

85TH
PEN
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CONGRESS



SPEAKING IN TONGUES LITERARY FREEDOM AND THE INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES
MANILA SEPTEMBER 30 TO OCTOBER 4, 2019

Media Report



85th PEN International Congress



Speaking in Tongues



September 23 to October 4, 2019



Manila, Philippines



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OPENING PRESS RELEASE

WRITERS FROM ACROSS THE GLOBE GATHER IN MANILA, PHILIPPINES, FOR THE 85TH PEN INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS

30 September 2019 – From 30 September until 4 October, more than 200 writers and PEN members will be gathering in Manila, Philippines for the 85th annual PEN Congress - ‘Speaking in Tongues’ - centring on literary freedom and the promotion of indigenous languages. Writers from over 50 countries from across the world will come together to promote and celebrate linguistic diversity, highlight cases of imprisoned writers and discuss PEN’s response to the increasing challenges facing free expression across the world today.

‘The safeguarding of the rich traditions found in indigenous languages has been a central part of PEN’s work from its inception almost 100 years ago. It is through language that we communicate our history, culture and identity, through which we build bridges and share our unique systems of knowledge and understanding of the world. It is how we tell stories about our individual worlds to one another. It is therefore fitting that the 2019 PEN Congress – which is also the year of indigenous languages – is held in the Philippines, a country whose rich linguistic diversity and cultural heritage is at risk.’ – **Jennifer Clement, PEN International President.**

“It is the first time the PEN International congress is being held in Southeast Asia and it is only proper that PEN Philippines, one of the older PEN centres in Asia, is hosting it. And the theme of the conference on ‘indigenous languages’ dovetails with the UNESCO declaration of 2019 as the International Year of Indigenous Languages and is likewise quite perfectly embodied in the multicultural, multi-linguistic dimensions of the Philippines and much of Southeast Asia,” said **Lito Zulueta, Secretary General of PEN Philippines.**





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Hosted by PEN Philippines, members of the public will have the opportunity to join PEN's membership at a series of public events tackling a range of topics from translation and poetry, literary traditions and how literature and digitised media intersect. Guest speakers will include: Virgilio Almario, Eka Kurniawan, Resil Mojares, Tammy Ho Lai-Ming, Seno Gumira Ajidrama and Marne Kilates.

PEN's diverse community of writers gather each year to share ideas, discuss new campaigns and initiatives, and highlight emerging global challenges to freedom of expression. Members have the opportunity to attend literary events and workshops, and to share experiences of defending and promoting freedom of expression. In an important act of international solidarity, delegates will speak out on behalf of writers who are silenced in countries including Uganda, China, Eritrea, Syria, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, and Turkey.

<https://pen-international.org/news/writers-in-manila-philippines-85-pen-international-congress>



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FIGURES AND FACTS

FIGURES AND FACTS

- 215 participants (*delegates, special guests, artists*)
- 65 Countries
- 67 PEN Centres **(YOU MENTIONED THE INITIAL NUMBER BUT I BELIEVE THIS IS THE CORRECT NUMBER, COULD WE CHECK IT TOGETHER)**
- 4 working languages: *English, French, Spanish, Filipino*
- 5 working days
- 1 New PEN Centre
- 16 Sponsors
- 9 Resolutions adopted
- 8 public events
- 4 workshops
- 4 Committee meetings
- 4 Panels
- 18 Mother Tongues Speaking by PEN Philippines Members.



- Fernand de Varennes**, United Nations Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues remarked the challenges in linguistic rights.
- Maria Ressa**, prominent journalist from Philippines, joined an important panel about censorship in Asia.
- 43** Facebook tags, **47** Photos and **5** videos on Facebook and **92** Twitter mentions of Congress.
- 15 hours** of simultaneous interpreting.
- 2 Nobel Prizes** were elected as Vice Presidents: **Orhan Pamuk** and **Svetlana Alexievich**; also, Elena Poniatowska and Luisa Valenzuela, and **2** of the **most important writers in Latin America** were elected as Vice Presidents.
- 9 Resolutions** adopted by the Assembly on Prosecution Of Julian Assange, threats of democracy, migration or displaced writers, Kurdish and minority groups in Iran, Belarusian Language, Indigenous peoples of the Philippines, state the freedom of expression in Crimea, threats of freedom in expression and peace in South and East Asia.
- PEN International presented the unprecedented [Manifesto Democracy of Imagination](#) for the writers around the world. The document was adopted by the Assambley.
- PEN launched the report on Freedom of Expression in Phillipines [Carnival of Mirrors](#).
- 10 “Empty Chairs” presented for 10 cases from 10 countries.
- Sponsors: National Book Development Board, Philippine Soong Ching Ling Foundation, Atty. Saul Hofileña, Asia Foundation, GMA Network / Felipe Gozon, Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp., Rep. Sonny Angara, De La Salle University, University of Santo Tomas - The Varsitarian, Solidaridad Bookshop, Logika Concepts, Inc., Cultural Center of the Philippines, National Museum, National Book Committee of Indonesia, Japan Foundation, Emilio Aguinaldo College-Cavite.





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POST RELEASE

POST RELEASE

Manila Hosts 2019 Pen International Congress

Speaking in Tongues: Literary Freedom and Indigenous Languages

Read online [here](#)

Manila, Philippines

October 4, 2019

On September 30 to October 3, the 2019 PEN International Congress was hosted by PEN Philippines and held in Manila. It was attended by over 150 writers and PEN members from 65 PEN Centres across the globe, and the first time in the history of PEN International for it to be held in Southeast Asia.

This year's theme was "Speaking in Tongues: Literary Freedom and Indigenous Languages." Taking center stage were minority rights as well as indigenous languages, some of which PEN said were in danger of extinction due to globalization and the dominance of a few languages. The theme closely reflects the declaration by the United Nations of 2019 as the International Year of Indigenous Languages.

The extensive public program included events held at the De La Salle University, the Cultural Center of Philippines and the National Museum of Fine Art in Manila.

Prominent keynote speakers including Fernand de Varennes United Nations Special Rapporteur on minority issues and Philippine journalist Maria Ressa, founder of *Rappler* media, and writers and journalists from more than 65 countries, representing at least 30 languages around the world and 17 Filipino languages.

Elected as Vice Presidents of PEN International during the Congress were **Svetlana Alexievich**, who won the Nobel Prize in 2015; **Orhan Pamuk**, who won the Nobel Prize in 2006; **Frankie Sionil José**, **Elena Poniatowska**, and **Luisa Valenzuela**. All were voted by unanimous decision by the Assembly of Delegates. Francisco Sionil Jose is one of the most important writers in the Philippines. His novels and short stories, translated into 28 languages, depict the social underpinnings of class struggles and colonialism in Filipino society. He is also founder of the PEN Philippines Center.



During the public events, journalists and writers discussed important themes surrounding the role of women writers in media, crisis in media and hate speech, the free speech crisis in different regions in the world, indigenous language rights, and the role of literature.

As well as other events of the Congress, Public discussions focused on:

- Indigenous languages under threat
- Impact of digital media and algorithms in Freedom of Expression.
- Role of Woman Writers in contemporary media.
- Hate Speech

As part of its annual routine, PEN International also issued a report on the host country, citing continuing threats to press freedom and literary expression in the Philippines.

Public actions

On 1st of October, PEN members released a statement to demand freedom of expression and assembly in Hong Kong. The statement said:

Alarmed at the events in Hong Kong on the 70th Anniversary of the foundation of the People's Republic of China, shortly after the 5th Anniversary of the Umbrella Movement, 72 PEN Centres from all around the world meeting at the 85th PEN International Congress in Manila, Philippines, demand that the Hong Kong government respects the right of free expression of journalists and writers and the right to freedom of assembly. We condemn the excessive use of force by the police, which has accelerated to the point of using live ammunition. On October 1, an eighteen-year-old protestor was shot and five live rounds were fired across different locations.

On October 2, the delegates remembered the death of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi, who was assassinated on 2nd of October 2018 in the Consulate of Saudi Arabia in Turkey. All the delegates and writers remembered him with an Empty Chair Memorial.

Jennifer Clement, President of PEN International, Eric Lax, Treasurer of PEN International, Dan Gorman, President of English PEN; Nik Williams of Scottish PEN, and Hayder Alwali, Board Member of PEN Iraq, visited the Saudi Embassy to hand over a letter regarding the murder of Khashoggi, signed by the delegates.



Congress resolutions

The Assembly passed several resolutions on a number of issues, including situations of freedom of expression, threats to democracy, migration, and displaced writers, and attacks to freedom of expression in places such as Crimea, Iran and, among others.

Jennifer Clement, PEN International President, Per Wästberg, Emeritus PEN International President and Chair of the Nobel Prize for Literature, Eric Lax, Vice President of PEN International, Nayantara Sahgal, Vice President of PEN International, Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o, Vice President of PEN International, and Paul Muldoon, Board Member of PEN America, presented a Resolution regarding The Democracy of the Imagination. An excerpt from the Resolution reads: "PEN believes the imagination allows writers and readers to transcend their own place in the world to include the ideas of others. This place for some writers has been prison where the imagination has meant interior freedom and, often, survival."

The assembly passed a Resolution on the potential abuse of the United States Espionage Act in the demand of extradition of Julian Assange as an attack on freedom of expression"

The assembly also condemned the "suppression of free speech" by China in Hong Kong and Tibet and "human rights violations" in North Korea and Vietnam. Similarly, another resolution condemned the continued "stigmatization of the Belarusian language in Belarus, where the authorities have been seeking to assert the dominance of the Russian language.

In another broad resolution regarding the "threats to freedom of expression and peace in South and East Asia," the assembly condemned "systematic human rights violations" in North Korea and Vietnam.

PEN said it was "deeply concerned" by the "violent persecution of minority groups" such as the Rohingya of Myanmar and the Uyghur of China by "both state and non-state actors."

The assembly passed the PEN Philippines-proposed "Resolution on the promotion of language justice and the protection of the cultural integrity of the indigenous peoples of the Philippines.



**FOCUS
EVENTS**



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EMPTY CHAIRS



Empty Chair about Shathika Sathkumara (Sri Lanka)

Ten writers imprisoned and remembered in during the Congress: Idris Said Aba Arre (Eritrea), Stella Nyanzi (Uganda), Ilham Tohti (China), Jamal Kashoggi (Saudi Arabia), Miroslava Breach (Mexico), Razan Zaitouneh (Syria) Shathika Sathkumara (Sri Lanka), Kunchok Tsephel Gopey Sang (China), Nedim Turfent (Turkey) among others that delegates shown the cases during the Assambley, for example, the case of Alaa Abd El Fattah, from Egypt.



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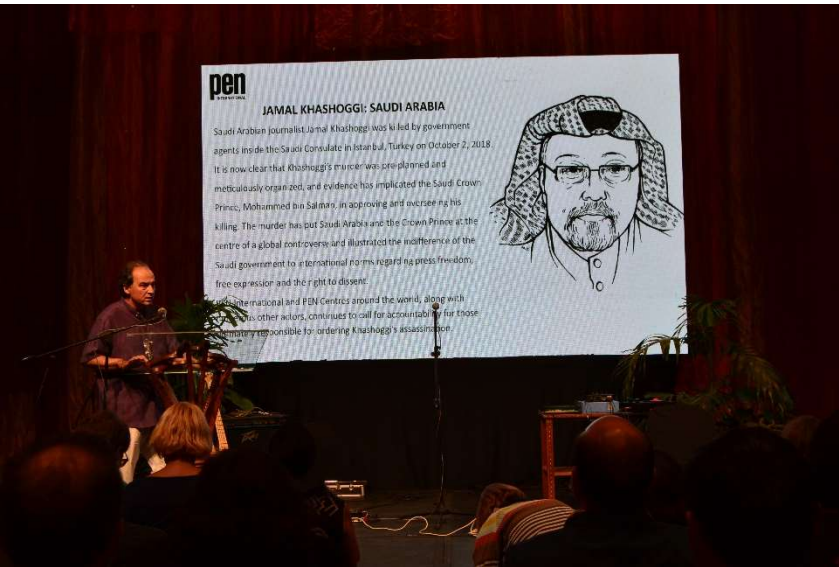
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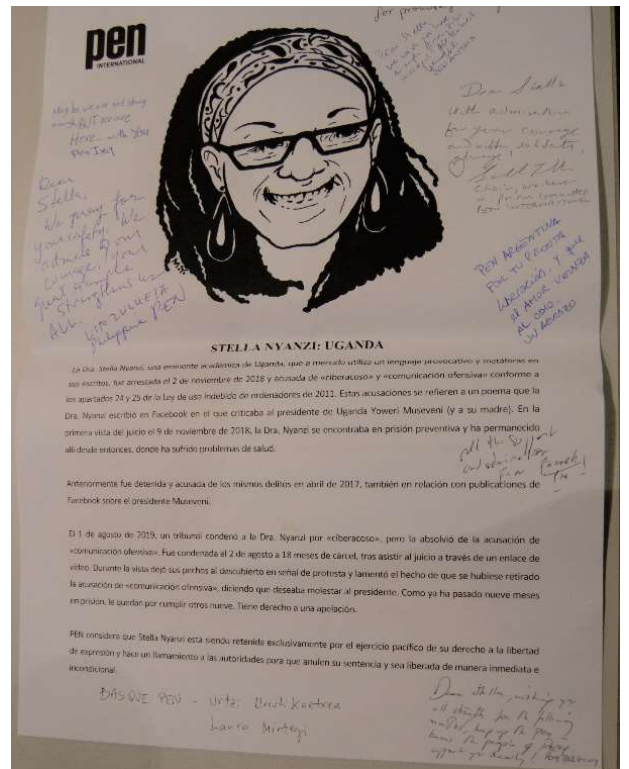
Tulin Dürsun is presenting the Empty Chair of Nedim Turfent



Lucina Kathman, PEN San Miguel de Allende, presents the Empty Chair of Miroslava Breach



Carles Torner is presenting the case of Jamal Kashoggi



Assembly signed the Empty Chairs of Stella Nyanzi



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Discussion Panels

&

Committee Meetings

DISCUSSION PANELS AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Writers in Prison Committee (WiPC)



PANELS

FINANCIAL CRISIS IN THE MEDIA AND IMPACT ON FREE SPEECH

Traditional media outlets have outgrown their business models and are transitioning to new platforms. How will they exercise genuine press freedom and still survive as media business outlets under heavy authoritarian pressure?

Participants: Nik Williams (Scottish PEN) Lito B. Zulueta, Editor/Editorialist, *Philippine Daily Inquirer*, Richard Stursberg (PEN Canada), Dru Menaker (PEN America) and Pierre Pierson (Nicaragua PEN)

THE IMPACT OF ALGORITHMS AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ON FREE SPEECH

Algorithms and artificial intelligence exert a growing if invisible impact on everyone's freedom of expression. This panel will explore what this means for writers, marginalised communities and everyone who speaks out and what the PEN community can do in the digital age.

Participants: Salil Tripathi, Chair, WiPC, Nik Williams (Scottish PEN), Brendan de Caires (Canada PEN), Ma Thida (Myanmar PEN/PEN International Board) and Nadezhda Azhgikhina (Moscow PEN).



Writers for Peace Committee (WfPC)



THE HATE SPEECH

Hate speech, manifesting itself in several forms, has increasingly become a growing threat to freedom of speech. It has sparked debates across the world on whether it should be leaguered, on how it should be regulated, and by whom. Laws to restrict hate speech have been implemented in several countries and PEN International needs to take a clear position and craft a strategy to face this issue.

Participants: Emmanuel Pierrat, chair of the WfPC, Angelo R. Lacuesta, Fictionist, Writer for Film, Anzhelina Polonskaya (Russian PEN), Burhan Sonmez (PEN International Board), Mohammad Moheuddin (Bangladesh PEN) and Ilaria Maria Sala (PEN Hong Kong).





Women Writers Committee (WCC)

THE ROLE OF WOMEN WRITERS IN AN AUTHORITARIAN-RULED SYSTEM

How are women writers represented and regarded in the prizes, literary pages, and festivals of the Philippines and in the Asia-Pacific, including in the Man Asian Prize?

Participants: Zoe Rodriguez, Chair, WCC, Susan Lara, Fictionist, Criselda Yabes, Fictionist, Journalist, Zeynep Oral (Turkey PEN) and Fatima Sillah (Gambia PEN).



Translation and Linguistic Rights Committee (TLRC)

During the Meeting of Translation and Linguistic Rights Committee, the centres involved talked about the concerns about Linguistic Rights and the chair of the TCRC exposed the results and the activity during 2018 and the plans.



Members of the TLRC Committee



Members of PEN Philippines working on Resolution about Linguistic Rights



Simona Skravec is presenting the results of the activities during the year



PANEL

WRITING THE FUTURE IN INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES

Many indigenous languages are under threat—it's estimated that one dies every two weeks. UNESCO has declared 2019 the International Year of Indigenous Languages to preserve these critical markers of cultural health. How do we keep strong and alive writing in the different indigenous languages throughout the world?



Participants: Simona Škrabec, Chair TLRC; Nina Jaramillo, PEN Argentina; Ruperta Bautista, Mayan Writer; Fernand De Varennes, Special Rapporteur for Minority Issues, United Nations; Telesforo Sungkit, Jr., Lumad Novelist from Bukidnon, Felix Villanueva, writer, PEN Quebec; Genevieve Asenjo, Fictionist/Poet in Kinaray-a.



PANELS AT THE ASSEMBLY

Reshaping Southeast Asia

UN Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues addresses the Assembly

This forum examined the positive changes in Malaysia, the crisis in the Philippines, the challenges in Singapore and Indonesia, the crisis in Hong Kong, and beyond Southeast Asia, in China and India/Kashmir.



Salil Tripathi (Chair of WiPC), Fernand de Varennes, Ilaria Maria Sala (PEN Hong Kong), Duong Lloyd (Vietnamese Writers Abroad PEN), Maria Karina Bolasco (Philippine PEN), Publisher, Bernice Chauly (PEN Malaysia)



PANEL DISCUSSION

Freedom in Crisis

This panel provided a survey on the state of freedom of expression and press dissent across the globe.



General view of the Assambley during the Panel. Participants: Jesper Bengtsson (PEN Sweden), Maria Ressa, CEO (Rappler Philippines) [videoconferencing, Jaime FlorCruz (PEN Philippines/CNN Beijing), Ingeborg Senneset (PEN Norway) and Danson Kahyana (PEN Uganda).



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PUBLIC EVENTS



FREE THE WORD!

PEN Public Event



*PEN Public Lecture at the
Cultural Centre of Philippines*

During this poetry evening, poets from around the world read literature in many languages.

Participants: Lourde de Veyra (Philippines), Marjorie Evasco (Philippines), Kurt Alalag (Philippines), Tammy Lai-Ming Ho (Hong Kong), Seno Gumira Ajidarma (Indonesia), Fariq Alfaruqi (Indonesia), Judyth Hill (Mexico), Danson Kahyana (Uganda), Veera Tyhtilä (Finland), Félix Villeneuve (Canada), Santiago Villafania (Philippines), Marne Kilates (Philippines), and many more!



Veera Tyhtilä Reading her poetry



1Mayan Writer, Ruperta Bautista, read her poetry in Tsotsil and Spanish



National Museum of the Philippines (Fine Arts)



Panel 'Reconfiguring Resistance in Traditional and Digitized Media'

Participants: Alfred Yuson, PEN Philippines, Manuel Quezon III, Columnist, *Philippine Daily Inquirer*, Glenda Gloria, *Rappler*, Pierre Pierson, PEN Nicaragua and Tomica Bajsic, PEN Croatia.

Panel 'Migrating Languages: From Indigenous to Mainstream'

Participants: Hope Yu, Chair, NCCA National Committee on the Literary Arts, Howie Severino, Broadcast Journalist, GMA7, Philippines, Noel Galon de Leon, Publisher, *Kasingkasing Press*, Han Zaw, PEN Myanmar, Seno Gumira Ajidarma, Fictionist, Indonesia, Jean Frédéric Brun, PEN Occitan.





Panel Shut Up: ‘The Many Ways of Repression’

Participants: Cristina Pantoja Hidalgo, PEN Philippines, John Nery, Columnist, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Pia Ranada, Rappler Philippines, Lucina Kathmann, PEN San Miguel, Mexico/PEN International Vice President, Danson Kahyana, PEN Uganda, Tetyana Teren, PEN Ukraine

Panel ‘Words Crossing Worlds: Translation/Transliteration’

Participants: Dinah Roma, PEN Philippines, John McGlynn, Lontar Indonesia, Ginny Takemori, Translator, Japan, Felix Villeneuve, PEN Québec, Katlin Kaldmaa, PEN Estonia / PEN International Secretary.

Panel ‘Creative Tensions and Art Forces’

Participants: Ricardo De Ungria, PEN Philippines, Inga Gaile, PEN Latvia, Kiri Dalena, Visual Artist & Filmmaker, Philippines, Tammy Lai-Ming Ho, PEN Hong Kong, Bina Sarkar Ellias, Writer & Publisher, International Gallerie, India.

Panel ‘Body Language: Expressions of the Indigenous’

Participants: Malou Jacob, PEN Philippines, Padmapani Perez, Writer & Anthropologist, Philippines, Ea Torrado, Dancer, Philippines, Kristian Cordero, PEN Philippines, Veera Tyhtilä, PEN Finland



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Keynote

Addresses

Eka Kurniawan,
Novelist,
Indonesia; Prince
Claus Award
2018, Resil
Mojares,
National Artist
for Literature,
Philippines
(introduction of
the speakers:
Marne Kilates).



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Special projects

#FreeAseyev



FLASHMOB #FREEASEYEV



The 85th PEN Congress opened with a *flashmob* in support of Mr. Aseyev. PEN International President Jennifer Clement urged conference delegates to stand in solidarity with Mr. Aseyev, who is a member of PEN's Ukrainian chapter. The delegates held up signs bearing the hashtag **#FreeAseyev**. Mr. Aseyev, who also wrote for the Ukrainian publications *Mirror of the Week* and *The Ukrainian Week*, published dozens of posts about the effects of Russia's intervention on daily life, schooling, politics and culture from 2014 until he was seized in the summer of 2017. Militants have

reportedly accused him of espionage and threatened him with up to 14 years in custody, although RFE/RL has no knowledge of him being formally charged by any recognized authority of any crime. In August 2017, the Ukrainian government included his name among those officially listed for a possible prisoner exchange. The One Free Press Coalition, the U.S. Mission to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the OSCE Representative on Freedom of Media, the bipartisan U.S. Congressional Freedom of the Press Caucus, U.S. Sens. Robert Menendez (D-N.J.) and Marco Rubio (R-Fla.), and U.S. Rep. Eliot Engel (D-N.Y.) have all called for Mr. Aseyev's release. Nobel Laureate Svetlana Alexievich has added her voice to efforts on his behalf, writing, "It goes without saying, I am with you in your struggle on behalf of Stanislav Aseyev."



Visit to Saudi Embassy

Jamal Khashoggi



Daniel Gorman, President of English PEN, Hayder Alwali, Board Member of PEN Iraq, Nik Williams of Scottish PEN, Eric Lax, Treasurer of PEN International and Jennifer Clement, President of PEN International visited the Saudi Embassy during the Congress.

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On October 2, the delegates remembered the death of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi, who was assassinated on 2nd of October 2018 in the Consulate of Saudi Arabia in Turkey. All the delegates and writers remembered him with an Empty Chair Memorial.

Jennifer Clement, President of PEN International, Eric Lax, Treasurer of PEN International, Dan Gorman, President of English PEN; Nik Williams of Scottish PEN, and Hayder Alwali, Board Member of PEN Iraq, visited the Saudi Embassy to hand over a letter regarding the murder of Khashoggi, signed by the delegates.

Jamal Khashoggi, Saudi Arabian journalist, was killed by government agents inside the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul, Turkey on October 2, 2018. It is now clear that Khashoggi's murder was pre-planned and meticulously organized, and evidence has implicated the Saudi Crown Prince, Mohammed bin Salman, in approving and overseeing his killing. The murder has put Saudi Arabia and the Crown Prince at the centre of a global controversy and illustrated the indifference of the Saudi government to international norms regarding press freedom, free expression and the right to dissent.



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Philippine Artists Congress at PEN International (PAC@PEN)



The Philippine Artists Congress is a gathering, at the 85th PEN International Congress, of Filipino and Philippine-based artists and scholars, cultural workers, and critics working in and across all fields and manner of artistic practice. The aim is for artists to gain a deeper understanding of the causes and effects, premises and implications of the pressing issues confronting Philippine society today, and to discuss how artists might respond to the challenges of the times through their art works as individuals or as a group. In the face of a crisis of truth and our values as a people, how do artists exercise responsibility over this situation through their art or creative practice? What are the possibilities for working together now and in the years to come? This is a call for concern and unity during these hard times. Come and lend your hand and power as artist and citizen.

NA Bienvenido Lumbera, Nicanor Tiongson, Jazmin Llana



STATEMENT ON HONG KONG
Demanding freedom of assembly



Emmanuel Pierrat, Chair of Writers for Peace Committee and Ilaria Maria Sala, from Hong Kong Centre, among others PEN Members, presented the statement on Hong Kong during the Assembly: <https://pen-international.org/news/writers-for-peace-pen-demands-freedom-of-expression-and-assembly-in-hong-kong>

Alarmed at the events in Hong Kong on the 70th Anniversary of the foundation of the People's Republic of China, shortly after the 5th Anniversary of the Umbrella Movement, 72 PEN Centres from all around the world meeting at the 85th PEN International Congress in Manila, Philippines, demand that the Hong Kong government respects the right of free expression of journalists and writers and the right to freedom of assembly. We condemn the excessive use of force by the police, which has accelerated to the point of using live ammunition. On October 1, an eighteen-year-old protestor was shot and five live rounds were fired across different locations.



MEDIA PUBLICATIONS



Media coverage

HASHTAGS

#SpeakingInTongues #PENManilaCongress2019

MEDIA PUBLICATIONS (149 IN TOTAL)

- 3 interviews
- 35 news pieces
- 114 multimedia and authorial materials

News Pieces

<https://www.manilatimes.net/2019/09/29/weekly/the-sunday-times/pen-international-congress-in-manila/623244/>

<https://lifestyle.inquirer.net/347070/worlds-top-writers-now-in-manila-for-85th-pen-international-congress/>

http://www.philippinepen.ph/philippinepen_news.html

<https://philippinesgraphic.net/pen-international-congress-freeing-the-word/>

<http://www.ukrweekly.com/uwwp/ukrainian-president-pen-international-rfe-rl-renew-calls-to-free-aseyev/>

<http://calendar.insidebayarea.com.eventful.com/events/philippine-artists-congress-pen-international-/E0-001-130359479-4>



<https://www.bworldonline.com/tag/philippine-center-of-international-pen/>
<https://www.pressreader.com/search?query=85th%20Congress%20PEN%20International&languages=es&groupBy=Language&hideSimilar=0&type=1&state=1>
<https://belsat.eu/en/news/pen-international-calls-on-belarus-to-use-belarusian-language/>
<https://businessmirror.com.ph/2019/10/27/fighting-for-freedom-pen-amid-protests/>
<https://lifestyle.mb.com.ph/tag/85th-pen-international-congress/>
<https://www.philstar.com/opinion/2019/09/30/1956067/why-pen>
<http://www.ust.edu.ph/uncategorized/ust-hosts-closing-ceremonies-of-85th-pen-intl-congress/>
<https://imi.org.ua/en/news/journalists-subject-to-repressions-in-crimea-resolution-adopted-at-international-pen-congress-in-i29909>
<https://pressroom.rferl.org/a/ukrainian-president-international-pen-rferl-renew-calls-to-free-aseyev/30193958.html>
<https://www.atinitonews.com/2019/09/pen-international-congress-in-manila/>
<https://jfmo.org.ph/events-and-courses/talks-contemporary-japanese-literature-ginny-takemori/>
<https://www.usagm.gov/2019/10/01/ukrainian-president-pen-international-rfe-rl-renew-calls-to-freeaseyev/>
<https://philippinesgraphic.net/philippine-pen-to-host-international-writers-congress/>
<https://lifestyle.mb.com.ph/2019/09/30/pen-and-passion/>
<http://piliptomirror.com/pagsasalita-sa-ibat-ibang-wika-kalayaang-pampanitikan-at-mga-katutubong-wika/>
<https://www.etxepare.eus/en/basque-pen-club-publishes-new-edition-of-basque-writing>
<http://manilastandard.net/opinion/columns/pop-goes-the-world-by-jenny-ortuoste/305883/pen-85-cric-2019-and-the-first-laro-conference.html>
<https://opinion.inquirer.net/124600/the-new-myth-of-the-jealous-lover>



<https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1174165/writers-assembly-flags-threats-to-freedom-of-expression>

<https://www.philstar.com/lifestyle/arts-and-culture/2019/09/23/1953957/literary-calendar-towards-yearend>

Mentions in pages and other media

<https://scottishpen.org/speaking-in-tongues-85th-pen-congress-in-manila/>

<http://pen.org.ua/en/na-mizhnarodnomu-pen-kongresi-v-manili-uhvalyly-rezolyutsiyi-shhodo-sytuatsiyi-zi-svobodoyu-slova-v-krymu/>

http://www.philippinepen.ph/philippinepen_news.html

<https://pen-centre.by/statements/>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_OXXXeOYZAY



Sponsors

National Book Development Board

Philippine Soong Ching Ling Foundation

Atty. Saul Hofileña

Asia Foundation

GMA Network / Felipe Gozon

Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp.

Rep. Sonny Angara

IN-KIND SPONSORS

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University of Santo Tomas - The Varsitarian

Solidaridad Bookshop

Logika Concepts, Inc.

Cultural Center of the Philippines

National Museum

National Book Committee of Indonesia

Japan Foundation

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