

Republic of the Philippines  
Congress of the Philippines

Senate

Manila City

Fifteenth Congress

Second Regular Session



RESOLUTION No. 69

RESOLUTION DECLARING NOVEMBER 23 OF  
EVERY YEAR TO BE A NATIONAL DAY TO  
END IMPUNITY

WHEREAS, it has been two years since the November 23, 2009 Ampatuan massacre where 58 lives, including that of 32 media workers, were lost in what was the worst single instance of electoral violence in the country's recent history and the deadliest single attack on the press ever;

WHEREAS, the Ampatuan massacre, the worst manifestation of the plague of extrajudicial killings, has claimed the lives of hundreds of people - media workers, judges, lawyers, religious activists - whose only involvement was to exercise their constitutionally guaranteed right to free expression;

WHEREAS, the International Freedom of Expression Network has declared November 23 of every year as the International Day to End Impunity;

WHEREAS, the failure to solve all but a pitiful handful of these murder cases and to enforce existing laws intended to protect and promote human rights has bred a culture of impunity that has emboldened those who would curtail free expression;

WHEREAS, those who defend human rights and issue calls for justice and accountability all too often find themselves targets of extrajudicial killings and other attacks as well;

WHEREAS, the government should vow to bring justice and ensure good governance by taking measures to facilitate the expeditious disposal of unsolved cases of extrajudicial killings;

WHEREAS, the Department of Justice, in particular, should accord the Maguindanao massacre the full attention that it deserves, otherwise, the government's commitment to human rights would severely be jeopardized: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, as it is hereby resolved,* That the Senate of the Philippines expresses its firm support for the declaration of November 23 of every year as a National Day to End Impunity.

Adopted,



JUAN PONCE ENRILE

*President of the Senate*

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on November 23, 2011.



EMMA LIRIO REYES

*Secretary of the Senate*