

Reassessing Our Fear of Crime: Determinants and Impact

20 October 2016 | 09:00AM – 12:00PM
Makati Diamond Residences

Forum Abstract

In June 2016, President Rodrigo Duterte crusaded into Malacañang on a platform of change, which resonated among Filipinos who clamored for participation in the much-discussed Philippine economic renaissance. They longed for honest and efficient governance, quick recovery from calamities and conflicts, and effective resource management. The people also yearned for the restoration of safety in streets and communities seemingly overrun by crime and illegal drugs.

Now change is here. The administration has swiftly consolidated support among opposing political factions, drafted an economic agenda that reinforces the prevailing positive trajectory, and cracked down on criminal and illegal drug-related activities.

While many admire the administration's unflinching political will to rid the country of the drug menace, some are worried not only about human rights and due process but also about how the single-minded campaign may distract the government from other equally important national concerns. While the total amount budgeted for infrastructure will still be eight times the police budget, spending on upgrading the country's crumbling roads, railways, seaports, and airports will be increased by only about half the increase in police funding. The judiciary, in order to handle more cases, will benefit from a bigger budget, while there will be reduced funding for agriculture, health, labor and employment, and foreign affairs. The government has successfully politicized crime, and the Filipino people seem to approve, giving President Duterte a net satisfaction rating of 64 percent or "very good" just before his first 100 days in office. But why are Filipinos so afraid of crime? And is their fear of crime really just a fear of crime?

The AIM Rizalino S. Navarro Policy Center for Competitiveness (AIM RSN PCC) has embarked on a study that probes the collective Filipino sentiment regarding the fear of crime. The primary phase of the study is based on a survey of Metro Manila households and seeks to determine if fear of crime simply reflects socio-demographic characteristics, former victimization, and community concerns or if this fear is indicative of broader economic, social, and political insecurities. The results of the study may help align policy-making and program implementation in both the public and private sectors with the needs and concerns of citizens on the ground.

As part of its commitment to engage stakeholders in discussions related to the promotion of national competitiveness and shared prosperity, the **AIM Rizalino S. Navarro Policy Center for Competitiveness**, in partnership with **Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Philippines**, will hold a forum titled **Reassessing our Fear of Crime: Determinants and Impact** on **20 October 2016**, from **9:00 am to 12:00 pm**, at **Makati Diamond Residences, Makati City**.

Forum Objectives

1. Raise public interest in reflection regarding prevailing sentiments and attitudes towards the fear of crime.
2. Engage stakeholders in government and the private sector who are concerned with the promotion of peace and order and the creation of relevant policies and programs.
3. Provide a venue for the discussion of various viewpoints in business, government, civil society, and academia regarding the sociology, economics, and practical implications of the widespread fear of crime.

PROGRAMME

09:00 - 09:30 AM	Registration
09:30 - 09:45 AM	Welcome Remarks and Backgrounder Jamil Paolo Francisco Executive Director, AIM RSN Policy Center for Competitiveness
09:45 - 10:00 AM	Presentation of Results Emmanuel Garcia Economist, AIM RSN Policy Center for Competitiveness Panel Discussion
10:00 - 10:15 AM	Epictetus Patalinghug Professor Emeritus, University of the Philippines
10:15 - 10:30 AM	Harry Rodriguez Senior Adviser, Movement for the Restoration of Peace and Order
10:30 – 11:15 AM	Open Forum Moderator: Francisco L. Roman, Jr. , Asian Institute of Management
11:15 AM – 11:30 PM	Closing Remarks Benedikt Seemann Country Representative, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung PH