# HUMAN RIGHTS CHECKLIST





# NOBERTO GONZALES



**Accountability on the War on Drugs** 

SAGOT



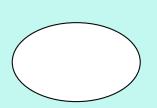
**Prevention of further HR abuses** 

SAGOT



Access to public healthcare

AMBOT



**Labor and Security** 

SAGOT



**Education for All** 

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**Press Freedom** 

AMBOT



**Freedom of Expression** 

SAGOT



**Crackdown on Corruption** 

AMBOT

#### 1. Government Accountability on the War on Drugs

- BILANG PILIPINO I Gonzales calls Duterte's drug war 'monumental tragedy' for heavy-handed approach
  - "It was a "monumental tragedy" on the part of the administration of President Rodrigo Duterte for not rehabilitating drug users who turned themselves in at the height of the brutal drug war," he said.
  - Gonzales slammed the killings under the bloody policy. He said the country had the chance to help those who surrendered but the government fell short in providing the necessary support for them.
  - Gonzales said he won't allow drug-related killings to continue as he described it
    as "a horrible approach." He echoed the position of other presidential candidates
    who want to focus on rehabilitation and a more holistic method.
  - He agreed that there's a basis for the ICC investigation, saying he would allow the representatives of the tribunal to come to the country. He added that it's "shameful" that the Philippines is being investigated since it shows the weakness of the legal system.
  - Gonzales added he would back the country's return to the ICC along with other efforts to "redeem the trust of the world."

# 2. Facilitating COVID-19 Recovery and Strengthening Healthcare System and Services

- Vote Pilipinas
  - Treat the COVID-19 pandemic as a national security threat
  - Improve overall health conditions and provide protection against COVID-19, partly through a stable food supply
- Gonzales on pandemic response: Health workers, not cops, should have been at frontlines (gmanetwork.com)
  - "All I can say is that in addressing the pandemic scientists and the medical community should have been given more visible participation on how to manage the pandemic in the initial months," he said.
  - "We should have entrusted the pharmaceutical and drug industry with regards to the vaccine because that's their expertise, but I did not hear anything from them at all," he added.



#### 3. Upholding Social Security and Labor Rights

#### Vote Pilipinas

- National mobilization to increase reserve security forces to 10 to 2 million
   Filipinos amid sea dispute in the West Philippine Sea
- Department of Agriculture to be first to be reformed to boost food production and increase farmers' income
- Modernize rice production

#### • CNN PHL DEBATES I Gonzales pitches national mobilization of people for defense

- As for economic reforms, Gonzales wants the government to issue sovereign guarantees to small business owners who borrow money from financial institutions, and to give subsidies to farmers.
- Capital, Gonzales said, remains elusive for micro-small and medium enterprises (MSME's), with banks and other lending institutions reluctant to grant them loans for fear of defaults.

#### • Gonzales to introduce 'social democratic formula' in economy if he wins presidency

- For Gonzales, increasing the cost of labor will strengthen the people's purchasing power, which in turn will strengthen the economic activities as well as consumption for goods and services
- Norberto Gonzales vows to stop open-pit mining, explore alternative energy sources (gmanetwork.com)
  - "We will stop open-pit mining. All I'm saying is, if we look at the resources that come from nature, we should put that in a sovereign fund so that the income will be for the people," he said.
  - "Let's speed up the elimination of fossil fuels. Let's not take the deadlines too seriously. We will do our best to get out of fossil fuel usage as much as possible," he said

# 4. Accessible, Quality, and Responsive Education

- Norberto Gonzales vows scholarship for teachers, standard education (gmanetwork.com)
  - Former Defense secretary and current presidential aspirant Norberto Gonzales said he will offer scholarships for teachers and implement "standard education" for all if he is elected the country's next president.
  - o Gonzales vowed to implement a "standard education" among students, citing that there should be no difference between the treatment among "rich and poor."
  - "Let's offer scholarships to our teachers. Our teachers are also very important. If I am going to be president, everyone who serves is important. The government must look after them carefully. We must not starve those who serve," he said.



### 5. Protection of Journalists, Human Rights Defenders, and Freedom of Expression

- Former Defense Secretary: "If you're a communist and you love your ideology come out, express it". (mindanews.com)
  - What is your answer to red-tagging?: 'What if I'm red? I have my constitutional rights. I'm not carrying a gun, I'm not advocating violence," he said.
  - "As a government, we cannot close our doors to dialogue, it is the obligation of the government to keep listening," he added.
  - On NTF-ELCAC: "I will not say now that I will abolish it, that's unfair but I will have it seriously reviewed. And you know where I stand," he said.
  - Gonzales also said he wants the Lumads to "have their own position" and not just be lumped together in peace negotiations with communist and Moro rebels.



- <u>CPP-NPA front groups have no place in Isko admin I Philippine News Agency (pna.gov.ph)</u>
  - "No, I am not in favor of a coalition governance with the CPP-NPA. I am for peace," Domagoso said during a press conference in Cabanatuan City on Friday with running mate Dr. Willie Ong and senatorial bets Carl Balita and Samira Gutoc, and adopted candidate John Castriciones.
- Isko Moreno open to drop terror tags vs CPP-NPA-NDF if willing to talk peace I Inquirer News
  - "(The) terrorist tag is done by the United States and the Philippine government. Basta ako 'yung peace talks we must seek for it as much as possible not only with the CPP-NPA but also to those other armed groups" Moreno, a former peace talks observers, said.
  - "In the meantime, if they are willing to talk and if they want a peaceful way of living, karapatan ng mga kapwa rin nating Pilipino na makapamuhay nang panatag at payapa. Nowadays it's hard to find peace, sometimes a very expensive word but we must seek for long and just peace in our country because every Filipino deserves it," he said.

