

An Overview of the International Legal Concept of Peace Agreements as Applied to Current Philippine Peace Processes

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Many wars have been fought over the centuries over territory and self-determination. At one point there were as many as ten wars waging across the globe in various intensities resulting in all sorts of casualties. International Organizations have made several attempts to outlaw these armed conflicts, yet, in the end, peace treaties or agreements seem to be the most turned to for resolution.

This Article takes a cue from countries like Sudan, Ireland, Canada, and Nepal to discuss the complexities of existing models of peace agreements and applies them in the Philippine context. And though the Philippines's situation differs in that Mindanao is not a separate state, the experiences of these other states have made room for more flexible concepts such as shared sovereignty. In taking a look at the Comprehensive Agreement on Respect for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law, the Joint Agreement on Safety and Immunity Guarantees, and the Memorandum of Agreement on the Ancestral Domain Aspect of the GRP-MILF Tripoli Agreement, the authors conclude that the examination of the success of peace agreements is not just determined by its substantive provisions but by external factors as well.