



PRESS RELEASE

Department of National Defense – Republic of the Philippines

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DND, Philippine Red Cross, and DOH lead launch of IRR on the Red Cross & Other Emblems Act Of 2013



(From left) Philippine Red Cross (PRC) Secretary General Atty. Oscar P. Palabyab, DOH Undersecretary. Herminigildo V. Valle, and DND Undersecretary Ricardo A. David, Jr. hold copies of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of RA 10530 or the Red Cross & Other Emblems Act of 2013 during a launching ceremony held at Novotel Manila on June 20, 2018.



(From left) DOH Undersecretary Herminigildo Valle, DND Public Affairs Director Arsenio R. Andolong, and PRC Secretary General Atty. Oscar Palabyab hold a press conference after launching the Implementing Rules and Regulations of RA 10530 or the Red Cross & Other Emblems Act of 2013 at Novotel Manila on June 20, 2018.

Defense Undersecretary Ricardo A. David, Jr., Health Undersecretary Herminigildo Valle, and Philippine Red Cross (PRC) Secretary General Atty. Oscar P. Palabyab launched the Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 10530 or the Red Cross & Other Emblems Act of 2013 in a ceremony held at Novotel Manila on June 20, 2018.

RA 10530 is an act defining the use and protection of the Red Cross, Red Crescent, and Red Crystal emblems. The Act provides for penalties for violations thereof on the use of these emblems. It states that the Department of National Defense, the Department of Health, and the Department of Trade and Industry, in consultation with the PRC, are mandated to adopt its IRR.

“The passage of RA 10530 in 2013 marked a momentous step in the Philippine Government’s efforts to draw attention to the importance of these emblems of humanity – the Red Cross, Red Crescent, and Red Crystal – in times of armed conflict,” Undersecretary David said in his message.

The Undersecretary explained that the emblems are neutral and free from any religious, ideological, cultural or political affiliation and are internationally recognized symbols of the protection that International Law confers on the wounded and sick, and

those caring for them in times of armed conflict.

“In the Philippines, persons, transports, units and facilities displaying the Red Cross emblem must be respected at all times and must be free from any forms of attack,” Usec David emphasized.

The IRR for RA 10530 was adopted in 2017 so that these emblems will be respected and used properly by all parties involved in conflicts.

Usec David emphasized, “the message of the rules are clear and strong, underlying the call on all parties of armed conflicts in a country to comply with their obligations under the International Humanitarian Law and to develop effective measures to protect people's lives by preventing and addressing misuse of the emblems and attacks against all those who are engaged in medical and other humanitarian functions in times of armed conflict.”

“Let us always keep in mind that the respect for the emblems of humanity and the protection of the wounded and sick, and those who give medical and humanitarian aids in times of armed conflict are essential in ensuring humanity in war,” the defense official concluded. ###