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Asia Matters for America

This initiative maps the trade, investment, employment, business, diplomacy, security, education, tourism, and people-to-people connections between the United States and the Indo-Pacific at the national, state, and local levels. This website, publication, and one-page summaries for states and congressional districts are resources for understanding the robust and dynamic US-Indo-Pacific relationship.



Asia Matters for America
(2022 - 4th edition)



The Philippines Matters for America
(2022)



APEC Matters for America
(2023)



Launch of *Philippines Matters* at the Embassy of the Philippines in Washington, DC, with Ambassador Jose Manuel Romualdez

US-Philippines Alliance Fellows

The US-Philippines Alliance Fellowship—funded by the US Embassy in Manila—provides rising Filipino scholars and experts the opportunity to conduct analyses along the following themes: national security, international relations, and international trade and investment in the Indo-Pacific. During a 2–3-month residency in Washington, DC, participants advance their research by engaging with the US policy community via East-West Center connections and resources. In addition to a monthly stipend and round-trip economy airfare to Washington, DC, fellows receive access to office space, a computer, and other relevant office resources.

Mr. Renato Acosta

Title and Affiliation: Reporter, BusinessMirror

Topic: **Abrogating the Visiting Forces Agreement: Its Effects on Philippines' Security and Stability in Southeast Asia**

Mr. Francisco Ashley Acedillo

Title and Affiliation: Assistant Vice President for Cybersecurity Strategy, Smart Communications, Inc.

Topic: **Institutionalizing the National Cybersecurity Strategy of the Philippines — Lessons and Insights from the United States**



Dr. Jay Tristan Tarriela

Title and Affiliation: Commander, Philippine Coast Guard

Topic: **Why the United States Coast Guard Could Play a Vital Role in the US-Philippines Alliance**

Ms. Rhisan Morales

Title and Affiliation: Director, Ateneo Center for Politics and International Affairs, International Studies Department, Community Center, Ateneo de Davao University

Topic: **Rethinking "Armed Attack" in the 1951 Mutual Defense Treaty and the Continuous Search for Security in the West Philippine Sea**

Dr. Majah Leah V. Ravago

Title and Affiliation: Associate Professor, Ateneo de Manila University

Topic: **Running Out of Gas: Energy and the Philippine National Security**

Dr. Renato Cruz De Castro

Title and Affiliation: Professor, De La Salle University

Topic: **21st Century Crisis in Philippine-U.S. Security Relations: The Challenge of Alliance Management in the Face of a Changing Indo-Pacific Region**

The East-West Center promotes better relations and understanding among the people and nations of the United States, Asia, and the Pacific through cooperative study research and dialogue. Established by the US Congress in 1960, the Center serves as a resource for information and analysis on critical issues of common

concern, bringing people together to exchange views, build expertise, and develop policy options. The East-West Center in Washington, a program of the East-West Center, advances US-Indo-Pacific relations by creating innovative content, publications, exchanges, and outreach activities.



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EWCW Publications on US–Philippine Relations

On two occasions, the East–West Center in Washington (EWCW) has partnered with scholars at Ateneo University to produce policy briefs on US–Philippine relations, which were published in the Center’s *Asia Pacific Bulletin*. The first collection, released in December 2020, explored Filipino perspectives on foreign policy under Duterte and the nation’s balancing act between the United States, China, other regional powers, and domestic forces. The most recent collection was a joint effort between EWCW and the US Embassy in the Philippines and was published in June 2022. This collection assessed the depth and breadth of US–Philippine relations, elucidating a wide range of commercial, diplomatic, security, and people-to-people ties between the United States and the Philippines.

Geopolitics of the Philippines and the US–Philippine Alliance



The New Normal of President Duterte’s Independent Foreign Policy

By Julio Amador and Deryk Baladajay, Senior Research Fellow and Research Assistant, at the Ateneo School of Government in the Philippines

“Diplomacy” with China Made the Philippines a COVID–19 Hotspot in Southeast Asia

By Sheena A. Valenzuela, Research Associate at the Ateneo School of Government in the Philippines

China’s Belt and Road Initiative in the Philippines

By Jonina O. Fernando, Master’s student in Public Management at the Ateneo School of Government in the Philippines

A Search for Independence in President Duterte’s Foreign Policy

By Denise Layla P. Miram, Master’s student in Public Management at the Ateneo School of Government in the Philippines

Philippine Diplomacy and Foreign Policy: “Quo Vadis?”

By Reiñer Subijano, Master’s student in Public Management at the Ateneo School of Government in the Philippines

Philippine Perspectives on the 75th Anniversary of US–Philippines Bilateral Relations



75 Years Of Philippines–US Relations: From Strategic Partnership to Multifaceted Relationship

By Dr. Maria Elissa J. Lao & Severo Madrona Jr., PhD, faculty at Ateneo de Manila University

Challenges and Gains in Military Relations Between the Philippines and the United States

By Leslie V. Advincula–Lopez, PhD, Development Studies Program and Institute of Philippine Culture Ateneo de Manila University

US–Philippine Defense Cooperation for Maritime Security

By Jennifer Oreta, PhD, Coordinator of Ateneo Initiative for Southeast Asian Studies, and Assistant Professor of the Department of Political Science, Ateneo de Manila University Philippines

Philippine–United States Trade Relations: Looking Back and a Way Forward

By Marissa Maricosa A. Paderon, PhD, Associate Professor of the Department of Economics at the Ateneo de Manila University and current Commissioner at the Philippine Tariff Commission

A Proverbial Shot in the Arm: US Investment Is Key to Boost Philippine Economic Recovery and Resilience

By Ser Percival K. Peña–Reyes, PhD, Director of the Ateneo Center for Economic Research and Development

Running Out of Gas in the Philippines: A Boon or Bane?

By Majah–Leah V. Ravago, PhD, Associate Professor at the Department of Economics, Ateneo de Manila University, former Program Director of a USAID energy policy grant, and East–West Center Graduate Fellowship alumnae

The Complex History of US–Philippine Health Partnership

By Diana J. Mendoza, PhD, Assistant professor of political science at the Ateneo de Manila University and director of the Ateneo Initiative for Southeast Asian Studies

The Philippines–US Development Partnership

By Leslie V. Advincula–Lopez, PhD, Development Studies Program and Institute of Philippine Culture Ateneo de Manila University

Consolidation, Contestation and Convergence: Revisiting American Influence on the Development of Philippine Social Sciences

By Enrique Nino Leviste, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Ateneo de Manila University

Examining Philippine–US Cooperation Amid the Covid–19 Pandemic: Setting a Broader Agenda for Educating Filipino Children and Youth

By Ma. Glenda Lopez Wui, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Ateneo de Manila University



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