

Invitation – Ecumenical Forum Reflections on the 50th anniversary of Martial Law and the Return of Marcos

In the lead-up to the upcoming 50th Anniversary of the Declaration of Martial Law in the Philippines on September 21, ICHRP is organizing an ecumenical forum that will look at the implications of the Marcos Regime, and its recurrent form, for faith leaders and human rights advocates within the ecumenical community.

We are inviting you to participate in this by-invitation only event on September 15, 10 AM EST (4 PM Geneva, 10PM Manila) entitled: Reflections on the 50th anniversary of Martial Law and the return of Marcos: Implications for the Global Faith Community. You can register for this event by using the following link.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlSdu2tpjkpEtdcDY0NdxCJX9Q5LMXwI7F4>

The discussion will cover three converging themes under the title: Reflections on the 50th anniversary of Martial Law and the Return of Marcos: Implications for the Global Faith Community.

- The Human Rights Record of the previous Duterte Government and its potential continuity under Marcos-Duterte 2.0
- Reflections recent election and implications for the future
- Martial Law at 50 and implications for the Faith community

The purpose of the meeting is to solidify the global network of ecumenical activists within the International Coalition for Human Rights in the Philippines (ICHRP) network, and to build consensus around immediate actions to support the struggle for democracy and social rights in the Philippines. The plenary discussion will develop a longer-term strategy for potential actions from the faith community in building a global faith network through ICHRP and the intensification of work on national lobbying around accountability for crimes against humanity.

This initiative is a follow-up to the Investigate PH Inquiry, coming out of the December Ecumenical Roundtable where one of the follow ups was the creation of an ICHRP-Ecumenical Network. This proposal was subsequently endorsed by the National Council of Churches of the Philippines. Our attempts to progress on the development of the network have been sidetracked by our work organizing the IOM (Philippine Election Observers Mission) but we are now in a position to continue work around developing this network.

We hope that you can join us for this event. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you need further information.

Bishop Reuel Noman O. Marigza
General Secretary,
National Council of Churches in the Philippines

Rev. Dr. Christopher Ferguson
Former General Secretary,
World Communion of Reformed Churches