

# **The 1987 Philippine Constitution A Reviewer Primer**

**Joaquin G Bernas**

## **A Timeless Voyage Through the Pillars of Philippine Governance: Joaquin G. Bernas's "The 1987 Philippine Constitution: A Reviewer Primer"**

Prepare yourselves, discerning minds and curious souls, for a journey that promises not just enlightenment, but a surprisingly delightful encounter with the foundational blueprint of a nation! While the title might initially suggest a rather dry academic treatise, Joaquin G. Bernas's "The 1987 Philippine Constitution: A Reviewer Primer" is, in fact, a masterclass in making complex legal texts not only accessible but, dare I say, downright engaging. Think of it as your witty, erudite guide navigating a majestic, albeit sometimes labyrinthine, architectural marvel – the very edifice of Philippine democracy.

One might initially scoff at the notion of an "imaginative setting" for a constitutional reviewer. However, Bernas masterfully transforms the often-intimidating language of legal articles into a vibrant landscape. He doesn't just present dry facts; he paints a picture of the intentions, the debates, and the very spirit that birthed this crucial document. You'll find yourself envisioning the passionate discussions, the earnest compromises, and the enduring hopes that shaped each article. It's a setting that is both historical and remarkably present, inviting you to actively participate in understanding its significance.

The emotional depth of this reviewer primer might come as a pleasant surprise. Bernas, with his characteristic clarity and wisdom, imbues the principles enshrined in the 1987 Constitution with a palpable sense of purpose and patriotism. You'll feel the weight of responsibility that comes with citizenship, the inherent dignity of every Filipino, and the collective aspiration for a just and equitable society. It's a book that doesn't just inform; it inspires and, at times, even moves you. Who knew that understanding the Separation of Powers could evoke such a profound appreciation for balanced governance? It's a testament to Bernas's ability to connect the abstract to the deeply human.

What truly sets this primer apart is its universal appeal. Whether you're an academic wrestling with the finer points of jurisprudence, a young adult embarking on your civic journey, or a book club seeking a thought-provoking discussion starter, "The 1987 Philippine Constitution: A Reviewer Primer" offers something profound. Bernas has a knack for simplifying intricate concepts without sacrificing accuracy, making it a truly inclusive read. It's a book that respects your intelligence and rewards your curiosity, proving that understanding the foundations of your nation can be an entertaining and empowering endeavor. Prepare for lively debates in your book clubs about the checks and balances, and perhaps even a newfound appreciation for your local elected officials!

Here are some of the book's shining strengths:

**Clarity and Conciseness:** Bernas possesses an almost alchemical ability to distill complex legal jargon into understandable prose.

**Contextual Richness:** He provides invaluable historical context, breathing life into the articles and their significance.

**Engaging Narrative Style:** Despite the subject matter, the writing is far from dry. It's a testament to Bernas's thoughtful and often subtly humorous approach.

**Relevance Across Generations:** The principles discussed are timeless, making this a valuable resource for anyone seeking to understand Philippine governance.

This is not just a book to be read and shelved; it's a companion for informed citizenship. It's a magical journey that, once embarked upon, will leave you with a deeper appreciation for the framework that guides your nation. So, whether you're a seasoned scholar or a curious newcomer, consider this a heartfelt invitation to discover or revisit this truly exceptional work.

**In conclusion,** "The 1987 Philippine Constitution: A Reviewer Primer" by Joaquin G. Bernas is a timeless classic that deserves a place on every Filipino's bookshelf, and indeed, on the reading lists of those who seek to understand the intricate dance of democracy. It's a book that entertains, educates, and empowers. Don't let the title fool you; this is a vibrant exploration of the very soul of Philippine governance, a journey that will resonate with readers of all ages and backgrounds long after the final page is turned.

**We heartily recommend this book.** It's a testament to the enduring power of clear, insightful writing to illuminate even the most seemingly daunting subjects. Joaquin G. Bernas has gifted us with a treasure that continues to capture hearts and minds worldwide, a true beacon of understanding for generations to come. Its lasting impact is undeniable, making it an indispensable experience for anyone passionate about civic engagement and the enduring spirit of a nation.

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this report summarizes the contextual background and processes of writing the 1987 philippine constitution its contents and a preliminary mapping of its implementation covering elections held under the constitution major laws enacted as mandated by the constitution and critical judicial decisions of the supreme court interpreting provisions of the constitution the chronology also covers impeachment cases under the constitution a timeline of the peace processes pursued from 1987 2018 and trend analysis of approval ratings of the

officials and institutions created under the 1987 constitution to measure citizens' perceptions of the constitutional order. Research and writing of the chronology was led by the research team at the University of the Philippines Center for Integrated Development Studies under its project with international idea to complete a performance assessment of the 1987 constitution. The chronology is the first product of this collaboration and serves as the basis for the forthcoming performance assessment report.

Philippines Constitution and Citizenship Laws Handbook: Strategic Information and Basic Laws

This book contains the basics of the Philippine government and the important provisions of the 1987 Philippine Constitution.

The Constitution of the Philippines serves as a pivotal document encapsulating the legal and political framework of the nation. This constitutional text, marked by its clarity and precision, outlines the fundamental rights of citizens, the structure of government, and the rule of law, reflecting a commitment to democracy and social justice. The literary style is notably formal and authoritative, integrating both historical context and contemporary legal principles, thereby making it an essential reference for scholars and practitioners alike. As the latest iteration of the Philippine Constitution, it incorporates lessons from the nation's turbulent past, including colonization and dictatorship, aiming for a rebirth of civic life rooted in participatory governance. The Constitutional Commission, a collective of esteemed jurists and legal experts, played a key role in formulating this constitution during a time of political reawakening in the late 20th century. Comprised of diverse voices representing various regions and professions, the commission sought to create a document that not only addressed immediate concerns but also envisioned a future of stability, integrity, and resilience for the Filipino people in the face of adversity. This constitution is highly recommended for anyone interested in the evolution of Philippine democracy and governance; it provides a vital understanding of the legal rights and obligations that shape the lives of Filipinos, making it an indispensable resource for legal scholars, practitioners, and

engaged citizens passionate about the nation's democratic journey

many jurisdictions in asia have vested their courts with the power of constitutional review traditionally these courts would invalidate an impugned law to the extent of its inconsistency with the constitution in common law systems such an invalidation operates immediately and retrospectively and courts in both common law and civil law systems would leave it to the legislature to introduce corrective legislation in practice however both common law and civil law courts in asia have devised novel constitutional remedies often in the absence of explicit constitutional or statutory authorisation examining cases from hong kong bangladesh indonesia india and the philippines this collection of essays examines four novel constitutional remedies which have been judicially adopted prospective invalidation suspension order remedial interpretation and judicial directive that blurs the distinction between adjudication and legislation

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