



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Education  
NEGROS ISLAND REGION

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Regional Advisory No. 023, s. 2026  
February 19, 2026

In compliance with DepEd Order (DO) 8, s. 2013  
this advisory was issued not for endorsement per DO 8, s. 2001  
but only the information of DepEd NIR officials and personnel/staff.

INVITATION TO PHILIPPINE INTERNATIONAL LAW OF THE SEA ACADEMY  
(PHILSEA) INAUGURAL SESSION

Attached is a letter from the **Philippine International Law of the Sea Academy (PHILSEA)** inviting senior and junior high school teachers of DepEd Negros Island Region to apply for the inaugural session of PHILSEA 101 scheduled on April 11–30, 2026 via Zoom.

The session offers a valuable opportunity to learn directly from distinguished legal scholars and jurists, engage in meaningful exchanges of perspectives, and contribute to shaping informed discourse on the law of the sea—particularly on legal issues surrounding the West Philippine Sea and the South China Sea.

Additionally, the Schools Division Superintendents are given the discretion to act on this matter.

For more information contact:

PHILSEA Project Management Office  
(+63) 962 528 3231  
[pmo.philsea@gmail.com](mailto:pmo.philsea@gmail.com)

MPJ/ESSD/Letter from Philippine International Law of the Sea Academy (PHILSEA)  
\_\_\_\_/February 16, 2026



# PHILSEA 101

## Law of the Sea Basic Training

Undergraduate  
Students

Senior High  
School Teachers

Junior High  
School Teachers

Maritime Zones and  
Navigational Regimes

Marine Protection and  
Fisheries Law

Maritime Boundaries  
and Dispute Settlement

The Philippines and  
SEA in Law of the Sea



11 April 2026 to 30 May 2026  
Saturdays only  
9:30 AM to 4:30 PM



Deadline of Applications  
8 March 2026 at 11:59 PM



Training Fees (upon acceptance)  
Php 4,000: Undergraduates  
Php 10,000: HS Teachers



Application  
Primer



Application  
Form



## Philippine International Law of the Sea Academy Inc.

est. 19 June 2023

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

**Ervine Jules Beltran Sape**  
Executive Director

**Brin Raizulli Ramirez Isaac**  
Executive Secretary

**Nathalia Louise Ablaiza**  
Deputy Executive Secretary

**Chloe Mae Guillana Natividad de Guzman**  
Deputy Executive Secretary

**John Psalmuel Velarde Chan**  
Associate Director for Legal Affairs

**Clarisse Joy Umerez Mañabat**  
Associate Director for Finance and Human Resources

### SELECTED INSTITUTIONS REPRESENTED BY NATIONAL TRAINING ALUMNI

#### Philippine Government

- Integrated Bar of the Philippines
- Office of the Solicitor-General of the Philippines
- Philippine Coast Guard
- Philippine Maritime Industry Authority
- Philippine Military Academy
- Philippine National Mapping and Resource Information Authority
- Supreme Court of the Philippines

#### Philippine Law Schools

- Batangas State University TNEU College of Law
- Bulacan State University College of Law
- De La Salle University Tañada-Diockno School of Law
- Far Eastern University Institute of Law
- Laguna State Polytechnic University College of Law
- Manuel L. Quezon University School of Law
- Mindanao State University College of Law
- Notre Dame of Marbel University College of Law
- Saint Mary's University College of Law
- San Beda University College of Law
- University of Baguio School of Law
- University of the Cordilleras College of Law
- University of the Philippines Visayas
- University of Nueva Caceres School of Law
- University of San Carlos School of Law and Governance

#### Overseas

- Paris Nanterre University School of Law
- Tohoku University Graduate School of Law
- University of Ghana School of Law

### 2025 MESSAGE FROM THE HONOURABLE CHIEF JUSTICE ALEXANDER GESMUNDO

*"In PHILSEA, you are called to be champions of our maritime future. By answering this call, you affirm the power of our laws to resolve what may divide us and safeguard the resources we share. Hence, I commend your utmost commitment and urge you to keep rowing, no matter how heavy the tides may become. Let the rule of law be your compass, and your resolve, the steady hand that moves you forward."*

### CONTACT INFO & MEDIA PLATFORMS

191 Salcedo St., Legaspi Village, San Lorenzo, Makati City 1223, Metro Manila, Philippines

info.philsea@gmail.com

(+63) 995 412 5414

philseaofficial

### PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT REGISTRATION

Philippine Securities and Exchange Commission  
Company Registration No. 2024100173078-06

Philippine Bureau of Internal Revenue  
Non-VAT Registration TIN 668-576-395-00000

13 February 2026

**Dr. Ramir B. Uytico**

*Regional Director*

Department of Education (Negros Island Region)

Dear Dr. Uytico:

The **Philippine International Law of the Sea Academy Inc. (PHILSEA)** formally invites senior high school teachers and junior high school teachers from your respective jurisdiction to apply for the inaugural session of **PHILSEA 101** scheduled for **Saturdays, from 11 April 2026 to 30 May 2026** which will run from **9:00 AM to 4:30 PM (Manila Time / GMT+8)** via **Zoom Communications** platform, with an onsite Culmination to be held at the **Ateneo de Manila University, Quezon City, Philippines**.

**PHILSEA 101** is an intensive introductory training on law of the sea that aims to amplify the holistic understanding of Filipino undergraduate students and secondary school teachers in the law of the sea. It comprises 22 training lectures with two workshops to be delivered and facilitated by distinguished Filipino and international legal scholars and jurists curated by the Executive Board of PHILSEA.

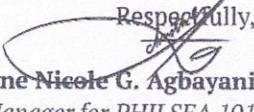
Interested senior high school teachers and junior high school teachers from your area of jurisdiction may submit their applications via: <https://tinyurl.com/1stPHILSEA101Application> until **Sunday, 8 March 2026 at 11:59 PM (Manila Time / GMT+8)**. After a competitive selection process, accepted applicants will be required to settle a non-refundable **training fee** prior to being admitted to **PHILSEA 101**.

By participating in **PHILSEA 101**, the senior high school teachers and junior high school teachers will have a direct opportunity to learn from notable legal scholars and jurists, exchange perspectives, and contribute to shaping informed discourse on the law of the sea, particularly legal issues surrounding the West Philippine Sea and the South China Sea.

**PHILSEA Inc.**, a nonstock and non-profit organisation established in 2023, is the premier law of the sea academic capacity-building training organisation for Filipinos duly registered with the Philippine Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the Philippine Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR). Our programmes have been officially endorsed by the Association of Law Students of the Philippines (ALSP), the Philippine Association of Law Schools (PALS), and the Legal Education Board (LEB) of the Philippines.

Attached are the main publicity material and the application primer for more information.

Should you have any concerns, feel free to reach out to us via email. Thank you and we look forward to having your undergraduate students in our training programme.

Respectfully,  
  
**Ms. Christine Nicole G. Agbayani**  
Project Manager for PHILSEA 101



# The Philippine International Law of the Sea Academy 101

*An introductory international law of the sea academic capacity-building training for Filipino undergraduate students and secondary school teachers*

**11 April 2026 - 30 May 2026 (Saturdays)**

## Application Primer





# The Philippine International Law of the Sea Academy 101

*An introductory international law of the sea academic capacity-building training for Filipinos*

## PHILSEA 101 Overview

**International Law of the Sea (LOS)** is a specialised area of international law which is at an intellectually distinct level only for those in the legal, scientific, and technical professions, creating educational gaps in elevating its international discipline and scientific character in Philippine universities, colleges, and secondary schools. To address the gaps, **PHILSEA 101** will be launching its **inaugural session** to simplify LOS at an introductory level for **Filipino undergraduate students and secondary school teachers**. This would allow them to gain the fundamental legal aptitude needed in holistically understanding LOS and improving LOS education in their respective academic institutions.

## Eligibility

1. All applicants must have a **good command of English**.
2. All applicants must have a **strong internet connection**.
3. For an undergraduate student, the applicant must be a **bona fide student** of a higher education institution recognised in the Philippines.
4. For a secondary school teacher, the applicant must be a **Licensed Professional Teacher (LPT)** currently teaching in a recognised junior or senior high school in the Philippines.

## Desirable Applicants

Desirable applicants must have **at least an introductory knowledge** on maritime security, maritime safety, marine biology, marine transportation and engineering, ocean governance, ocean and marine sciences, environmental sciences, hydrography, geography, geodetic and geomatics engineering, international relations, international security, **or any other related disciplines**.



Did You Know?

PHILSEA has been delivering key presentations in any area of the Law of the Sea to Philippine universities since its founding in 2023.

Featured in the photo is **Ervine Jules Beltran Sape**, the **Executive Director** of PHILSEA who delivered a presentation on **Submarine Cables** during the **5th Southern Luzon Model United Nations Conference** held last 24 October 2025 at the University of the Philippines Los Baños.



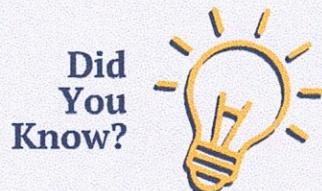
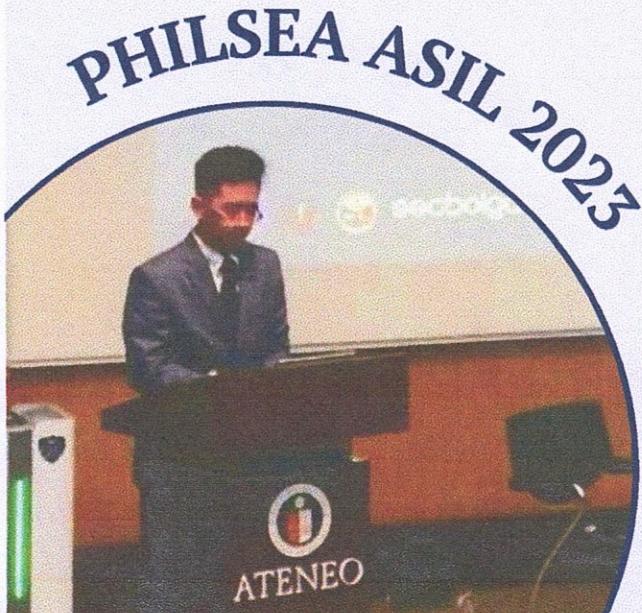
# The Philippine International Law of the Sea Academy 101

*An introductory international law of the sea academic capacity-building training for Filipinos*



## Application Requirements

1. A coloured scanned copy of **Valid PRC ID (for Licensed Professional Teachers)** or a coloured scanned copy of **Valid School ID (for undergraduate students)**
  - Must be submitted in PDF format
2. A high-resolution digital copy of recent **photograph in business attire** (any size)
  - Must be submitted in PNG, JPG, or JPEG format
3. A clean, readable, and updated **Curriculum Vitae** (1-2 pages only)
  - No photograph
  - Personal information shall only indicate full name, citizenship, residential town and country, and LinkedIn Profile URL Link (if available)
  - Indicate educational background, honours/awards, relevant training, work/leadership experiences (if any) with description of duties, and other relevant details
  - Must be submitted in PDF format
4. An academic or professional **reference letter** (1 page only)
  - Typewritten in an official letterhead document of the institution of the referee
  - Contents shall specifically be for the purpose of attending PHILSEA 101 and shall elaborate the English language proficiency of the applicant
  - Dated within the application period
  - Signed by the referee
    - Preferably an academic lecturer, professor, or dean for undergraduate students
    - Preferably a head teacher, a department head, or a school principal for secondary school teachers
  - Must be submitted in PDF format
5. **Statement of purpose** (150 words maximum)
  - The applicant shall clearly explain their suitability for training, their motivation for attending PHILSEA 101, and relevant personal and/or professional goals
  - Typewritten directly on the application form



PHILSEA, established on **19 June 2023**, held its inaugural institutional training in collaboration with the Ateneo Society of International Law (ASIL) last **1-16 July 2023**. It had **12 lectures** yet conferred certificates to **44 completers**.

**PHILSEA ASIL 2023** was featured in a **press release** dated 17 July 2023 which was published by the Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) on their website and media platforms.



## The Philippine International Law of the Sea Academy 101

*An introductory international law of the sea academic capacity-building training for Filipinos*

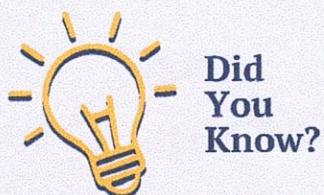
### Application and Selection Timetable

<b>9 February 2026</b>	Opening of online applications
<b>8 March 2026</b>	Deadline of online applications
<b>13 March 2026</b>	Release of application results
<b>29 March 2026</b>	Deadline of training fee payment
<b>30 March 2026</b>	Notice of admission

### Training Fees

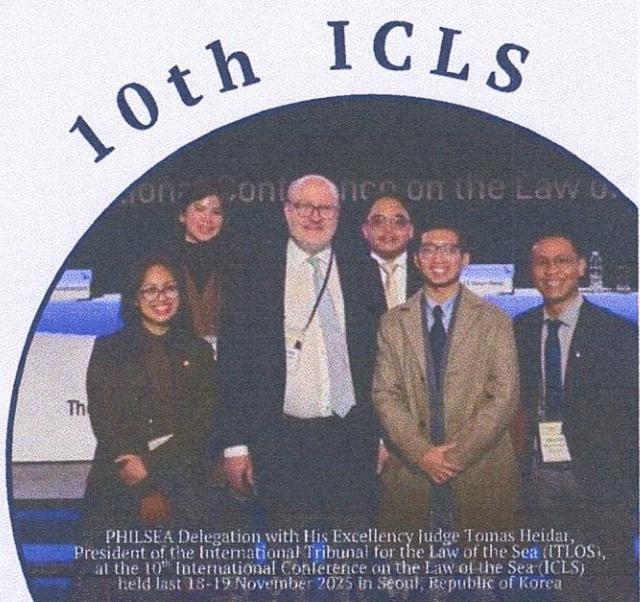
**Accepted applicants** — competitively selected through a screening process — are required to settle a **non-refundable training fee** as indicated, regardless of attendance. Accepted applicants will be informed about the payment process and channels through the acceptance letter. No sponsorship will be provided.

<b>Php 3,000</b>	Filipino undergraduate students from Ateneo de Manila University
<b>Php 4,000</b>	Filipino undergraduate students from other Philippine schools
<b>Php 10,000</b>	Filipino senior high school teachers and junior high school teachers
<b>SGD 250</b>	Citizens of ASEAN Member-States
<b>EUR 250</b>	Citizens of Non-ASEAN Member-States



Alumni of the training programmes of PHILSEA get selected by the PHILSEA Executive Board to participate and represent PHILSEA and their institutions in international conferences.

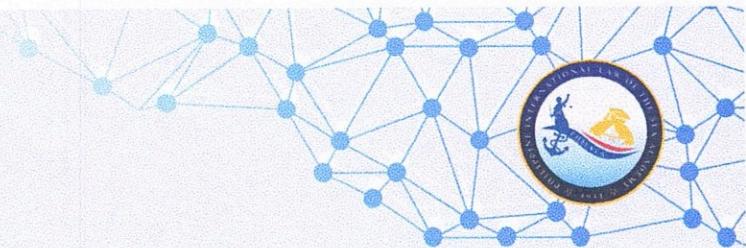
Last November 2025, PHILSEA training alumni Kevin Dioso and Moh'd. Al-Khaleel Bogabong were selected to join the PHILSEA Delegation to the **10<sup>th</sup> International Conference on the Law of the Sea (ICLS)** in Seoul, South Korea.



PHILSEA Delegation with His Excellency Judge Tomas Heidar, President of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS), at the 10<sup>th</sup> International Conference on the Law of the Sea (ICLS), held last 18-19 November 2025 in Seoul, Republic of Korea

# The Philippine International Law of the Sea Academy 101

An introductory international law of the sea academic capacity-building training for Filipinos



## Training Curriculum and Schedule

PHILSEA 101 has been scheduled for Saturdays from 11 April 2026 to 30 May 2026 which would run from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM (Philippine Standard Time/GMT+8). It comprises 22 training lectures with two workshops to be held online via Zoom Communications.

### Opening Session (11 April 2026)

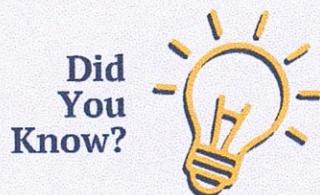
- I. Opening and Welcome Remarks
- II. Keynote Address
- III. Training Orientation

### Module 1: Introduction to Oceans and the Law of the Sea (11, 18 April 2026)

- 1. Physical and Chemical Foundations of Ocean Systems
- 2. Marine Ecology and Ocean Biodiversity
- 3. Marine Resources and Ocean-Human Interactions
- 4. Historical Prolegomena to Oceans and International Law

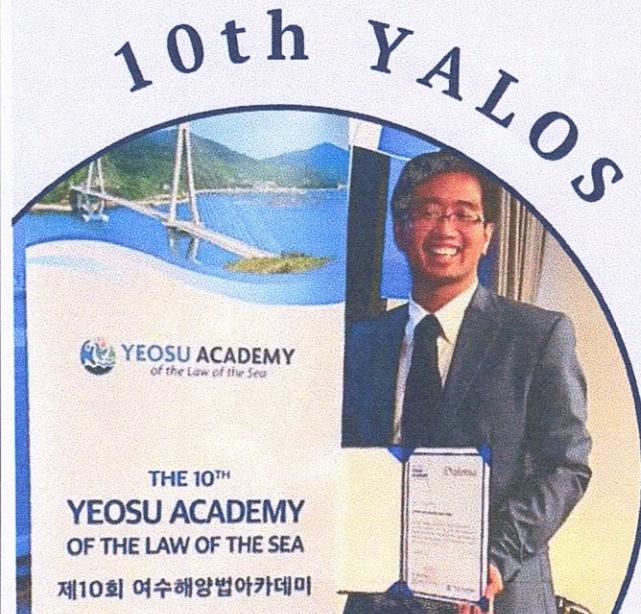
### Module 2: Zonal Approaches and Navigational Regimes (18, 25 April, 2 May 2026)

- 1. Baselines and Coastal Geography in the Law of the Sea
- 2. Territorial Sea, Contiguous Zone, and Innocent Passage
- 3. International Straits and Transit Passage
- 4. Archipelagic Regime and the Archipelagic Sea Lanes Passage
- 5. Exclusive Economic Zone as a Sui Generis Regime
- 6. Legal Regime of the Continental Shelf and Its Outer Limits
- 7. Legal Regime of the High Seas
- 8. Legal Regime of the Area and the Mining Code
- 9. Workshop: Navigation



Ervine Jules Beltran Sape, the Founder and Executive Director of PHILSEA, graduated at the 10th Yeosu Academy of the Law of the Sea (YALOS) with a Diploma in the Law of Sea awarded by the Korea Maritime Institute (KMI) and the Korea Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (MOF) last 3 November 2023.

The national training curriculum of PHILSEA is inspired by the curriculum of YALOS.





# The Philippine International Law of the Sea Academy 101

*An introductory international law of the sea academic capacity-building training for Filipinos*

## Training Curriculum and Schedule

### Module 3: International Marine and Fisheries Law (9, 16 May 2026)

1. Legal Obligations for Marine Environmental Protection
2. Marine Pollution Sources and Control Measures
3. Marine Protected Areas under UNCLOS and the BBNJ Agreement
4. Fisheries Regime in Exclusive Economic Zones and High Seas
5. Traditional Fishing Rights in International Law
6. IUU Fishing and the 2009 Port State Measures Agreement
7. Workshop: International Marine and Fisheries Law

### Module 4: Maritime Boundary Delimitation and Dispute Settlement (23 May 2026)

1. Legal Framework and Technical Practice in Maritime Boundary Delimitation
2. Maritime Dispute Settlement Mechanisms under UNCLOS
3. The Philippines in International Law of the Sea
4. Southeast Asian Approaches to International Law of the Sea

### Culmination Ceremony (30 May 2026)

- I. Training Presentations
- II. Congratulatory Remarks
- III. Keynote Address
- IV. Awarding
- V. Closing Remarks



Did  
You  
Know?

PHILSEA held its **first-ever national training** last 12-27 July 2024. It had **27 lectures** with **1 workshop** and conferred training certificates to **38 completers**.

**Christine Nicole Gillego Agbayani**, Project Manager for PHILSEA 101, was one of the two undergraduate students competitively selected to participate PHILSEA 2024.

2024 | Philippine International Law of the Sea Academy

Training Complete

**Maj. Elbert Joya Abringe**  
PA, MLSCM  
Battalion Logistics Officer  
Headquarters and Headquarters Service Battalion  
Philippine Army

**Ms. Christine Nicole Gillego Agbayani**  
Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science, minor in Sustainability  
School of Science and Engineering  
Ateneo de Manila University

**Ms. Leah Angela Cabunoc Amante**, CivH  
Policy Branch Information Officer  
Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans OJS  
Armed Forces of the Philippines

**Mr. Norellus Gozo Baloran**  
Oceanographer IV & Assistant Chief  
Physical Oceanography Division  
Hydrography Branch  
Philippine National Mapping and Resource Information Authority

**Atty. Rene Mayuga Barrion**  
Director for Legal Aid Clinic and Community Extension Services  
Notre Dame of Marbel University College of Law

**Mr. Kenrich Anthony Dad Bercero**  
Juris Doctor  
West Visayas State University College of Law

# The Philippine International Law of the Sea Academy 101

*An introductory international law of the sea academic capacity-building training for Filipinos*



## Culmination Ceremony

The **Culmination Ceremony** scheduled for **Saturday, 30 May 2026** will be held onsite at the **Ateneo de Manila University, Quezon City, Philippines**. Lunch meals and refreshments will be served and a modest stipend will be provided upon arrival at the venue.

Domestic airfares, ground transportations, hotel accommodations, and other meals **will not be covered**. No sponsorship will be provided. Training participants are highly encouraged to secure external funding, invest in personal savings, and/or engage with their fellow training participants to manage expenses wisely.

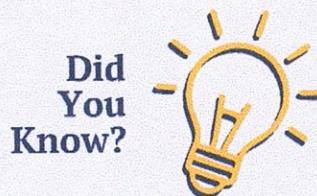
## Attendance

Attendance will be **strictly monitored**. Attendance shall be expressed through **Zoom chat** for **every training lecture or workshop**. Attendance for training presentations on Saturday, 30 May 2026 shall be based on their physical presence during their scheduled presentation.

Any request for **excused absence(s)** must be sent directly to **pmo.philsea@gmail.com** with Subject Line: **PHILSEA 101 Excused Absence Request**. In the email, proof and/or reason/s for requesting excused absence(s) must be provided. Excused absences may be granted upon review of PHILSEA and will be counted toward complete attendance.

## Certification

The issuance of **printed copies of Certificates of Completion** will be based upon complete attendance of training participants, successful delivery and submission of presentations. No digital copies of Certificates of Completion will be issued. Additionally, **no Certificates of Participation** will be issued for those with incomplete attendance.



PHILSEA actively participates in **Track 1.5 Dialogue** related to the Law of the Sea.

Featured in photo is Brin Raizulli Isaac, the **Executive Secretary of PHILSEA**, during the **Manila Dialogue on the South China Sea 2025** who raised a question how principles of customary international law be prioritised to prevent rules-based international order from being diluted by competing regional interests.





## The Philippine International Law of the Sea Academy 101

*An introductory international law of the sea academic capacity-building training for Filipinos*

### Training Lecturers and Workshop Facilitators (Tentative)

**Ms. Giannina Nicole R. Feliciano, MSc**  
*Instructor of Environmental Science*  
Ateneo de Manila University

**Ms. Febryani Sabatira, M.H., M.MaritimePol**  
*Legal Consultant*  
Indonesia Ocean Justice Initiative

**Ms. Trang Ngoc Minh Pham, LL.M**  
*Research Fellow in Law of the Sea*  
Max Planck Foundation for International Peace and the Rule of Law

**Dir. Ervine Jules Beltran Sape, Dip.**  
*Executive Director*  
Philippine International Law of the Sea Academy

**Atty. John Psalmuel Velarde Chan, Dip.**  
*Associate Solicitor II*  
Office of the Solicitor General of the Philippines

**Atty. Marie Sybil Parco Tropicales, Dip.** (for final confirmation)  
*Associate Solicitor III*  
Office of the Solicitor General of the Philippines

**Atty. Mary Joy Palangyos Olut, LL.M**  
*Legal Officer*  
Philippine Coast Guard

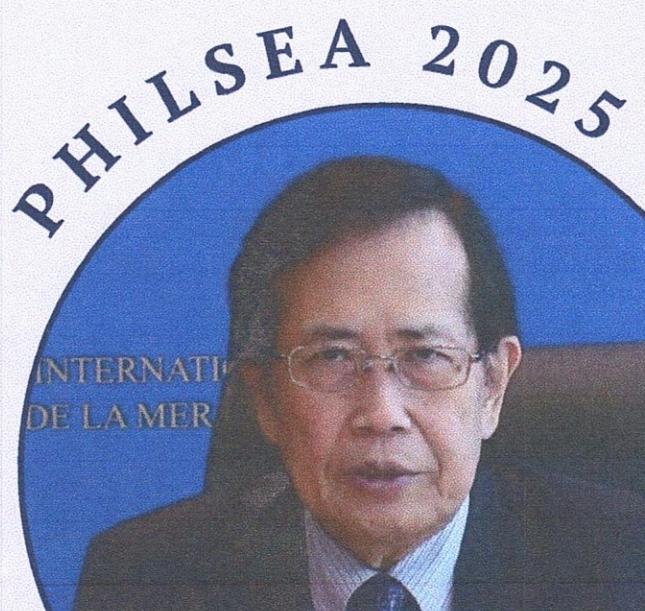
**Dr. Rushid Jay Samortin Sancon, LL.M**  
*Vice President for Academic Affairs*  
Laguna State Polytechnic University



Did  
You  
Know?

Four Judges of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) delivered lectures at PHILSEA 2025 held last 12 July to 2 August 2025. Featured in photo is H.E. Judge Kriangsak Kittichaisaree who lectured about the Arrest, Detention, and Prompt Release of Fishing Vessels and Crews.

Other Judges who served as lecturers were H.E. Judge Tomas Heidar, H.E. Judge Teresa Infante, and H.E. Judge Konrad Marciniak.



# The Philippine International Law of the Sea Academy 101

An introductory international law of the sea academic capacity-building training for Filipinos



## The PHILSEA Inc.

The **Philippine International Law of the Sea Academy Inc. (PHILSEA)**, the premier law of the sea academic capacity-building training organisation for Filipinos established in 2023, is a nonstock and non-profit organisation duly registered with the Philippine Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the Philippine Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR).

PHILSEA endeavours to amplify the intellectual and practical legal aptitude of Filipinos by providing them ladderized knowledge capacity-building and skills training to improve law of the sea (LOS) education in law schools, universities, and colleges across the Philippines, including legal and juridical institutions and law enforcement agencies.

To date, PHILSEA now has **over 70 training alumni** comprising undergraduate, graduate, and law students, university and law lecturers, professors, and deans, diplomats, solicitors, hydrographers, and law enforcement officers. Our training programmes have been officially endorsed by the **Association of Law Students of the Philippines (ALSP)**, the **Philippine Association of Law Schools (PALS)**, and the **Philippine Legal Education Board (LEB)**.

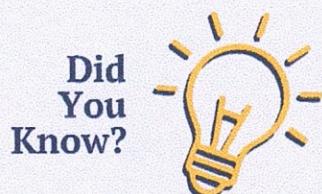
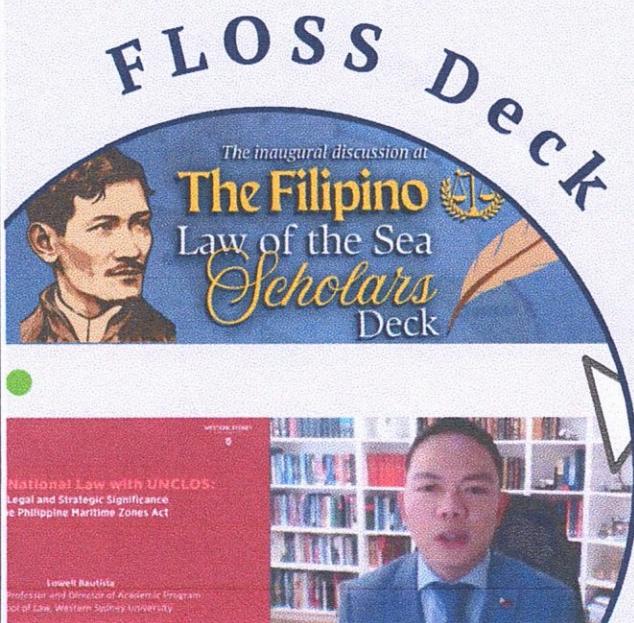
## Contact Information and Media Platforms



/philseaofficial  
@philseaofficial  
Philippine International  
Law of the Sea Academy Inc.

### For PHILSEA 101-related concerns

**Ms. Christine Nicole G. Agbayani**  
Project Manager for PHILSEA 101  
Philippine International Law of the Sea Academy  
pmo.philsea@gmail.com  
(+63) 998 888 1701



Last 27 September 2025, PHILSEA has launched its **Filipino Law of the Sea Scholars (FLOSS) Deck Programme** to annually feature notable FLOSS to share their journey and experience as an ocean legal scholar and discuss their recent publication to the Filipino community.

In the inaugural session, **Dr. Lowell Bautista** discussed the importance and challenges of the Philippine Maritime Zones Act, as well as being a FLOSS working overseas.



# The Philippine International Law of the Sea Academy 101

*An introductory international law of the sea academic capacity-building training for Filipino undergraduate students and secondary school teachers*



**Application Form**

