Philippine Muslims have been politically marginalized and are considered economically deprived in what is their ancestral domain – the Southern Philippines. Discontented Moros formed armed separatist groups in the early 1970s and have since waged a struggle for self-determination that continues to this day.

The Framework Agreement on the Bangsamoro (FAB) is an agreement between the Government of the Philippines and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) that aims to end the armed conflict between government forces and the MILF. The FAB lays down principles for establishing an autonomous political entity for the Bangsamoro, as a way of recognizing their distinct history and their aspirations as a distinct people.

José David Lápuz is a member of the UNESCO National Commission of the Philippines (UNACOM) on the Committee of Social and Human Sciences and the UNESCO Advisory Committee on Human Rights and Poverty and has lectured at Harvard, UCLA, UH-Manoa, and at universities in Great Britain, Russia and Germany. Lápuz has served as Presidential Consultant to President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo on international relations, global politics and humanitarian issues.

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