



PILIPINO AMERICAN COLLEGIATE ENDEAVOR  
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Dear PACE Community,

Since March 15th, 2020, the Philippine's largest and most populous island, Luzon, has been placed under a month-long militarized lockdown ("[enhanced quarantine](#)") under the Duterte administration in response to COVID-19. According to a 2015 Philippine Census, more than 40 million make up this region. Many Filipina/o/x citizens do not have the luxury of having space to adequately physical distance themselves as many poor communities live in cramped spaces and have been stripped off their livelihoods.

We, the Pilipino American Collegiate Endeavor, condemns the militarized lockdown in Luzon, and we believe this is a public health crisis first and foremost, and not a crisis that should involve heavy-handed, oppressive military rule. We advocate for public health-based solutions to protect the most vulnerable communities.

We demand the following:

1. Mobilization of preventative measures including free, widespread, systematic mass testing in the Philippines.
2. The Philippine government repurpose funds from military operations to essential healthcare operations.
3. The U.S. government to terminate ongoing aid to the Philippine military under the VFA -- -- consisting of our, the peoples', own U.S. tax dollars.
4. The Philippine military cease carrying out extrajudicial killings & arrest of human rights activists ---- especially during this global pandemic.
5. The Philippine government take responsibility for Filipina/o/x workers abroad or at sea in need of medical help, especially those who continue to be turned away from ports.

We encourage you to get informed, organize, and protest alongside our Filipina/o/x comrades on the ground who continue to fight for a voice and say in how their nation should be battling the COVID-19 crisis. As simple as learning more about the issues in the community and re-sharing content from our social media [@pacesfsu1967](#) are revolutionary acts.

Check out these Instagram handles for resources and more movements to joins:

- Malaya Movement, @malaya.sbay
- Bayan USA, @bayan.usa
- Gabriela USA, @gabriela.usa
- Migrante USA, @migranteusa
- ICHRP-US, @ichrp\_us
- Anakbayan USA, @anakbayanusa, @anakbayansf
- Kabataan Alliance, @kabataanalliance
- NAFCON, @nafconusa

In solidarity,

## **KORELAYAAN**

The 53rd Kore of the Pilipino American Collegiate Endeavor