

# 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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recent confrontations between constitutional courts and parliamentary majorities in several european countries have attracted international interest in the relationship between the judiciary and the legislature some political actors have argued that courts have assumed too much power and politics has been extremely judicialized yet the extent to which this aggregation of power may have constrained the dominant political actors room for manoeuvre has never been examined accurately and systematically this volume fills this gap in the literature to explore the diversity and measure the strength of judicial decisions the authors have elaborated a new methodology that is intended to give a more nuanced picture of the practice of constitutional adjudication in europe the work opens with an assessment of the existing literature on empirical analysis of judicial decisions with a special focus on western europe and a short summary of the methodology of the project this is followed by 11 country studies and a concluding chapter providing a comprehensive comparative analysis of the results a further ten countries are explored in the counterpart volume to this book constitutional review in central and eastern europe judicial legislative relations in comparative perspective the collection will be an invaluable resource for those working in the areas of empirical legal research and comparative constitutional law as well as political scientists interested in judicial politics chapters 1 and 13 of this book are freely available as a downloadable open access pdf at taylorfrancis com under a creative commons attribution non commercial no derivatives cc by nc nd 4 0 license

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kenya like the rest of africa has gone through three sets of constitutional crises the first related to the trauma of colonialism and struggle for independence the second a period of constitutional dictatorship and the clamor for reform the third most recent crisis being one of identity legitimacy and the inability of the state to discharge its functions which has resulted in civil unrest violent ethnic conflicts poverty social exclusion and inequality the making of the constitution of kenya examines the processes issues and challenges of constitution making governance and legitimacy in that country and the lessons that can be learned for others on the continent equipping the reader with a sound historical perspective on constitutional developments and the crisis of constitutional legitimacy in kenya it gives an invaluable insight into the normative and political complexities involved in evolving a truly democratic and widely acceptable constitutional order in africa

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