



Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
REGION III  
SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE OF BATAAN

JUL 11 2024

**DIVISION ADVISORY**

No. 190 s. 2024


To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent  
Chief Education Supervisors  
Education Program Supervisors  
Public Schools District Supervisor  
Elementary, Secondary and SHS Heads  
All others Concerned

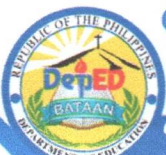
This Office informs all concerned about the **UP Law Center Institute of Human Rights (UP IHR)** Public Forum titled "Human Rights Education in the Philippines: Status, Challenges, and Future Directions" scheduled to take place on July 19, 2024, at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Function Hall, UP Law Center, UP Diliman, Quezon City.

Attached is a copy of the letter from Professor Elizabeth H. Aguilin-Pangalangan for further details and inquiries.

  
**CAROLINA S. VIOLETA, EdD, CESO V**  
§ Schools Division Superintendent

*In compliance with the DepEd Order No. 8 s. 2013, this Division Advisory is issued not for endorsement per D.O. 28 s. 2001 only for the information of DepEd Officials, personnel as well as the concerned public*

SO11/mbdc 



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"We Mould Heroes"



CSC PRIME-HRM BRONZE AWARD  
CSC Resolution No. 2007100

COMMITMENT TO  
QUALITY MANAGEMENT (LEVEL II)  
2022



## INSTITUTE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

28 June 2024

**MS. CAROLINA S. VIOLETA**

Superintendent  
DepEd Bataan

Dear SDS Violeta,

The UP Law Center Institute of Human Rights (UP IHR) cordially invites you and your faculty and students to attend our upcoming Public Forum titled "**Human Rights Education in the Philippines: Status, Challenges, and Future Directions**" to be held on **19 July 2024** at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Function Hall, UP Law Center, UP Diliman, Quezon City. The event will also be streamed live via Zoom Webinar.

This event intends to provide a space for stakeholders to gather and explore the existing legal framework on Human Rights Education (HRE), the issues faced in its implementation, and the strategies we can take to address these. Our primary goal is to conduct a comprehensive and critical assessment of the current status of HRE in the country and locate the challenges that confront its promotion. In doing so, the forum aims to discuss current best practices that promote the mainstreaming of HRE in the country and map out ways forward. Finally, a paper will be published covering the discussion and recommendations in the public forum. The concept note is attached for your further reference.

As stakeholders, your attendance and participation in this event will further deepen and broaden the understanding about HRE. To register, please click <https://uplaw.ph/upihrhforumzoomreg>. We hope to receive your positive response **on or before 5 July 2024**.

We look forward to your acceptance. You may also share this invitation to your network, especially to members of relevant sectors.

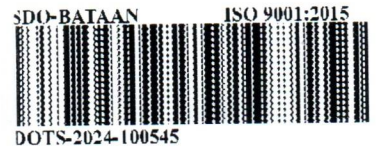
Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us through our email, [ihr\\_law.upd@up.edu.ph](mailto:ihr_law.upd@up.edu.ph), or call the UP IHR at (02) 8920 5514 local 205.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours,

**PROFESSOR ELIZABETH H. AGULING-PANGALANGAN**  
Director

**RECEIVED**  
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BY: *[Signature]* 8/1/24



# HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION IN THE PHILIPPINES: STATUS, CHALLENGES, AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

## CONCEPT NOTE

### *I. Introduction and Rationale*

Human Rights Education (HRE) bears a significant role in the protection and promotion of individual rights, freedom, justice, and peace. Through HRE, rights-holders are empowered to “claim their rights” which thereby prevents any possibility of abuses. The duty-bearers, on the other hand, are capacitated “to meet their obligations to protect, respect, and fulfill” rights standards.<sup>1</sup>

There exists a legal framework in the Philippines that promotes human rights education. No less than the 1987 Constitution guarantees the promotion of human rights through education.<sup>2</sup> The country is also a signatory to various international treaties and declarations that promote the teaching of human rights.<sup>3</sup> Different domestic statutes had similarly mandated the adoption of human rights education by all educational and training institutions.<sup>4</sup>

Despite this, however, promoting HRE in the country remains a challenge. A 2012 study revealed that HRE is being facilitated at an appreciation level only and the programs related to the teaching of human rights are being implemented for mere compliance.<sup>5</sup>

Given these conditions, there is a need to bring to the surface the current status of HRE in the country and locate the challenges that confront its promotion. In so doing, it is equally important to discuss current best practices that address these issues and map ways forward.

Thus, a forum on HRE is proposed. The event will provide a space where all stakeholders gather and learn from a panel of expert resource persons, and at the same time all participants are given the opportunity to share their thoughts and insights.

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<sup>1</sup> United Nations Report on the Role of Prevention in the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights. 16 July 2015. Retrieved from [www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/.../A\\_HRC\\_30\\_20\\_ENG.docx](http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/.../A_HRC_30_20_ENG.docx)

<sup>2</sup> Article XIV, Section 3(2), 1987 Constitution.

<sup>3</sup> Such as The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), The International Convention on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), The International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD), and The Convention Against Torture (CAT).

<sup>4</sup> Such as The Magna Carta of Women (RA 9710), The Anti-Torture Act (RA 9745), and The Anti-Violence Against Women and their Children Act (RA 9262).

<sup>5</sup> Fernandez, M. T., and Brillantes, A. B., (2012). The State of Human Rights Education in the Philippines: Issues, Concerns, and Directions. Retrieved from <<http://www.ombudsman.gov.ph/UNDP4/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/The-state-of-Human-Rights.pdf>>.

Said forum shall be held on 19 July 2024 from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm at the 2/F Conference Room, Bocobo Hall, UP Law Center, Diliman, Quezon City.

## *II. Forum Objectives*

The forum aims to:

1. Map out the current status of HRE in the Philippine educational system;
2. Locate, understand and analyze the challenges surrounding the promotion of HRE in the Philippines;
3. Evaluate HRE programs and initiatives that are currently carried out by relevant government agencies;
4. Point out best approaches that promote the mainstreaming of HRE in the country; and
5. Publish an occasional paper covering all the matters discussed.

## *III. Suggested Topics and Proposed Speakers*

<b>Part 1</b>	<b>Mapping out the current status of HRE</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. What is the compliance level of the Philippines with the UN Declaration on HRET?</li> <li>B. What are the relevant legal documents that mandate the government to promote HRE?</li> <li>C. How does the Philippines promote HRE (present programs, initiatives)?</li> </ol>
<b>Part II</b>	<b>Challenges and dilemmas</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. What are the issues?</li> <li>B. Why do these issues exist?</li> </ol>
<b>Part III</b>	<b>Best practices, initiatives, and programs</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. What are the programs, etc. currently implemented by the government, private organizations, NGOs, etc.</li> <li>B. How were they able to solve the challenges that they encounter in promoting HRE or teaching HR?</li> </ol>
<b>Part IV</b>	<b>Ways forward and future trends</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. What are the possible legal and policy interventions to solve the issues in the promotion of HRE?</li> <li>B. What are its possible implications?</li> </ol>

#### *IV. Proposed Program*

**FORUM ON HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION IN THE PHILIPPINES: STATUS,  
CHALLENGES, AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS**

**19 July 2024**

**8:00 am - 4:30 pm**

**Bocobo Hall, UP Law Center, Diliman Quezon City**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Time</b>	
Registration	8:00-9:00 am	
Start of the Program	9:00 am	
Opening Remarks	9:00 - 9:10 am	<b>Professor Elizabeth Aguilin-Pangalangan</b> Director, UP IHR
<b><i>Forum Proper</i></b>		
Part 1 - Current status of HRE in the country	9:10 - 9:40 am	<b>Ms. Maricel Fernandez-Carag</b> Chairperson, Governance and Public Affairs Program School of Diplomacy and Governance College of Saint Benilde
Part 2 - Challenges and Dilemmas	9:40 - 10:10 am	<b>Dr. Jerrick Gerard C. Go</b> Officer-in-Charge Human Rights Education and Promotion Office Commission on Human Rights
Part 3a - Best Practices	10:10 - 10:30 am (Fostering peace through HRE)	<b>Ms. Arizza Nocum</b> Co-Founder/President Kris for Peace Foundation
	10:30 - 10:50 am (Empowering the marginalized through HRE)	<b>Atty. JC Tejano</b> Lawyer, Sentro ng Alternatibong Lingap Panlegal

	10:50 - 11:10 am (Community-based HRE)	<b>Mr. Francisco B. Bermido, Jr.</b> Executive Director Preda Foundation
Break	11:10 - 11:15 am	
Open Forum	11:15 am- 11:55 pm	<i>Emcees</i>
Photos	11:55 - 12:00 pm	
Lunch	12:00 - 1:10 pm	
Part 4 - Future Trends and Ways Forward	1:10 - 1:50 pm (Legislating for Human Rights Education)	<b>Rep. France L. Castro - TBC</b> ACT Teachers Partylist
	1:50 - 2:30 pm (Developing HRE Curriculum)	<b>Director Jocelyn Andaya</b> Officer-in-Charge, Office of the Regional Director, National Capitol Region - Department of Education
	2:30 - 3:10 pm (HRE and emerging technologies)	<b>Ms. Jessamine Pacis</b> <b>Program Officer</b> Foundation for Media Alternatives
Break	3:10 - 3:20 pm	
Open Forum	3:20 - 4:00 pm	<i>Emcees</i>
Closing Remarks	4:00 - 4:10 pm	<b>Atty. Daniel D. Lising, MD</b> Senior Law Reform Specialist, UP IHR
Photos	4:10 - 4:15 pm	

#### V. Target Participants

The forum aims to gather around 50-100 participants from the following sectors:

1. School administrators/staff members/teachers (Basic Education Institutions, Higher Education Institutions, Legal Education Institutions, special academies )
2. Law enforcers (police, military)
3. National or local PTAs
4. UN agencies, INGOs, and/or NGOs
5. Education sectors policy makers and implementers (DEPED, CHED, LEB, PCW, CHR, DSWD, etc.)