

The 2006 ILO Maritime Labor Convention: Prospects for Philippine Ratification

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The Article provides an extensive and well-researched insight on the ramifications of Philippine ratification of the 2006 Maritime Labor Convention (MLC). The MLC is a treaty which provides for minimum standards of diligence, safety, and employment for the shipping and maritime manning industries. The Philippines is not a signatory to the treaty.

The Author begins with an examination of the history of the International Labor Organization from its establishment in the 1919 Treaty of Versailles to the latest Conventions and Recommendations, namely the MLC.

The bulk of the Article is an in-depth and unbiased review of the contents of the MLC, covering topics such as the minimum requirements for seafarer employment, health care, and port state responsibilities. Chapter Five is devoted to an analysis of Philippine legislation that either reflects or distances itself from the contents of the MLC. The assessment of Philippine laws leads to a conclusion that outlines a route map for future action.

Ultimately, the Author recommends a consensus towards Philippine ratification of the MLC or at least domestic legislation that adheres to the policies set therein.