The Republic Of Philippines  
Country: Philippines

Committee:DİSEC (Disarmament and International Security Committee)

Agenda Item: The Russia-Ukraine War and the Use of Weapons in International Law

Intrdoction

There is [evidence](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Archaeology_of_the_Philippines" \o "Archaeology of the Philippines) of early [hominins](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hominins" \o "Hominins) living in what is now the Philippines as early as 709,000 years ago. A small number of bones from [Callao Cave](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Callao_Cave" \o "Callao Cave) potentially represent an otherwise unknown species, [*Homo luzonensis*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Homo_luzonensis), who lived 50,000 to 67,000 years ago. The oldest [modern human](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Modern_human) remains on the islands are from the [Tabon Caves](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tabon_Caves" \o "Tabon Caves) of [Palawan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Palawan" \o "Palawan), [U/Th-dated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/U/Th-dated) to 47,000 ± 11–10,000 years ago. [Tabon Man](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tabon_Man" \o "Tabon Man) is presumably a [Negrito](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Negrito" \o "Negrito), among the archipelago's earliest inhabitants descended from the first human migrations out of Africa via the coastal route along [southern Asia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Asia" \o "South Asia) to the now-sunken landmasses of [Sundaland](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sundaland" \o "Sundaland) and [Sahul](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sahul" \o "Sahul).

The first Austronesians reached the Philippines from Taiwan around 2200 BC, settling the [Batanes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Batanes" \o "Batanes) Islands (where they built stone fortresses known as *[ijangs](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ijang" \o "Ijang)*) and northern [Luzon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luzon" \o "Luzon). [Jade artifacts](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philippine_jade_culture" \o "Philippine jade culture) have been dated to 2000 BC, with [lingling-o](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lingling-o" \o "Lingling-o) jade items made in Luzon with raw materials from Taiwan. By 1000 BC, the inhabitants of the archipelago had developed into four societies: [hunter-gatherer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hunter-gatherer" \o "Hunter-gatherer) tribes, warrior societies, highland [plutocracies](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plutocracies" \o "Plutocracies), and port principalities.

The Russian invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022, which is now entering eight months, caught the member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) by surprise. Among these, the Philippines stands out as particularly dazed and bewildered by the invasion. At the onset of the war, the Duterte Administration announced that it would be adopting a policy of neutrality. Eventually, however, the administration condemned the invasion and warned that if the conflict were to spill over to Asia, the president would be offering access to Armed Forces of the Philippines’ (AFP) military facilities to the country’s only formal treaty ally, the United States. The shift in Manila’s position underscores the uncertainty and concerns of many Asian countries for the ongoing military conflict in Eastern Europe, as well as with rising tensions in the Taiwan Strait.