

# PH ranks 6th in highest Erasmus+ scholar source

**MANILA** -- The European Union (EU) has awarded a total of 66 Erasmus+ scholarships to Filipino nationals, making the Philippines the 6th largest source of Erasmus+ scholars this year.

In the coming weeks, 66 Filipino students will pursue their academic dreams in several countries under the EU program, which allows them to pursue MA programs in different universities across the European continent.

The scholarship is structured to allow students to pursue their studies in more than one country giving them the opportunity to benefit from the academic expertise and culture of more than one university.

European Union Ambassador to the Philippines Franz Jessen announced that the Philippines ranks sixth globally as among the countries that have the highest number of scholars.

Jessen has congratulated the Erasmus+ students and urged them to become ambassadors of goodwill and agents of change to help strengthen the partnership between the EU and the Philippines.

He also encouraged the Erasmus+ scholars to give back to their country after they finished their program in the EU. This program gives life-changing opportunities for Filipino students to experience living the European culture, learning European languages and being integrated into European society for one to two years.

Ayee Macaraig, an incoming Erasmus Master in Journalism, Media and Globalization student said: "The Erasmus Mundus scholarship offers not just academic excellence but also an international, multicultural perspective. It is a ticket to understanding other cultures while rediscovering our own. I'm thrilled about representing my country in Europe. I believe there is immense value in discovering new cultures, appreciating similarities and differences, and respecting diversity."

Macaraig will first study in Aarhus University and the Danish School of Media and Journalism (Denmark) and then at the University of Amsterdam (The Netherlands).

Meanwhile, Jayson Gabriel Pinza, an incoming student of Joint Master Degree (JMD) in Groundwater and Global Change (GroundwatCH) said he decided to pursue JMD GroundwatCH to update his knowledge, skills, and techniques in hydrogeology, which he plans to utilize back in the Philippines.

"As an aspiring hydrogeologist, I plan to use what I have learned to contribute in solving rampant and relevant issues in hydrogeology in the country. As a passionate teacher, I also wish to impart what I have learned to future aspiring Filipino hydrogeologists," he said.

"With these, as a former scholar of my country for eight years, I hope that I would be able to give back to my country and serve the nation well in my

own way," he added.

Pinza is going to study in three institutions: Instituto Superior Técnico, Universidade de Lisboa (Portugal), Stichting IHE Delft-IHE Delft Institute for Water Education (The Netherlands) and Technische Universität Dresden (Germany).

The Erasmus+ promotes the EU as a center of excellence in learning and making student mobility a reality for EU and non-EU citizens alike.

Jessen has also cited the efforts of the Erasmus alumni led by Kate Ramil who has also initiated the Campus Erasmus to further promote the scholar-

ship and mobility program in the country and in other regions.

The EU Delegation in collaboration with the Erasmus alumni has also been holding information sessions to promote the Erasmus+ program as well as the European Higher Education Fairs. The next European Higher Education Fair is scheduled on 26 October 2019 at the Shangri-La Plaza in Mandaluyong.

The Erasmus+ is among the leading international academic mobility programs in the world, and students from the Philippines have benefited considerably from the program. (PR)

## Navy to deploy BRP Conrado Yap in Palawan, Mindanao waters

**MANILA** -- The waters of Palawan and Mindanao are the possible deployment areas for the newly-acquired BRP Conrado Yap (PS-39) Philippine Navy (PN) flag-officer-in-command, Vice Admiral Robert Empedrad said Wednesday.

Empedrad, in a press briefing, said the ship will be subjected first to an engine run test which will take the corvette all over the Philippines, he added.

"What we are going to do is to (first) subject the ship to an engine run test which will take the vessel all over the Philippines, we can order the BRP Conrado Yap to go to Palawan,

Cebu, Mindanao and the eastern part of the country, in the Philippine Rise and then back," the PN chief added.

Once the test is completed, Empedrad said the PN leadership will decide on whether the ship will be deployed to Western Command area-of-operations or in the Mindanao area.

The Western Command is headquartered in Puerto Princesa, Palawan and covers the Kalayaan Island Group and parts of the West Philippine Sea.

Empedrad said the BRP Conrado Yap is an ideal ship to deploy in both areas due to its various automated systems, including its weapons, making it very accurate to use against surface threats, including small ones.

The BRP Conrado Yap is the former "Chungju" of the Republic of Korea Navy. Pohang-class corvettes, especially those designated as Flight II, are optimized for anti-submarine warfare missions.

The ship is armed with two 76mm Oto Melara automatic guns, two Oto Breda 40mm light cannons, depth-charge racks, and two triple torpedo tubes and surveillance systems like radar and sonar.

BRP Conrado Yap was formally turned over and commissioned to the PN last August 5 during short ceremonies at Jinhae Naval Base in Changwon City, South Korea.

The corvette and her escort, the BRP Davao Del Sur (LD-602) departed the South Korean facility last August 12 for their voyage home which ended early morning of August 18. (PNA)

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PATAS AT MAKATARUNGANG PAHAYAGAN

## YOUR NATIONAL NEWSPAPER

### Prayer for Healing

**JESUS**, may Your pure and healthy blood circulate in my ailing organism, and may Your pure and healthy body transform my weak body, and may a healthy and vigorous life throb within me, if it is truly Your holy will. Amen.

O BLOOD AND WATER WHICH FLOWED OUT FROM THE HEART OF JESUS AS A FOUNTAIN OF MERCY FOR US, I TRUST IN YOU!



*Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, Have Mercy on us and on the whole world. Amen.*

### 3 O'CLOCK PRAYER

"You died Jesus, but the source of life flowed out for souls and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fountain of Life immeasurable Divine Mercy, cover the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us."

"O Blood and Water which flowed out from the heart of Jesus as a Fountain of Mercy for us, I trust in you!"

"Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One have mercy on us and on the whole world." (3x) Amen.

Jesus, King of Mercy, I trust in you!

## Jordanian who mauled wife in Davao faces deportation

**MANILA** — The Bureau of Immigration (BI) on Friday reported the arrest of a 39-year-old Jordanian national in Davao City for beating up his Filipina wife and working in the country without a permit.

BI Intelligence Division acting chief Fortunato S. Manahan Jr. said Jordanian Kamal Isam Kamal Abu Beih was arrested by operatives from the bureau's Mindanao Intelligence Task Group (MITG) last August 9.

He added that Commissioner Jaime Morente issued a mission order for the foreigner's arrest after his estranged wife, who was not identified, complained about the physical assault which happened two months ago.

"She narrated that her husband continued to threaten and harass her at the police headquarters where she filed a complaint and reported the incident," Manahan said in a statement.

"He will be deported because we cannot allow undesirable aliens to physically harm and trample on the dignity of our Filipino women," he added.

On the other hand, BI Intelligence Officer Melody Gonzales, BI-MITG head, said the Jordanian was also working in the country without the proper visa.

It was found out that he owned and operated a shawarma business at the Roxas night market in the city.

She added that the couple's relationship turned sour after the Jordanian left his wife, with whom she is married since 2007, supposedly to live with another woman.

The BI official said the victim claimed that her husband physically attacked her during a heated argument in their house last June 27, where he strangled and almost choked her to death.

The attack happened in the presence of their minor children, she said.

"Even when they were already at the police station, subject continued to threaten her, disrespecting the police officers who investigated the incident," Gonzales said in her report. (PNA)

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