



**what's going on in the Philippines?**



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Image: popular tourist spot in the Philippines, courtesy of travelphilippines.net



**On July 18, 2020, the Anti-Terrorism Law took effect, signed by President Duterte.**

**This law turned the Philippines into a fascist state.**

**Effectively, anyone who speaks out against the government is putting their life in danger.**

Image: Rodrigo Duterte holding up middle finger, courtesy of Ted Aljibe (AFP)

# What does the law say?



The **vagueness** of the law is what is scary. It can be very loosely interpreted, **defining activism as terrorism**.

This is especially concerning given the Philippine's **history of suppressing government criticism**. Let's take a look at some excerpts from the law.

Image: Filipino protesters clash with policemen, courtesy of Dennis M. Sabangan (EPA)

# This is how the law defines terrorism:

influence by intimidation the government or any international organization, or seriously destabilize or destroy the fundamental political, economic, or social structures of the country, or create a public emergency or seriously undermine public safety, shall be guilty of committing terrorism and shall suffer the penalty of life imprisonment without the benefit of parole and the

## And here are other actions that are a minimum of twelve (12) years in prison:

### SEC. 5. *Threat to Commit Terrorism.*

SEC. 6. *Planning, Training, Preparing, and Facilitating the Commission of Terrorism.* – It shall be unlawful for any

### SEC. 7. *Conspiracy to Commit Terrorism.* –

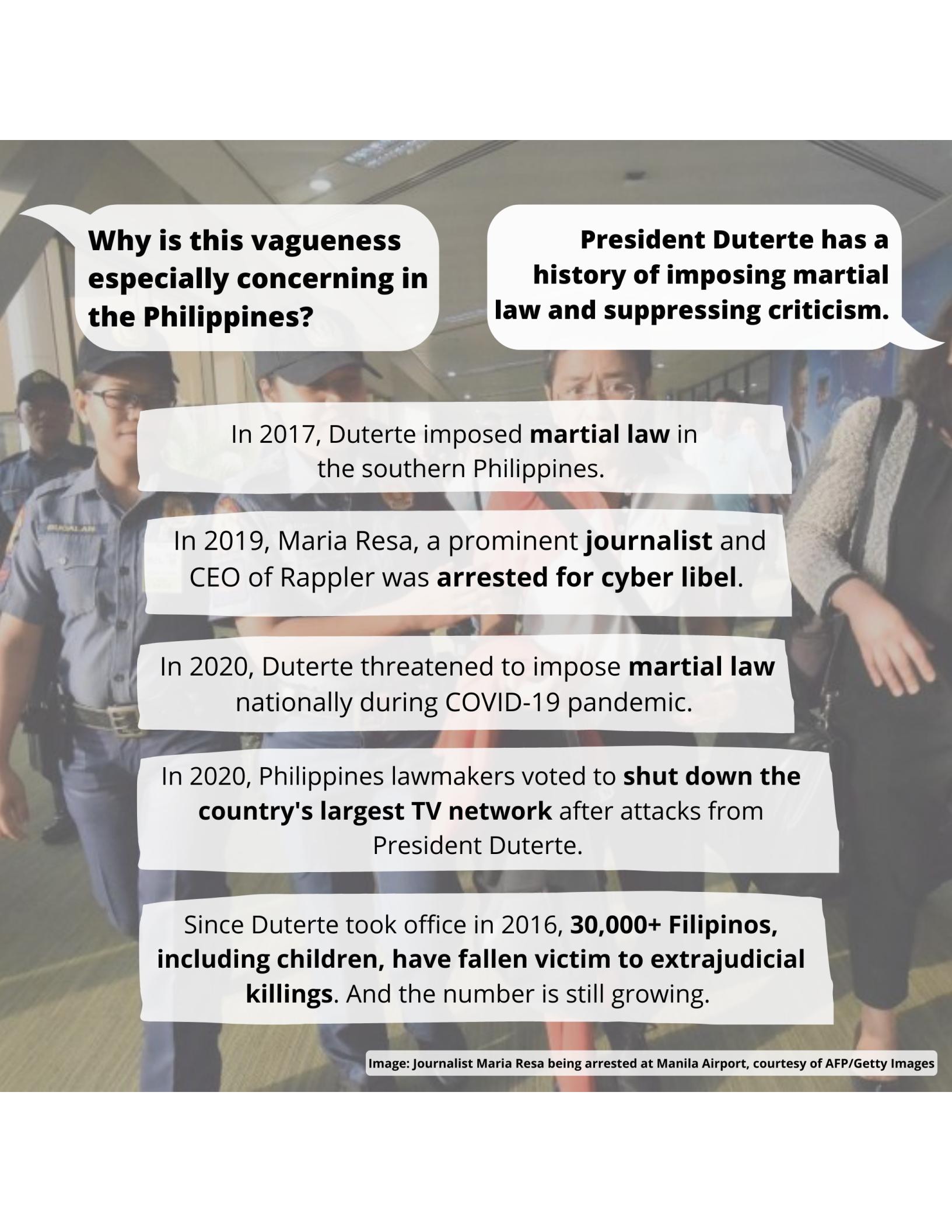
There is conspiracy when two (2) or more persons come to an agreement concerning the commission of terrorism as

### SEC. 8. *Proposal to Commit Terrorism.* –

Tactics specifically used by activists



SEC. 9. *Inciting to Commit Terrorism.* – Any person who, without taking any direct part in the commission of terrorism, shall incite others to the execution of any of the acts specified in Section 4 hereof by means of speeches, proclamations, writings, emblems, banners or other representations tending to the same end, shall suffer the penalty of imprisonment of twelve (12) years.



**Why is this vagueness especially concerning in the Philippines?**

**President Duterte has a history of imposing martial law and suppressing criticism.**

In 2017, Duterte imposed **martial law** in the southern Philippines.

In 2019, Maria Ressa, a prominent **journalist** and CEO of Rappler was **arrested for cyber libel**.

In 2020, Duterte threatened to impose **martial law** nationally during COVID-19 pandemic.

In 2020, Philippines lawmakers voted to **shut down the country's largest TV network** after attacks from President Duterte.

Since Duterte took office in 2016, **30,000+ Filipinos, including children, have fallen victim to extrajudicial killings**. And the number is still growing.



# How can I take action?

Demand your local Congressperson publicly condemn the law to pressure the Philippine government and spread awareness. Visit [linktr.ee/phraatlsources](http://linktr.ee/phraatlsources) for more information on contacting Congress.

Follow or join your local chapter of Bayan, Malaya Movement, Anakbayan, Gabriela, Kabataan Alliance, or NAFCON to stay updated on the situation and continue taking organized action.

Attend a rally in your local city organized by a Filipino grassroots organization or post on social media using the hashtags  
**#JUNKTERRORLAWNOW**  
**#JUNKTERRORLAW**  
**#OUSTDUTERTE**

Image: Protest condemning Anti-Terror Bill in front of PH Embassy, courtesy of Anakbayan DC