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NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)

RECEIVED BY: 

SENATE
P.S. RES. No. 1068

Introduced by Senator Robinhood Padilla

RESOLUTION

**EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE IN RECOGNIZING THE STRONG
FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF THE
PHILIPPINES AND THE CZECH REPUBLIC, AND COMMEMORATING THE 50TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO
NATIONS**

1 WHEREAS, over five decades ago, on 05 October 1973, the diplomatic relation
2 between the Republic of the Philippines and the Czech Republic was officially established;
3

4 WHEREAS, this relationship between the two countries is one that is rooted on a
5 deep historical narrative and cultural bond that dates back in the 19th century during the
6 time of the Philippines' national hero, Dr. Jose Rizal;
7

8 WHEREAS, the pages of our history paint a picture of friendship between the young
9 Jose Rizal and Ferdinand Blumentritt, a schoolmaster Litoměřice, a town that was once
10 part of Austria, then Czechoslovakia;
11

12 WHEREAS, Jose Rizal stayed in Litoměřice from May 13 to 16, 1887 wherein he
13 solidified his friendship with Blumentritt, whose studies and correspondence provided
14 historians with the details of Rizal's life;

1 WHEREAS, putting high premium on this historical link, the Philippine Embassy in
2 Prague launched in 2015 the Rizal-Blumentritt heritage trail in neighboring Litoměřice,
3 through a a map of 10 significant places, as its flagship project to promote general
4 awareness of the historical links between the two countries;

5
6 WHEREAS, the bust of Rizal, created by Filipino sculptor Jose Giroy, was unveiled
7 on 26 June 2018 as arranged by the Czech National Bank Vice-Governor Vladimír Tomšík,
8 who teamed up with Czech Ambassador to the Philippines Jaroslav Olša, Jr., with the
9 intention of commemorating Rizal's first visit to Prague in 1887 with his friend Maximo
10 Viola;

11
12 WHEREAS, Litoměřice is also home to the museum Blumentritt and Rizal's Bastion
13 and Parkany Jose Rizal, a park on a hill overlooking what used to be the train station
14 where Rizal and Blumentritt first met;

15
16 WHEREAS, in a way, Blumentritt played a significant role in our revolution against
17 Spanish colonialism, as he was believed to be the one who encouraged and even donated
18 money for the publication of Noli me Tangere, the book that later triggered the Filipinos'
19 movement for independence;

20
21 WHEREAS, for over 50 years, the relationship between the Filipinos and the Czechs
22 has only grown stronger and went beyond the recorded ties between two historical
23 figures;

24
25 WHEREAS, the Czech Ministry of Labor estimated around 7,026 Filipinos currently
26 in Czech Republic who are engaged in the processing industry, automotive, repair of
27 appliances, manufacturing, IT communications, real estate, health or wellness, and
28 household service work;

1 WHEREAS, it is also worthy to note that, Filipinos also pay homage to the 14
2 Czechoslovakian heroes "who endured unimaginable hardships and fought valiantly
3 alongside Filipino and American soldiers during the grueling World War II Death March
4 from Bataan", through the unveiling of the New Czech Republic marker in Capas, Tarlac
5 in 2023;

6
7 WHEREAS, in March 2024, President Ferdinand 'Bongbong' Marcos Jr. and First
8 Lady Louise 'Liza' Araneta-Marcos were invited by Czech Republic President Petr Pavel for
9 a state visit to further strengthen the bilateral cooperation and multilateral partnership
10 between the two nations;

11
12 WHEREAS, President Marcos reported a productive state visit, as he was able to
13 meet with top government officials of the Czech Republic: President Pavel and First Lady
14 Eva Pavlová, Prime Minister Petr Fiala, Czech Senate President Miloš Vystrčil, and Czech
15 Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies Markéta Pekarová Adamová.

16
17 WHEREAS, still during the state visit, the heads of both States witnessed the
18 signing of the Joint Communiqué aimed at establishing a labor consultation mechanism
19 between the Department of Migrant Workers (DMW) and the Czech Ministry of Labor and
20 Social Affairs, as well as the ceremonial signing of Memorandum of Understanding
21 (MOUs) between the Philippine business leaders and their Czech counterparts in a bid to
22 promote trade and investment of the two countries;

23
24 WHEREAS, the Philippines commits to further deepening its relationship by
25 fostering economic cooperation, cultural exchanges, and strategic partnerships with the
26 Czech Republic: Now, therefore, be it

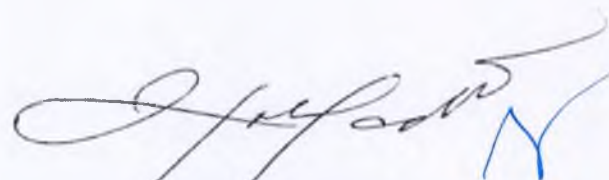
27
28 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, as it is hereby resolved, to recognize the strong sense
29 of the Senate in recognizing the strong friendship and cooperation between the Republic

1 of the Philippines and the Czech Republic, and to commemorate the 50th anniversary of
2 the diplomatic relations between the two nations;

3

4 RESOLVED, finally, That a copy of this Resolution be furnished to the Embassy of
5 the Czech Republic in the Philippines.

Adopted,



ROBINHOOD PADILLA

Senator