



Public issues' proposal

DENOUNCE RODRIGO DUTERTE FOR HIS CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY! RESIST THE NEWLY-INSTALLED MARCOS-DUTERTE REGIME!

37th WSCF GA 2022

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Title of Public Issue Statement:

DENOUNCE RODRIGO DUTERTE FOR HIS CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY! RESIST THE NEWLY-INSTALLED MARCOS-DUTERTE REGIME!

This is a statement authored by the Student Christian Movement of the Philippines (SCMP) for the 37th World Student Christian Federation (WSCF) General Assembly. SCMP has written this statement to be published among WSCF official channels and communications.

June 30th marks the inauguration of Ferdinand “Bongbong” Marcos, Jr. as President and Sara Duterte as Vice President, who won their bids through fraud, fake news, and historical distortion. They follow the legacy of previous administrations run by their fathers—Ferdinand Marcos, Sr. and Rodrigo Duterte respectively—which are widely recognised as brutal, corrupt, and subservient to foreign powers.

Dictatorship under Marcos Sr. was rooted in the need to solve social unrest not through addressing the root causes but through repression. Determined to stay in power, he declared martial law on September 21, 1972, exactly fifty years ago. Like Hitler did with the Reichstag fire, Marcos used communists as boogeymen, and blamed them for various bombings and cases of violence in the cities.

Under Marcosian rule, there were more than 5,000 arrests and 1,200 cases of extrajudicial killings. The economy plummeted, with unemployment rising from 7.1% in 1965 to 12.65% in 1985 and inflation rising from 2.7% in 1965 to 23.2% in 1985. During the same year, the poverty incidence was 49%. The dictatorship also became the middleman for neoliberal policies imposed by the US through the IMF and World Bank which plunged the country into crippling debt. Another significant factor in this economic decline was



massive corruption among the first family and its cronies, affecting the quality of life of the masses. Youth voices were silenced as student councils, organizations, press, and other organizations were also suppressed. SCMP members Jessica Sales and Carlos Tayag became desaparecidos, abducted by the military.

Meanwhile, outgoing President Duterte won the 2016 National Elections through his platform of ending illegal drugs to end poverty. His war on drugs became ruthless with about 30,000 urban poor summarily executed without due process. As of December 2021, there have been 427 cases of politically-motivated extra-judicial killings, more than 3,000 illegal arrests, and more than 580,000 cases of harassment and intimidation under Duterte. Youth leaders such as Sasah Sta. Rosa have been arrested and harassed, while organizations like SCMP have been red-tagged and attacked by state-sponsored trolls.

With the incoming Marcos-Duterte administration, the Filipino masses anticipate the worst for the socioeconomic state of our nation. Yet we cling to struggle, as there is hope in struggle—this is the Good News: that there is hope through collective care and resistance during a time of darkness.

The SCM Philippines rejoices in any kind of solidarity from peace-loving peoples of the world. Which is why we call on foreign government bodies, ecumenical bodies, and all the struggling peoples of the world to denounce both the past Duterte and Marcos administrations and monitor the human rights and economic situation for the incoming Marcos-Duterte regime. We also call on the International Criminal Court to continue the investigations on Rodrigo Duterte and prosecute him for his crimes against humanity. We call for the release of all political prisoners, including SCMP senior friend Renalyn Tejero.

We call upon the Regional and National WSCF and SCMs:

- to craft a policy paper detailing the detailed views of the WSCF on the socio-political situation in the Philippines;
- to support the investigation by the International Criminal Court (ICC) into Duterte's war on drugs;
- to seek monthly human rights and economic updates from the SCMP and for the WSCF to share these through official channels and communications;
- to spread relevant statements, including the SCMP statement for the 37th WSCF GA regarding the newly-installed Marcos-Duterte regime through official channels and communications;
- to arrange solidarity actions and activities with SCMP, including education, fact-finding missions, and exchange programs;
- to remember September 21, 2022 as the fiftieth anniversary of martial law and commemorate the victims of the Marcos and Duterte administrations.