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in the Philippines



PHILIPPINE ELECTION 2022
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MISSION



PHILIPPINE SENATORIABLES

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Senatoriabes News Roundup

A total of [64](#) candidates are on the official ballot vying for the 12 seats in the Senate.

Zubiri dropped from Leni-Kiko Slate.

Reelectionist Senator Juan Miguel Zubiri received a backlash from presidentiable Robredo's supporters in Bukidnon and Northern Mindanao over his and his father's (Governor of Bukidnon province) endorsement of the late dictator's son, presidentiable Marcos Jr., and have started campaigning against Zubiri to send a message that his political family's support for Marcos has consequences and would cost him votes. Zubiri was dropped first by the Lacson-Sotto tandem and is no longer being mentioned by presidentiable Pacquiao when introducing his slate.

Supporters want Colmenares to replace Zubiri.

Individuals and groups called on Robredo to endorse Colmenares in place of Zubiri, citing his experience as a veteran human rights lawyer and long history of working with members of the marginalized sectors of society. Robredo spokesperson Barry Gutierrez, however, said that VP Robredo will proceed with the current slate composition.

Marcoleta drops senatorial bid.

SAGIP party-list representative and ABS-CBN franchise killer Rodante Marcoleta is withdrawing his senate candidacy in the upcoming 2022 elections due to poor survey performance. Marcoleta is one of Duterte's 17 endorsed candidates.

Legarda tops surveys; disowned by son

- While senatoriable Sen. Loren Legarda continues to enjoy survey ratings, his son publishes an open letter of grief for supporting 'fascists'. Lorenzo, who "was born in 1990, in the shadow of decades of Marcos terror, oppression, and

corruption" could not accept how her mother, a woman who lived through Martial Law and was once a journalist who taught him how to value truth and justice, could run under the Marcos slate.

Bautista slammed for using a woman to entertain.

"Kadiri" (disgusting) and other expressions of revulsion were among the reactions elicited by senatorial bet Herbert Bautista, who was recently recorded on video as he hugged and kissed a female supporter on the campaign stage. A former actor and a three-term mayor of Quezon City, he was entertaining the crowd in Ormoc City on April 9 when he called a 23-year-old woman to come up and join him.

De Lima moves for freedom, hopes to be free this year.

Jailed opposition leader Leila De Lima formally moved for her freedom after she filed on May 6 a motion for outright dismissal and immediate release before the Muntinlupa Regional Trial Court. Bringing to the court's attention the retraction of prosecution's star witness, former corrections acting chief Rafael Ragos, De Lima told Branch 204:

"It is now even less reasonable to ignore the plain and simple fact that there stands zero evidence against Accused De Lima, and much less any strong one. "There are two remaining charges against De Lima, both for conspiracy to commit illegal drug trading. Ragos was the witness in only one of those cases, but he is so far the only witness overall who claims to have personally delivered drug money to De Lima.



PROFILES: The 11 Senatoriables Endorsed by 1Sambayan



Richard Gordon

Senator Richard “Dick” Gordon is running for re-election to the Senate, rather than running for President – a position he tried for in 2010, and had previously considered for the 2022 elections. In addition to being a senator, Gordon is also currently the chairman of the Philippine Red Cross and a news broadcaster. His former positions include Mayor of Olongapo City, and the Philippines Secretary of Tourism.

Gordon is a strong proponent of the Regional Infrastructure Coordinating Hub (RICH) law, which aims to promote investments in Central Luzon. He opposes contractualization, supports publicizing the wealth declarations of public officials, and supports an expanded tax base – by inviting and taxing foreign investors – as opposed to raising taxes for Filipinos. He has received support from select trade unions and farmer groups. Gordon was also very instrumental in the passing of the Tourism Act of 2009. He is also in support of the death penalty and

against abortion. Gordon is chair of the senate blue ribbon committee, which is responsible for investigating the wrongdoings of government officials and agencies, and is currently conducting hearings on the possibly illegal activities surrounding the multi-billion-peso pandemic contracts between the Duterte government and the Pharmally Pharmaceutical Corporation.

Gordon is also included in the senatorial slates of Robredo, Pacquiao and Lacson.



Neri Colmenares

Net worth: 2.6 million pesos

Neri Colmenares is a veteran human rights lawyer and served as a Bayan Muna Congressman for nine years. He is the chair of the National Union of People’s Lawyers (NUPL) and the Chairperson of progressive party list Bayan Muna. He also helped to create the Makabayan Bloc – a coalition of progressive partylists made up of Bayan Muna, Gabriela, Anakpawis, ACT Teachers and Kabataan. Colmenares



has been red-tagged many times – as has the NUPL and the Makabayan Bloc – by various administrations for his defense of human rights and support of pro-people policies.

Colmenares' platform is focused on free COVID-19 assistance and free public healthcare more generally, provision of care for senior citizens, ending labor contractualization, fighting against the anti-poor Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion (TRAIN) law, agrarian reform and justice for the victims of human rights violations under Duterte. He promises to defend human rights and uphold democracy if elected. Along with Makabayan endorsed senatoriable Elmer Labog, Colmenares says he will work for the abolition of the National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC), resuming peace talks, releasing all political prisoners and instituting legislation to protect the party-lists from being "hijacked by political dynasties and powerful political and business interests".

Colmenares' candidacy is motivated in part by a desire to criticize Duterte for unfulfilled promises, and to counter the pro-Marcos narratives emerging in support of Bong Bong Marcos. Colmenares is the only candidate for a national position who was detained and tortured under Ferdinand Marcos. His personal experience of being held as a political prisoner for four years has led him to be a particularly outspoken critic of Bong Bong Marcos' (BBM) candidacy. He contrasts the "Golden Era" referenced by BBM and supporters with his own experience of waiting in line for rice rations and being arrested and tortured at the age of 18 for advocating student councils and student publications.

He also draws attention to the broad range of human rights violations that took place under martial law, and the financial mismanagement and corruption that led to almost half of all Filipinos living in poverty. Colmenares is representing victims of Duterte's drug war before the International Criminal Court (ICC) and is counsel to two petitions against Duterte's Anti Terror Law. Beyond this, Colmenares' track record includes representing indigenous groups in their fight to stop the renewal of multinational corporation Oceanagold's mining contract, authoring a law which required telecommunication companies to send free alerts during disasters, and co-authoring other laws aimed at getting greater financial benefits and nutrition to the Filipino people.

Colmenares is also included in the senatorial slates of presidentiables Manny Pacquiao and Leody de Guzman. He has also received an endorsement from the Mayor Jerry Treñas of his hometown, Bacolod City. Although Makabayan has endorsed the Leni-Kiko tandem, Leni Robredo did not include Colmenares on her senatorial slate.

Colmenares noted that Makabayan and Leni-Kiko are united on a number of issues including the pandemic response, human rights, and the rights of workers and indigenous people. He said that he would not rule out working with Robredo despite her not endorsing his bid for Senate. He did, however, criticize Trillanes for opposing his inclusion in Robredo's slate on the basis of Colmenares having been red-tagged – noting that such divisions amongst the broad based opposition was counterproductive.



Elmer Labog

Labor leader Elmer “Ka Bong” Labog is running for senate for the first time. A relative newcomer to formal politics, Labog has been an organizer, trade unionist and human rights defender for almost 50 years. He is currently the chairperson of Kilusang Mayo Uno, the largest trade union in the Philippines. In this position he advocates for the rights of workers and farmers, including their right to form unions and to protest their poor working conditions without being vilified, harassed, red-tagged and killed.

While Labog is a known figure in political rallies on the streets, and has been a resource person in congressional hearings, he says that his decision to run for senate is about “aiming to be part of our Congress to push for the basic interests of the Filipino masses”.

If elected, Labog promises to fight for the interest of the workers and farmers – such as living wages, housing and genuine agrarian reform. Labog has urged current president, Rodrigo Duterte to use his supermajority to pass the P750 national minimum wage bill in response to the rising cost of basic goods and fuel. At the top of his list is a genuine COVID-19 response that addresses the public health and economic issues arising from the pandemic – through a wealth tax on the

richest Filipinos. He shares this aim in common with Makabayan senatoriable, Neri Colmenares. Both Colmenares and Labog aim to end contractualization, resume peace talks with the NDFP, release all political prisoners and reform the party-list system to keep it from being taken over by political and business dynasties. Labog also opposes the Anti-Terror Law, Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion (TRAIN), lowering the corporate income tax and abortion.

In March 2021 Labog urged the Commission on Human Rights to protect red-tagged labor unionists, and in July 2021, along with other labor leaders, he asked the National Bureau of Investigation to investigate the red-tagging of labor organizers. Labog, who has himself been red-tagged many times, noted that in addition to endangering the lives of labor leaders, red-tagging undermines the “organization’s integrity” and “grossly violate[s]” their right to organize, which is guaranteed by both the Philippine Constitution and international conventions.

If elected, Labog says he will work to abolish the National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC) – the government arm most responsible for red-tagging human rights defenders and labor organizers.

Labog was nominated for senator by Anakpawis – a party-list made up of workers, farmers, fisherfolk and other urban poor and marginalized rural groups. Along with Neri Colmenares, Labog is also included in Leody De Guzman’s senatorial slate, and is a guest candidate on the slate of Senator Manny Pacquiao. Despite Makabayan’s endorsement of the Leni-Kiko tandem, and Labog and Colmenares’ campaigning for the “pink” team, neither were included in Robredo’s senatorial slate.



Teddy Baguilat

Net worth: 7.1 million pesos

Senate hopeful Teddy Baguilat, 55, is an advocate for Ifugao, Indigenous Peoples rights, the environment and human rights and has served various elective seats in Ifugao. Baguilat served as a municipal councilor and mayor of Kiangan, Ifugao, before becoming a two-term provincial governor (2001-2004, 2007-2010) and House Representative of the lone district of Ifugao from 2010 to 2019.

Baguilat was an early critic of President Rodrigo Duterte's war on drugs. In 2017 he criticized the President and his own colleagues' silence over the spate of killings linked to it, in the face of outrage over the police killing of 17-year-old Kian delos Santos.

If elected, Baguilat would be the first Indigenous Person elected to the Senate. He vows to defend the rights and ancestral domains of IPs. Baguilat is also campaigning on expanded environmental protection, community-based management and preservation of natural resources, promoting the use of renewable energy sources he is also a supporter of genuine agrarian reform.

Baguilat is also included in the Senate slate of Leni Robredo and Leody de Guzman.



Leila de Lima

Net Worth: 9.5 million pesos

Leila de Lima, 62, is a sitting senator (elected 2016) and a political detainee of the Duterte Regime (since 2017). She is a former justice secretary (2010-2016) and former Chairperson, Commission on Human Rights, 2008-2010.

De Lima's Key Campaign planks include: more effective anti-corruption strategies; a comprehensive Land Use Act to prevent destructive development; legislating prosecution service reform to speed up progress of government cases and protection of human rights defenders; a review of treaties and policies to ensure they reflect Philippines' sovereignty as a nation; and sovereignty over West Philippine Sea should be non-negotiable.

De Lima has also long opposed the Anti-Terrorism Act of 2020, she supports the SOGIE Equality Bill, renewing ABS-CBN's franchise, criminalizing red-tagging, and the anti-dynasty bill.

De Lima is an outspoken critic of President Duterte and the drug charges she faces are fabricated and politically motivated payback for her criticism. De Lima and Duterte first clashed in 2009 when she was leading a probe on the summary executions allegedly perpetrated by a vigilante group known as the Davao Death Squad. Shortly



before her arrest, she was also ousted by President Duterte's allies in the Senate as chairperson of the justice panel which was conducting an investigation of the President's flagship campaign against illegal drugs.

De Lima, a Liberal Party stalwart and avid supporter of the vice president, is included in both Robredo and De Guzman's Senate slates.



Chel Diokno

Net worth – Unknown (\$1 Million - \$5 Million)

Chel Diokno, 61, is a lawyer, educator, writer and human rights and justice advocate. Diokno is running under the Katipunan ng Nagkakaisang Pilipino banner.

Diokno is campaigning primarily on reforming the judicial system, supporting workers, strengthening anti-corruption laws, improving public education, and transitioning the transportation sector to a "green" or more sustainable model.

Chel is the son of Jose "Ka Pepe" W. Diokno, the former senator and justice secretary and anti-martial law activist. Pepe was a two term Senator : 1963-1969

and 1968-1972. He was also the founding chair of the Commission on Human Rights, and founder of the Free Legal Assistance Group (FLAG).

Since 2003, Chel has led the Free Legal Assistance Group. FLAG's clients include alleged victims of the Duterte administration's war on illegal drugs. He also appeared before the SC as one of the 13 lawyers to argue the constitutional challenges brought by petitioners against the Anti-Terrorism Act of 2020.

As a result of his legal advocacy, he has been the object of judicial harassment by the Duterte Regime. On July 19, 2019, the PNP-Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) filed charges against Diokno and other members of the opposition for "sedition, cyber libel, libel, estafa, harboring a criminal, and obstruction of justice". On Feb 10, 2020, he was cleared of all charges.

Diokno is also included in the Senate slates of both Leody de Guzman and Leni Robredo.



Risa Hontiveros

Net worth – 16.7 million pesos

Risa Hontiveros, 56, is an incumbent senator (elected 2016) who previously served two terms in Congress 2004-



-2010 under Akbayan, a centre-left social democratic party. In her time as a legislator, she authored several laws on mental health, healthcare, women, children, and persons with disability.

Hontiveros is campaigning on the platform “Healthy Buhay and Hanapbuhay,” vowing to pass more laws that will elevate Filipinos’ quality of life. Hontiveros also favors legalizing divorce, shifting to a federal system of government, requiring officials to disclose their wealth declarations to public, renewing ABS-CBN’s franchise, penalizing political turncoats, and banning endo contractualization. She opposes legalizing abortion and reinstating the death penalty. Before she was a legislator, Hontiveros worked as a neighborhood organizer, peace advocate and broadcast journalist. She was a member of the Government Panel for Peace Talks with the National Democratic Front of the Philippines in 1998-1999 and 2001-2004.

Hontiveros is running under the Senate slate of Vice President Leni Robredo.



Alex Lacson

Alex Lacson is a lawyer and author of the bestselling book *12 things every Filipino can do to help their country*. He repre-

sented 122 victims poisoned by toxic waste left by the US Clark Airfield and Subic bases, while as an author he advocates for patriotism and the importance of choosing leaders wisely.

He is framing his campaign as an attempt to go after much needed, drastic reforms in the political system, the economy, the bureaucracy and the government as a whole. For example, he advocates for truly independent bodies to oversee government processes and says he would change the current processes in which top officials are appointed directly by the president.

In addition to going after corruption in the government, he also wants to address economic issues. He hopes to better the situation of poor Filipinos by creating ownership structures where they can own franchises and agricultural businesses as a collective.

He is also appealing to voters in Negros, noting that the current senators are mostly from Luzon and Mindanao and saying that it is time to elect someone from Negros, such as himself.

Lacson was originally running for vice-president under the Kapatiran party, but in the name of unity amongst the opposition candidates, he decided to withdraw his candidacy to make room for Kiko Pangilinan’s bid for the same position.

He is running for senator as part of Robredo’s senatorial slate. Lacson has also been endorsed by the Makabayan bloc because of his focus on countering political dynasties and corruption.



Sonny Matula

Attorney Jose Sonny Matula, 57, an Independent Senate candidate, is a lawyer, law professor and educator, the National President of the Federation of Free Workers, Chairperson of the Nagkaisa Labor Coalition, a significant Filipino labor coalition, a member of the National Tripartite Peace Council and was a delegate to the International Labor Conferences in Geneva from 2009 to 2021.

Matula is one of the convenors of the Alliance of Labor Leaders for Leni (ALL4LENI) to support Vice-President Leni Robredo's presidential campaign, and VP Robredo endorsed him to fill the 12th slot in her senatorial slate.

Policy commitments:

1. End and ban contractualization (endo) by passing a security of tenure law
2. Defend freedom of association and collective bargaining rights of workers
3. Adopt a national minimum wage and approve a wage increase for workers
4. Prohibit any discrimination on salary and benefits based on gender, nature of work, race, religious beliefs or similar grounds

5. P10,000 (US\$190) per month unemployment assistance, wage subsidy for those under a "no work-no pay" arrangement, broad vaccination plan, free COVID-19 testing, free hospitalization and paid quarantine leaves

6. End impunity and hold accountable all killers of labor leaders and organizers

7. Investigate all cases of extrajudicial killings of works and freedom of association violations

8. Strengthen the National Tripartite Industrial Peace Council's monitoring bodies

9. Protect labor zones in Ecozones, no to the Joint Industrial Peace Concerns Office or Alliance for Industrial Peace Program

10. Rescind Executive Order 70, abolish the National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict

Matula served as a commissioner at the Social Security System, and was also Executive Director V at the Presidential Anti-Graft Commission from 2001 to 2002.

He joined the Federation of Free Workers in the mid-1990s, starting as a union organizer and staff member and then serving as executive assistant to the president and chief legal counsel.

He has been FFW's national president since June 2011. He grew up in Mindanao in a poor family, and his early years were sponsored by Jesuit priests promoting social democracy.



Antonio Trillanes IV

*Net Worth: 7.53 million pesos
(US\$143,500) (2018 data)*

Antonio Fuentes Trillanes IV, 51, former junior Philippine Navy officer, is a Senate candidate for the Liberal Party. He was a successful senator for the Genuine Opposition and the Nationalist Party from 2007-2019. Trillanes failed in his independent campaign for Vice-President in 2016. He has been engaged in legal and political skirmishing with Rodrigo Duterte since 2016. While supporting the Robredo Presidential campaign, Trillanes is mainly campaigning for a more powerful military.

Since 2019, Trillanes has been a full-time lecturer, teaching public policy at UP National College of Public Administration and Governance of University of the Philippines Diliman and at Ateneo de Manila University.

He was born into a navy family, and grew up in Caloocan, Metro Manila. He studied engineering before entering the navy where he graduated in Naval Systems Engineering, and later obtaining a Masters in Public Administration from the University of the Philippines, Diliman.

Trillanes jointly led the violent Oakwood Mutiny along with 320 other junior

officers and enlisted men in 2003, against corruption in the Arroyo government. It lasted 18 hours. They were court martialled, and he was detained for nearly seven and a half years. The Manila Peninsula Siege, on November 29, 2007, lasted only a few hours, after Trillanes and 26 others Oakwood mutineers walked out of their trial and marched to seize the Manila Peninsula Hotel, in Makati, calling for the ouster of Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. Government soldiers broke into the hotel and captured the 27. However, Trillanes had tapped into great public criticism of President Arroyo, laying the ground for his subsequent Senate campaign from prison.

In October 2010 then newly-elected President Aquino proclaimed amnesty for all the Oakwood Mutineers, including Trillanes. In August 2018, President Duterte proclaimed to cancel Aquino's, and in early September, Trillanes was taken back into custody. But further court action saw the cases dropped. Trillanes faced further charges of libel, sedition and conspiracy in 2019, but these also failed.

Policy commitments:

1. Prioritize supporting the post-pandemic economic recovery program presented by presidential candidate Leni Robredo to help generate more jobs
2. Increase soldiers' quarters and subsistence allowances and push for equitable distribution of salary increases among uniformed personnel
3. Livestream all public biddings in all government agencies
4. West Philippine Sea dispute - harness more support from other countries, particularly through the United Nations and ASEAN
5. Strengthen the Visiting Forces



Agreement with the United States

6. Consider joining the “Freedom of Navigation” operations conducted in the South China Sea by the US and its allies

7. Hasten modernization of military equipment and capability

Vice Presidentiables



Sara Duterte

*Net Worth: P44.8 million (US\$854,000)
(2017 data)*

Sara Zimmerman Duterte-Carpio, 43, lawyer popularly known as Inday Sara, is the Lakas-Christian Muslim Democrats Party candidate for Vice-President, on the Uniteam with Ferdinand Marcos Jr. Lakas-CMD is the party of former president Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

Sara Duterte served as vice mayor of Davao City 2007-10, and mayor from 2010-13 and 2016 to the present. Her brother Paolo was vice mayor from 2013-17, and her brother Sebastian from 2019 to the present.

Duterte carries the baton for her father, President Rodrigo Duterte, who faces international investigation for crimes

against humanity under his watch.

Sara Duterte still faces a motion to disbar her as a lawyer following her punching a sheriff four times in the face in a notorious incident in 2011. The court sheriff was attempting to implement a demolition order in Davao City.

As well as the Marcos family plunder, the BBM-Sara campaign is backed by former Presidents Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and Joseph Estrada, and several provincial governors.

BBM-Sara campaign in vague terms, saying that they will carry on President Duterte’s policies and expand them. That means continuing the War on Poor People in the guise of a “war on drugs”, the War on Dissent in the guise of a counter-insurgency campaign, and the War on the Moro People in the guise of the long-running “war on terror”. It means continuing the Build Build program of mega projects funded by borrowings and involving massive urban demolitions.

Policy Commitments:

1. Federalism and regional and intensified provincial development
2. Fix the general systems of the Philippine Health Insurance Corp
3. Mandatory military service for Filipinos



aged 18 years old, paid a subsidy in return for serving in the AFP

4. Replicate the disaster preparedness training that the Sangguniang Kabataan (Youth Commission) in Davao City conducted



Kiko Pangilinan

Net Worth: 23.9 million pesos

Senator Francis “Kiko” Pangilinan is running for vice-president alongside presidential candidate Leni Robredo under the Liberal Party. Although he was originally positioned to run for reelection – as one of only four opposition members currently in the Senate – he responded to Robredo’s request for him to join her as her running mate. Although there have been calls for a Robredo - Sara Duterte Tandem, or a Robredo - Sotto tandem, both Robredo and Pangilinan have reiterated that Kiko is her vice president and that their partnership makes sense given their shared priorities for the country.

As a member of the Senate, former chairman of the Senate Agricultural and Food Committee and current chairman of the Senate panel on constitutional amendments, Pangilinan has authored many bills. In particular, he was the principal author of the Coco Levy Law to support 3.5 million coconut farmers

through a fund made up of taxes that were imposed on these farmers by Ferdinand Marcos. Pangilinan advocated for the farmers themselves to have more of a say on how these funds should be used. Overall, Pangilinan highlights food security and the strengthening of the agricultural sector as two of his main goals if he were to be elected.

On issues of human rights, Pangilinan openly opposes the Anti-Terror Law and vowed legal support for Jonathan Mercado, a regional coordinator of Anakpawis party list who was arrested this election season. Furthermore, Pangilinan, along with other opposition senators, petitioned the Supreme Court to stop President Rodrigo Duterte from withdrawing from the International Criminal Court (ICC) after the ICC announced its investigation into Duterte’s drug war.

Commissioners

Sharan Burrow, General Secretary ITUC
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