



EROPA BULLETIN

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE EASTERN REGIONAL
ORGANIZATION FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

2020 EROPA CONFERENCE ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS EXTENDED UNTIL 30 MAY

The deadline for abstract submissions for the 2020 EROPA Conference has been extended until **30 May 2020**. The deadline was originally set for the end of this month, 30 April 2020.

The Conference will be held on 25-27 October 2020 at the Sukosol Bangkok Hotel in Thailand. The organizers for this year is Thailand's National Institute of Development Administration. ■

Have your
paper chosen
as the recipient
for this year's



**Carlos P. Ramos Award for
Best Conference Paper*!**

*Comes with a cash prize of US\$ 1,000 and a Certificate of Recognition

For more details, visit <https://www.eropa.co/carlos-p-ramos-award-for-best-conference-paper.html>

STAY SAFE & HEALTHY

REDUCE YOUR RISKS OF COVID-19 INFECTION

**Basic protective measures against the
Coronavirus (COVID-19):**

- ▶ Wash your hands regularly.
- ▶ Maintain social distancing.
- ▶ Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- ▶ Practice respiratory hygiene.
- ▶ if you have a fever, cough, or trouble breathing, seek medical care early.
- ▶ Stay informed and follow advice given by the public health authorities.

For more information and advice on the COVID-19 Pandemic, visit
www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019

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- Publication of the Local Autonomy College's Comparative Studies of Public Administration Vol. 13 and the ROK Gov.'s Report on Battling COVID-19
- Call for Papers for the Hong Kong Public Administration Association's Conference in August 2020
- Individual Member Contributions

For any concerns or inquiries regarding the 2020 EROPA Conference, please contact any of the following:



National Institute of Development Administration
Navamindrachiraj Buliding, 10-11th Floor, 118 Moo3,
Serithai Road, Klong-Chan, Bangkok, Thailand 10240
Telephone No.: (+66) 2 727 3871
Facsimile No.: (+66) 2 375 8778

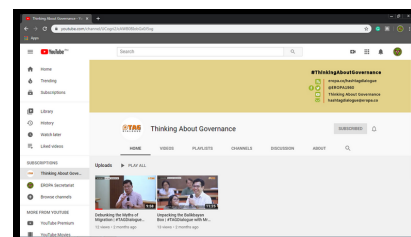
Eastern Regional Organization for Public Administration
EROPA Secretariat-General, National College of Public Administration
and Governance Bldg., R.P. De Guzman St., University of the Philippines,
Diliman 1101, Quezon City, Philippines
Telephone & Facsimile No.: (+63) 8 929 7789

2020 EROPA Conference Email: th2020@eropa.co



For more information, visit
www.eropa.co/hashtagdialogue

or subscribe to #TAG Dialogue's YouTube Channel by looking up *Thinking About Governance* on YouTube.



NEW VIDEOS POSTED ON #TAG YOUTUBE CHANNEL

Two new videos were uploaded on #TAG Dialogue's Youtube Channel on 17 April 2020.

Selected speakers were filmed during their presentations in the 2019 EROPA Conference. Their videos were then edited by the EROPA Secretariat to fit the #TAG branding.

T-A-G in #TAG Dialogue stands for "Thinking about Governance". This project aims to promote awareness on matters and issues related to the fields of Public Administration and Governance by helping make expert information on the said field/s concise and comprehensible for both scholars and the general public. The Dialogues are filmed and uploaded online to contribute to a video collection on various Public Administration and Governance topics that will help challenge governance ideals and realities.

The two new videos uploaded were of Dr. Michael Mah Hui Lim's presentation on *Public Finance and the Good Life* and Dr. Rosa Minhyo Cho's presentation on *Social Equity and Well-Being*.

Support this endeavor by subscribing to #TAG Dialogue's Channel (www.youtube.com/channel/UCogri2JcAWB0BIobGx0J5xg) or streaming the uploaded videos.

To learn more about this, visit www.eropa.co/hashtagdialogue.html.



Thumbnails of Dr. Lim and Dr. Cho's videos.



EROPA Experts and Practitioners

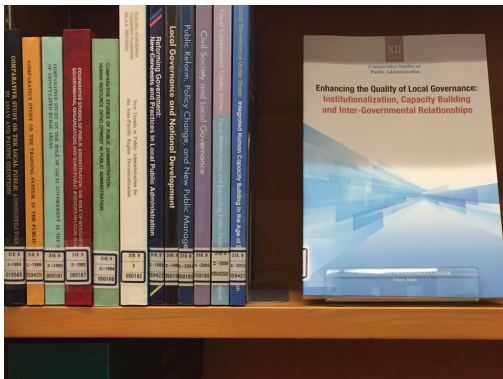
The EXPERTS you need are just a click away!

Through the database, EROPA aims to complement various fields of expertise to the current demand for knowledge, skills, and ideas applicable to international public administration and development initiatives.

For more information about the database, visit www.eropa.co/eropa-exp.html

EROPA MEMBERS' CORNER

RELEASE OF PUBLICATION



Photos of some of the past volumes and issues of Comparative Studies of Public Administration that the Local Autonomy College has published

THE PUBLICATION OF THE COMPARATIVE STUDIES OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION VOL. 13

Since its establishment, the EROPA Local Government Center – managed by the Local Autonomy College in Japan (LAC) – has been conducting various activities to promote EROPA’s mission of enhancing knowledge, systems, and practices of government administration – with its main focus being on local public administration (PA). One of the center’s many activities is its Publication Project. LAC publishes the “Comparative Studies of Public Administration” (CSPA) every two to three years. The CSPA is a compilation of comparative articles on local public administration written by researchers who are mainly from EROPA member countries.

The collection, published in English, aims to promote comparative research on local PA in the Asia-Pacific Region.

Since 2019, LAC has had several meetings with members of the editorial committee made up of prominent experts in the field. They have been convening to decide the publication’s main theme and sub-themes; this is done in order to be able to select appropriate authors and smoothly proceed with editing work. Shortly, the Center is scheduled to release Volume 13 of CSPA on the LAC Homepage (<https://www.soumu.go.jp/jitidai/eropa.compara.html>) and later issue them in hardcopy. As of now, it is on track to be published around April or May 2020.

The main theme of the collected papers for the upcoming issue is “**Local Governance in the Age of Technological Transformation and Global Uncertainty**”. Its sub-themes are the following: *Policy Innovation and Technological Development*, *Natural Disasters and Local/Regional Resilience* and *Public Service Deliveries and Utilization of Local Resources*.



EROPA is an Online Regional Center of the United Nations Public Administration Network (UNPAN).

UNPAN is an international network linking national, regional, and international organizations and institutions across the globe to promote better public administration.

For more information about the network, visit www.unpan.org.

WHAT'S THE LATEST?

Follow EROPA on Twitter and on Facebook.



@EROPA1960

Visit EROPA's official website.



eropa.co

ACCESS THE OFFICIAL 2020 EROPA CONFERENCE WEBSITE HERE!



SCAN ME

CONT. OF THE PUBLICATION OF THE COMPARATIVE STUDIES OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION VOL. 13

Hardcopies will be distributed to EROPA state members. For group and individual members interested in ordering copies of the CSPA, please contact the Local Autonomy College directly and they will assist you accordingly.

LAC greatly appreciates the honorable authors and relevant people who were involved in work-

ing on this project. The Center hopes that EROPA member states may be able to use the collection of these papers with the aim of developing their own local communities. 📄

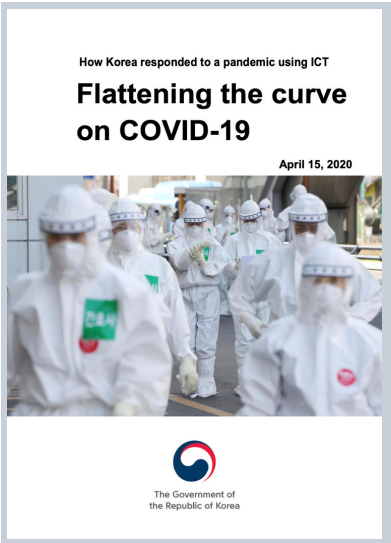
Photos and Information Source: Local Autonomy College (c/o Ms. Chiho Goto)

RELEASE OF KOREAN GOVERNMENT REPORT ON "HOW KOREA RESPONDED TO A PANDEMIC USING ICT: FLATTENING THE CURVE ON COVID-19"

The Korean government just released another report on "Korea's response to the COVID-19 using ICT" to share with the global society. It hopes this will help everyone fight against the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

ACCESS THE REPORT HERE

Click here!



Front cover of the Report on How Korea Responded to a Pandemic using ICT: Flattening the Curve on COVID-19

JOURNAL - CALL FOR PAPERS

ASIAN REVIEW OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (ARPA)

ARPA is open to manuscript submissions for publication in the 30th Volume of ARPA for the 2019 Issue. ARPA welcomes submissions from scholars and academicians, practitioners, students and researchers writing about matters and issues in the field of Public Administration and Governance (PA & G).

PAST AND CURRENT ISSUES OF ARPA ARE AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING ONLINE.

Click here!

OPEN ACCESS TO ARPA



HELP UPGRADE EROPA!

We'd love to hear from you!

The EROPA Secretariat is continuously looking for ways to improve its services and operations.

Your feedback helps us decide what kind of programs/activities to create and what improvements to prioritize among many other things.

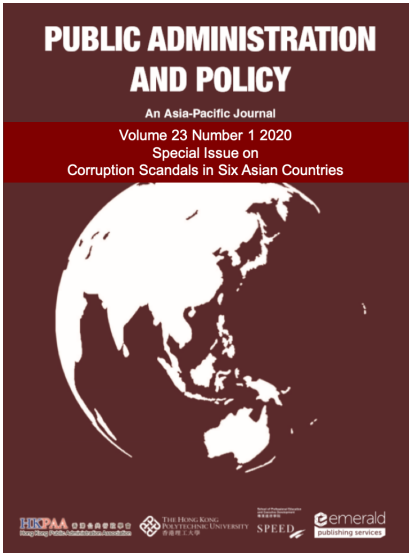
To help make EROPA the best it can be, please feel free to voice out your thoughts, ideas, suggestions, etc. to info@eropa.co.

Thank you!

AVAIL OF ARPA VOL. 29!



The front cover of ARPA Vol. 29, 2018 Issue - Nos. 1-2



Special Issue on Corruption Scandals in Six Asian Countries (Forthcoming June 2020)

Guest

Editor, Prof. Jon S.T. Quah, Anti-Corruption Consultant, Singapore
 Editor-in-Chief, Prof. Peter K.W. Fong, President, Hong Kong Public Administration Association

Articles

1. Corruption Scandals in Six Asian Countries: A Comparative Analysis, *Jon S.T. Quah*
2. Constitutional Corruption in India: An Analysis of Two Bharatiya Janata Party Scandals, *Krishna K. Tummala, Kansas State University, Kansas, USA*
3. Sontaku and Political scandals in Japan, *Matthew M. Carlson, University of Vermont, Vermont, USA*
4. Comparative Corruption Scandals in Macau: The Cases of Ao Man-long and Ho Chio-meng, *Sonny S.H. Lo, The University of Hong Kong*
5. 1MDB Corruption Scandal in Malaysia: A Study of Failings in Control and Accountability, *David S. Jones, Policy and Management Consultant, UK*
6. Grand Corruption Scandals in the Philippines, *Eric V.C. Batalla, De la Salle University, the Philippines*
7. Combating Corruption in Singapore: A Comparative Analysis of Two Scandals, *Jon S.T. Quah*

UPCOMING EVENTS

CALL FOR PAPERS FOR THE "INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON DEVELOPMENTS AND TRENDS ON PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION INTO THE THIRD DECADE OF 21ST CENTURY"

The "International Conference on Developments and Trends on Public Administration into the Third Decade of 21st Century" will be held on Thursday, **27 August 2020** in Hong Kong.

To celebrate its 30th Anniversary, Hong Kong Public Administration Association (HKPAA) cordially invites scholars, practitioners and students to submit papers for presentation at the above Conference.

Conference Theme: *Developments and Trends on Public Administration into the Third Decade of the 21st Century*

Sub-themes:

1. *Review of public administration in the first two decades - successes, failures & lessons learnt*
2. *Policy directions and recommendations for the third decade.*
3. *Opportunities, challenges and future directions of "One Country, Two Systems" under China*
4. *Developments of the Greater Bay Area & Belt and Road Initiative.*
5. *Impacts of digital and artificial intelligence and big data on public governance*
6. *Impacts of the social unrest in Hong Kong and overseas on public governance*
7. *Comparative analysis of public administration and policy - Asia and the Western perspectives.*
8. *Current issues and challenges in various policy areas, including healthcare, social service, housing, transport, education, economics,*

tourism, environment, law and order, and technology.

Submission of Abstracts/Papers

Please submit the abstracts (400 words) with full name, name of institution, job title, email and contact number to Dr. Alice Te, at aliceteyc@yahoo.com.hk and Dr. Vincent Law at vincent.law@cpce-polyu.edu.hk as soon as possible before **1 July 2020**. Notification of acceptance for presentation will be provided two weeks after submission. No registration fee will be charged. Full papers (4000 to 7000 words) and presentation and PPTs should be submitted by **13 August 2020**.

Submitted full paper will be considered for publication in the *Public Administration and Policy Journal*, published by HKPAA and HK PolyU SPEED in Emerald's platform: https://www.emeraldgroupublishing.com/services/publishing/pap/editorial_team.htm. ■

Subscribe

to 'EROPA Secretariat' and 'Thinking About Governance' on YouTube!



PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION DEVELOPMENTS

CONSORTIUM OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION SCHOOLS IN NORTHERN PHILIPPINES FORMED

Joselito D. De la Rosa
College of Public Administration
University of Northern Philippines

Higher Education Institutions (HEI) with Public Administration Programs in Northern Philippines coalesced into a consortium to foster collaboration in the areas of instruction, research and extension

The member Higher Education Institutions are: Benguet State University, Cordillera Administrative Region; Cagayan State University, Region II; Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University, Region 1; Kalinga State University, CAR; Mariano Marcos State University, Region 1; Northwestern University, Region 1; Northern Christian College, Region 1 and the University of Northern Philippines (UNP), Region 1.

Copies of the Memorandum of Understanding were distributed to representatives of member schools by Dr. Erwin F. Cadorna, president of UNP, which hosted the fourth meeting of the consortium last February 21, 2020.

The College of Public Administration of the University of Northern Philippines initiated the formation of the alliance through the initial conduct of an Orientation/Workshop on the establishment of a consortium at UNP Board Room on November 9, 2018. The meeting and workshop was attended by representatives of

CONT. ON SPECIAL ISSUE ON CORRUPTION SCANDALS IN SIX ASIAN COUNTRIES (FORTHCOMING JUNE 2020)

Public Administration and Policy – An Asia-Pacific Journal (PAP) has been published online in open access on the Emerald Insight Platform in the UK since 2018. In order to have the journal indexed and ranked in ESCI and SCOPUS, PAP will publish **three issues** with at least one special issue per year starting from 2020.

Current and retired government officials, academics, students, and practitioners in public administration and related fields are welcomed to contribute papers to PAP. For more information on paper submission, visit:

www.emeraldgrouppublishing.com/services/publishing/pap/editorial_team.htm ■

EROPA MEMBERS CORNER



Get **FREE** access to EROPA Experts & Practitioners database; recent issues of the *Asian Review of Public Administration Journal*, and more!

JOIN EROPA NOW!

Applications for membership are subject to the approval of the EROPA Executive Council. For inquiries, contact the Secretariat through membership@eropa.co.

member schools and CHED scholars in the Doctor of Public Administration Program.

Dr. Marie Rose Q. Rabang, Dean of the College of Public Administration presided the seminar-orientation as students of DPA 312 helped facilitate. It must be noted that the idea to form a consortium was conceived under DPA 312 (Policy Analysis) class with Dr. Rabang as professor of the said subject.

The initiative to organize a consortium stemmed from the result of the Rapid Field Appraisal research on Development, Democracy and Decentralization in Region 1 which yielded a dearth of collaboration of

State Universities and Colleges and other Higher Education Institutions



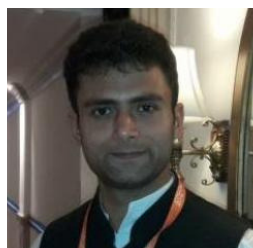
Source: Relief Web

CONT. ON CONSORTIUM OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION SCHOOLS IN NORTHERN PHILIPPINES FORMED

Public Administration programs. The team which conducted the study in 2015 was led by Dr. Ferdinand Lamarca, former Dean of the College of Public Administration and now the Vice President for Research and Extension of the University of Northern Philippines. The study was in collaboration with the National College of Public Administration, Philippine Society for Public Administration and the United Nations Development Program.

One major accomplishment of the group was the conduct of a research colloquium on April 27, 2019 in Benguet State University, participated by the member schools. Other activities slated to be done this year are standardization of course syllabus, book-writing seminar workshop, quiz bee and other academic contests and sharing of references in the various Public Administration subjects. ■

DIGITAL PROCUREMENT IN INDIA: A MOVE TOWARDS E-GOVERNANCE



*Dr. Ajay Dutta
Assistant Professor*

I. K. Gujral Punjab Technical University

Procurement is the process of acquiring goods and services from an external source, via a tendering or competitive bidding process. In India, the procured goods and services of central government, departmental enterprises, and non-departmental enterprises make up a total of about 13 percent of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP), which amounts to some \$300 billion annually.

Electronic procurement refers to the process of purchase and sale of goods or services through electronic methods, primarily the Internet. The Government of India (GOI) launched a Government e-Marketplace (GeM) portal in 2016 with the objective of creating an open, transparent and efficient procurement platform for government. GeM offers an online solution for all procurement needs of Central and State Government departments, Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs), autonomous institutions and local bodies.

The goals of e-Procurement are reducing administrative and transaction costs on routine purchases, eliminating multiple levels of verification and decision making in order to bring down lead times in procurement and adopting a digital channel for financial transactions. GeM portal is the integration of different department applications like Aadhaar, Permanent Account Number (PAN), Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA), GST, Udyog Aadhaar database and banks etc. The idea behind the integration is to ensure standardisation and transparency in government procurements and provide a facilitating platform for the benefit of both sellers and buyers. The government has linked Micro, Small, and Medium (MSME) enterprises database with GeM application to provide these firms with easy access to benefits such as

reduced bank guarantees and verifications of seller etc.

GeM has made over 17 lakh products available on its platform through a network of over 3 lakh sellers and service providers. These products and services are being bought by over 41,946 organisations such as Central, State Governments and PSUs registered on the platform. GeM portal's features include e-commerce functionalities such as easy search, price comparisons, selection, order placement, e-bidding, demand aggregation, dynamic pricing, integrated payment system, and vendor assessment and rating. This platform reduces manual process inefficiencies and human interventions in procurement and enables increased coverage, access, and efficiency of faceless standardised public procurement. The implementation of GeM across all government organizations in India could lead to annual savings of \$10 billion to \$25 billion by encouraging competition among vendors and the aggregation of orders. e-Procurement service is a move towards for the electronic governance. The objective of electronic governance is to enhance the life-quality of people by providing the people with the advanced administrative service. GeM has transformed the public procurement in the country by leveraging technology and making procurement contactless, paperless, and cashless. ■

CALL FOR INPUT FOR THE JULY 2020 ISSUE, VOL. 41, NO. 3 OF EROPA BULLETIN

ABOUT

In an effort to improve the quality of the EROPA Bulletin, we are pleased to announce a CALL FOR INPUT for the July 2020 Issue (Vol. 41, No. 3). Please refer to the following provisional subjects for your consideration:

- Recently held events (e.g. conference, symposium, forum, workshop, training, etc.);
- Upcoming events (e.g. training sessions, workshops, and expert group meetings, etc.);
- Release and authorship of publications*;
- Public Service Developments* (e.g. awards or certification given to individuals or institution, appointments, etc.);
- Newsletter of your institution*;
- Commentary on a Public Administration Issue or Matter**

* The following are exclusive to EROPA members.

** The commentaries that will be submitted are subject to review and approval of the EROPA Secretariat.

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION:

Kindly write a paragraph of the news or announcement that you would like to include in the EROPA Bulletin.

- For News Articles - Maximum word count is 300 words; Include properly identified photographs (if applicable);
- For Commentaries - Maximum word count is 800 words; Include a short biographic sketch of the author to be included in the commentary (Maximum word count is 80 words);
- Events – Recently held events must include the fundamental message of said event; Include properly identified photographs (if applicable).

Please send your contribution(s) to publications@eropa.co, no later than **30 JUNE 2020, TUESDAY** – for it to be considered for the next EROPA Bulletin. Contributors will be informed accordingly upon receipt and approval of contribution.



Cover Pages of the Last 2 Published Issues of the EROPA Bulletin



**LET US CONTINUE TO WORK TOGETHER TO
CONTRIBUTE TO THE EXPANSION OF THE
KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE IN THE FIELD OF
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.**

EROPA is a member of the United Nations Public Administration Network (UNPAN). All applicable submissions will also be considered for separate publishing to the UNPAN. In addition, the EROPA Bulletin will be uploaded to the UNPAN. Your contribution will be of great value – not only to EROPA's members and their networks – but also to the wider audience of the UNPAN.



EASTERN
REGIONAL
ORGANIZATION
FOR PUBLIC
ADMINISTRATION



National College of Public
Administration and
Governance (NCPAG) Bldg.,
R.P. De Guzman, University
of the Philippines, Diliman,
Quezon City 1101
Philippines

TELEFAX NUMBER:
+632 8 929 7789

E-MAIL ADDRESS:
secretariat@eropa.co
publications@eropa.co

ABOUT EROPA

The Eastern Regional Organization for Public Administration (EROPA) is an organization of states, groups and individuals in the general area of Asia and the Pacific. The Organization came into being in 1960, in response to a common desire among developing countries to promote regional cooperation in improving knowledge, systems and practices of government administration to help accelerate economic and social development. It was the first organization in the region to be devoted to the development of public administration in order to advance the economic and social development of countries in Asia and the Pacific. EROPA consists of state members in the region, institutions in the area such as institutes or schools of public administration, universities, agencies and municipal corporations and individuals whose achievements in the field of governance and public administration are recognized.

EROPA endeavors to achieve its objectives through regional conferences, seminars, training programs, and publications. Its activities are carried out through the EROPA headquarters in Manila, as well as through its five regional centers, namely the EROPA Development Management Center in Gyeonggi Province, Korea; the EROPA Local Government Center in Tokyo, Japan; the EROPA Training Center in New Delhi, India; the EROPA Human Resource Research Center in Beijing, China; and the EROPA Policy Studies Center in Jakarta, Indonesia. Activities of EROPA have been held in different parts of the region. Meetings, conferences and seminars have been conducted in Manila, Hong Kong, Tokyo, Bangkok, New Delhi, Seoul, Taipei, Tehran, Jakarta, Kathmandu, Kuala Lumpur, Beijing, Macau, Hanoi, Canberra, Samoa, Bandar Seri Begawan and many more.

As one of the leading organizations in the Asia-Pacific region, EROPA has been accredited by the United Nations Public Administration Network (UNPAN) as one of its Online Regional Centers (ORCs). As such, EROPA serves as one of UNPAN's contributors in the Asia-Pacific region in keeping an updated database of public administration developments.