. She obtained her PhD in International, Political and Strategic Studies from the Australian National University in 2017, her MA in International Relations from the International University of Japan in 2010, and her BA in Sociology from the University of the Philippines, Diliman in 2006. Her research interest in peace and conflict studies includes topics on international peacebuilding, the United Nations peacekeeping operations, and International Relations in the Anthropocene. She is the Assistant Editor of Peacebuilding and a member of the Planet Politics Institute.



Raymond Andaya is a research student and MEXT scholar at the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, University of Tokyo. He was lecturer at the International Studies Department of De La Salle University Manila. He received double-degree Masters in International Public Policy and Asian Studies from the Osaka School of International Public Policy and De La Salle University, respectively.