

The story of Philippine diplomatic missions on Wikipedia,
and how you can write them too!

WIKIPEDIPLOMACY

JOSH LIM - WIKI SOCIETY OF THE PHILIPPINES

I started writing Wikipedia articles about
Philippine diplomatic missions in 2013.



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The **Embassy of the Philippines in Warsaw** is the [diplomatic mission](#) of the [Republic of the Philippines](#) to the [Republic of Poland](#). It is located on ul. Stanisława Lentza 11 in [Wilanów](#), near the [Wilanów Palace](#). Although the current embassy dates back to 2009, the Philippines maintained a previous resident embassy in Poland in the early 1990s.

History

Although diplomatic relations between the Philippines and Poland were established on September 22, 1973,^[1] diplomatic relations were originally conducted via the Philippine Embassy in [the Hague](#), which originally maintained jurisdiction over Poland until 1982, when jurisdiction was later transferred to the Philippine Embassy in [Berlin](#).^[2] In 1991, with the democratization of Poland, jurisdiction was subsequently transferred to the Philippines' newly-opened resident embassy in Warsaw.^[2]

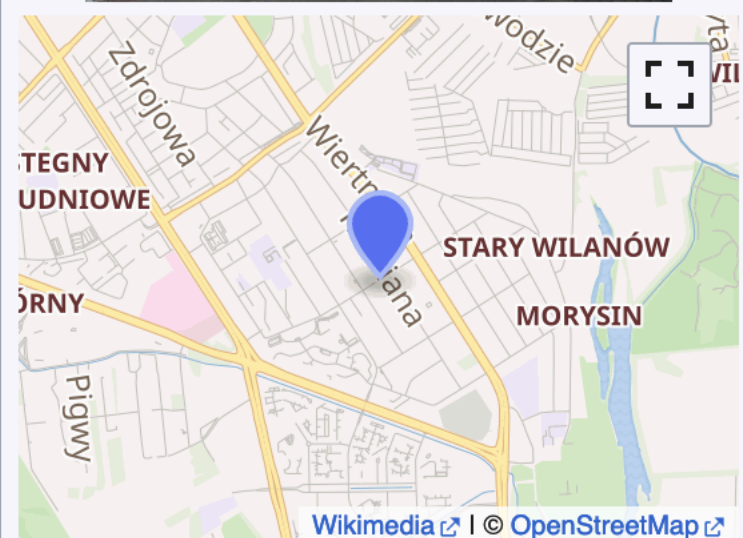
Financial difficulties forced the closure of the Philippine Embassy in 1993, with jurisdiction transferred to the Philippine Embassy in [Budapest](#).^[3] The wisdom of closing the embassy at a time when the Philippine foreign service was being downsized was questioned, however, given the subsequent rise of Polish influence in Europe since then, as well as its eventual accession to the [European Union](#) in 2004: a point that columnist Amando Doronila raised in the *Philippine Daily Inquirer* in 2002.^[4] While there was no resident embassy in Poland, the Philippines conducted diplomatic relations in the country through an honorary consulate based in Warsaw. A second honorary consulate was opened in [Wrocław](#) in 2005, with jurisdiction over Poland's southern [voivodeships](#).^[5]

In July 2009, the Philippine Embassy in Warsaw was re-opened at its current location,^[3] around the same time new resident embassies in Ireland, Finland and Portugal were also opened.^[6] Alejandro del Rosario, who at the time was the Philippine Ambassador to Hungary, was appointed as the mission's first ambassador.^[3] The opening of the mission however was not without controversy: in 2010, Senator [Franklin Drilon](#) questioned the need for embassies in countries with small Filipino communities, including Poland, and called for a review of the Philippines' diplomatic presence worldwide.^[7] This led to the closure of ten posts in 2012, including the closure of the Philippine Embassy in [Stockholm](#) on October 31, 2012,^[8] which had jurisdiction over [Estonia](#), [Latvia](#) and [Lithuania](#).^[9] Jurisdiction over the three countries was later transferred to the Philippine Embassy in Warsaw.

Staff

The Philippine Embassy in Warsaw is currently headed by Ambassador Patricia Ann V. Paez, who was appointed to the position by President [Benigno Aquino III](#) on May 4, 2012.^[10] The Warsaw mission is also one of the Philippines' smaller diplomatic missions, with a total of eight staff members.^[11]

Embassy of the Philippines, Warsaw



Location	Warsaw
Address	ul. Stanisława Lentza 11
Ambassador	Patricia Ann V. Paez
Website	http://www.warsawpe.org

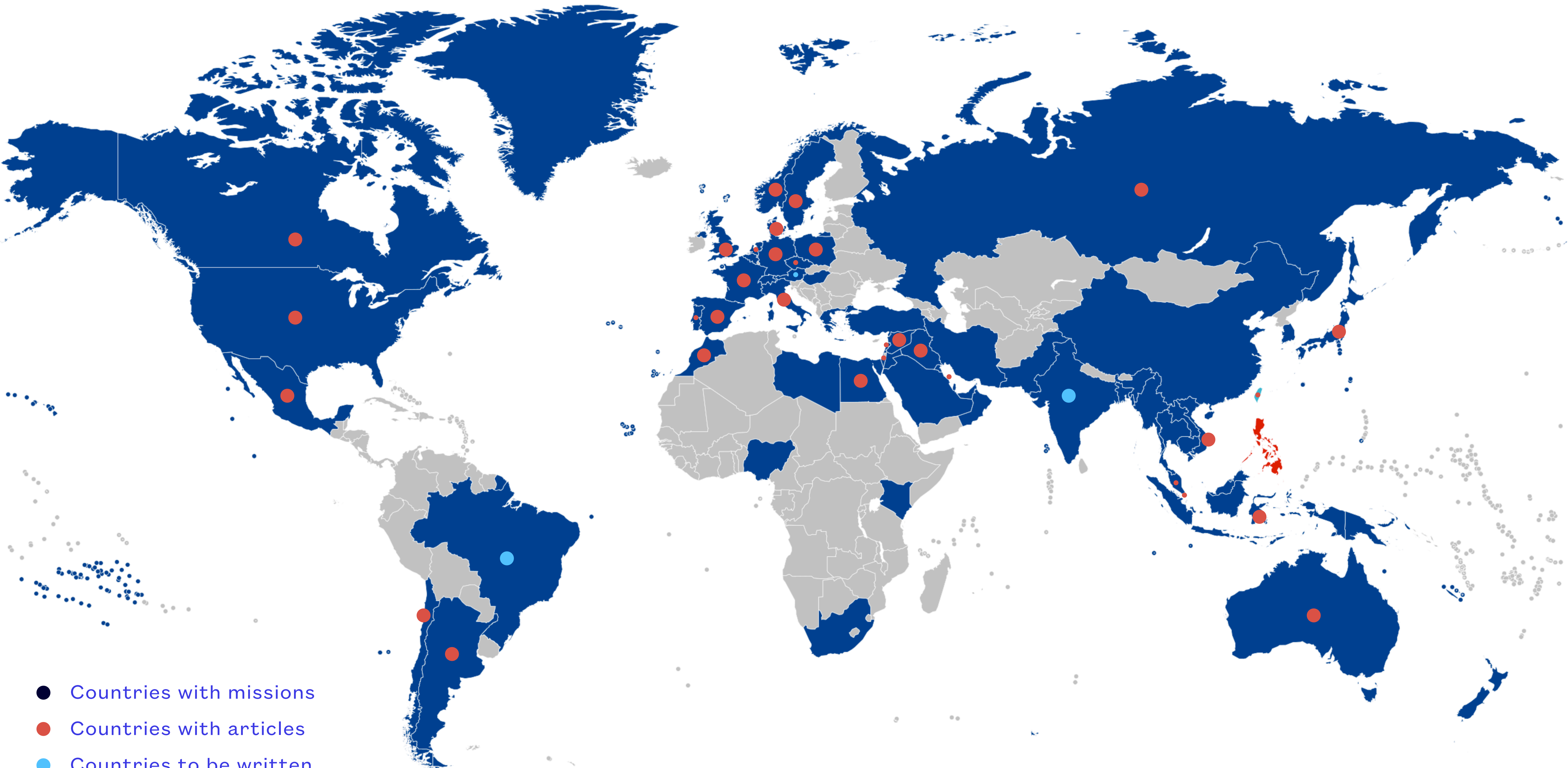
Philippine Embassy in Warsaw

First Wikipedia article in this series of articles about Philippine diplomatic missions

- Written on September 24, 2013
- This was originally written as part of a series of articles on the relationship between the Philippines and Poland, not about embassies and consulates generally.
- At the time, there was no template for how to write diplomatic missions, so I used various articles that existed at the time

For context, we only had one-off articles on Philippine diplomatic missions, and they weren't that good to be honest.





- Countries with missions
- Countries with articles
- Countries to be written

Several missions have made it to the English Wikipedia's *Did you know* section.

- Consulates general: Barcelona, Chicago, Honolulu
- Embassies: Baghdad, Berlin, Buenos Aires, Cairo, Copenhagen, Damascus, Holy See, Kuala Lumpur, Lisbon, Manama, Mexico City, Paris, The Hague, Tokyo, Warsaw

A fact from **Embassy of the Philippines, Baghdad** appeared on Wikipedia's [Main Page](#) in the **Did you know** column on 1 January 2023 ([check views](#)). The text of the entry was as follows:



- *Did you know...* that at the height of the [war between Iraq and the Islamic State](#), diplomats of the [Philippine embassy in Baghdad](#) agreed to [die together](#) rather than be taken hostage?



A record of the entry may be seen at [Wikipedia:Recent additions/2023/January](#). The nomination discussion and review may be seen at [Template:Did you know nominations/Embassy of the Philippines, Baghdad](#).

A fact from **Embassy of the Philippines, Berlin** appeared on Wikipedia's [Main Page](#) in the **Did you know** column on 19 June 2021 ([check views](#)). The text of the entry was as follows:



- *Did you know...* that the [Philippine embassy in Berlin](#) (*pictured*) was once purportedly located above a supermarket, with [frankfurters](#) visible from the windows?



A record of the entry may be seen at [Wikipedia:Recent additions/2021/June](#). The nomination discussion and review may be seen at [Template:Did you know nominations/Embassy of the Philippines, Berlin](#).

A fact from **Embassy of the Philippines, Buenos Aires** appeared on Wikipedia's [Main Page](#) in the **Did you know** column on 15 July 2020 ([check views](#)). The text of the entry was as follows:



- *Did you know...* that the [chancery](#) of the [Philippine embassy in Buenos Aires](#) was previously a house, a hotel, and a retirement home?



A record of the entry may be seen at [Wikipedia:Recent additions/2020/July](#). The nomination discussion and review may be seen at [Template:Did you know nominations/Embassy of the Philippines, Buenos Aires](#).

A fact from **Consulate General of the Philippines, Chicago** appeared on Wikipedia's [Main Page](#) in the **Did you know** column on 29 December 2022 ([check views](#)). The text of the entry was as follows:



- *Did you know...* that the [Chicago Police Department](#) regularly cited vehicles of the [Philippine consulate general in Chicago](#) for parking in a no-parking zone, causing a diplomatic incident?



A record of the entry may be seen at [Wikipedia:Recent additions/2022/December](#). The nomination discussion and review may be seen at [Template:Did you know nominations/Consulate General of the Philippines, Chicago](#).

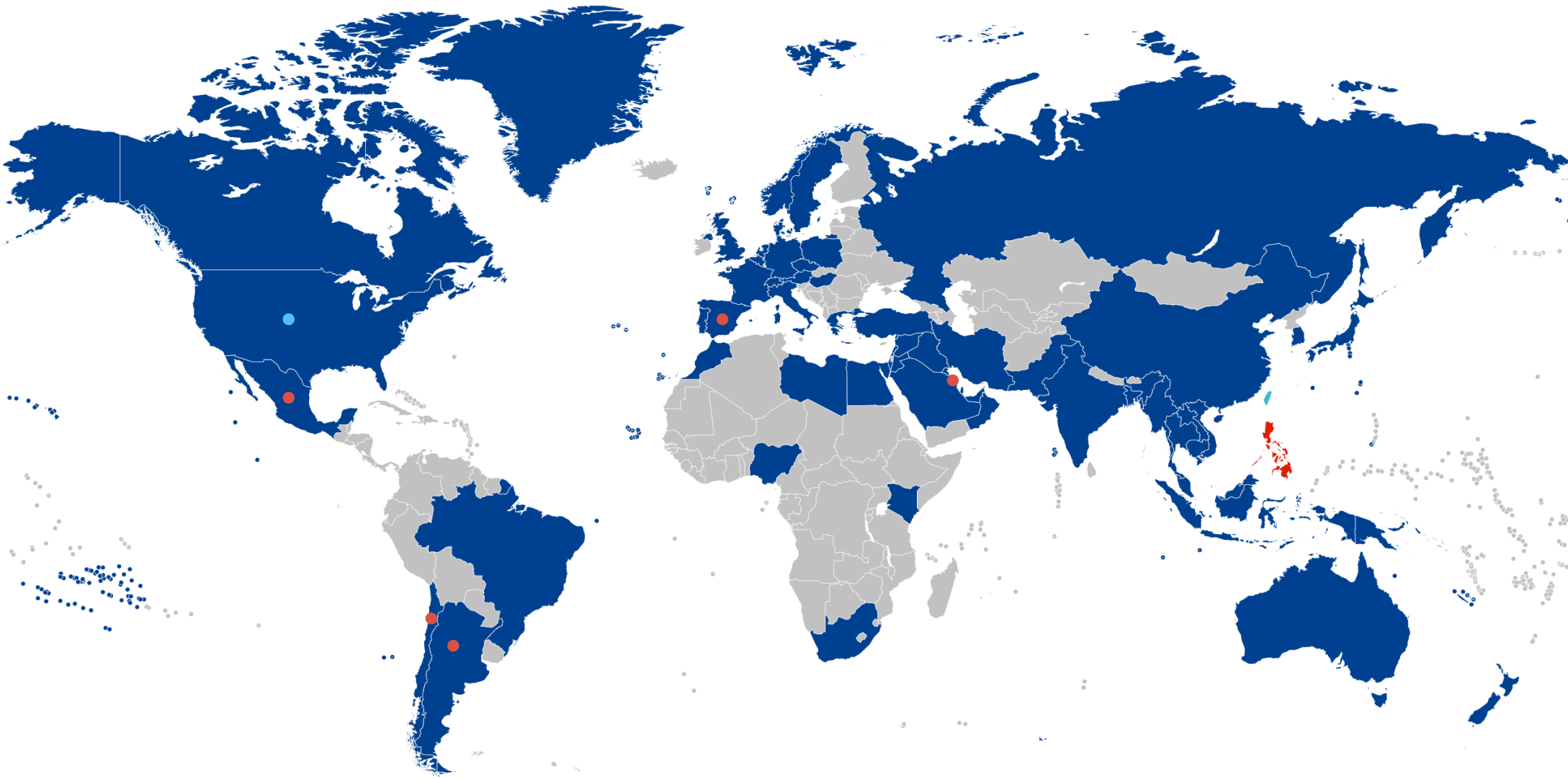
A fact from **Embassy of the Philippines, Cairo** appeared on Wikipedia's [Main Page](#) in the **Did you know** column on 20 January 2021 ([check views](#)). The text of the entry was as follows:



- *Did you know...* that the exact date of establishment of the [Philippine embassy in Cairo](#) is unclear, despite the Philippines having first named an ambassador to Egypt in 1960?



A record of the entry may be seen at [Wikipedia:Recent additions/2021/January](#). The nomination discussion and review may be seen at [Template:Did you know nominations/Embassy of the Philippines, Cairo](#).



Since starting articles in English I've branched out to other Wikipedias as well, starting with the Spanish Wikipedia earlier this year.

La **Embajada de Filipinas en España** es la máxima **representación diplomática** de la **República de Filipinas** en el **Reino de España**. Fue establecida en 1951, y desde 1998 su sede está situada a la esquina de las calles Eresma y Guadalquivir en el barrio de **El Viso**, parte del distrito de **Chamartín** en el norte de **Madrid**.

Historia [editar]

Se establecieron Filipinas y España sus relaciones diplomáticas en 1947, un año después de la concesión formal de independencia por parte de **Estados Unidos**. Filipinas llevó a cabo inicialmente su representación en España mediante una **legación** encabezado por Manuel Escudero como ministro plenipotenciario.¹

El 5 de enero de 1951 el presidente **Elpidio Quirino** elevó a la categoría de embajada la legación bajo el ámbito de la Orden Ejecutiva 351,² la primera de Filipinas en Europa,³ también con jurisdicción en **Francia** e **Italia** en las que sus capitales albergaban legaciones filipinas.² Manuel V. Morán, expresidente de la **Corte Suprema**, fue nombrado por Quirino el 20 de marzo de 1951 como primer embajador de Filipinas a España.⁴

En 1997 compró el gobierno de Filipinas una finca de 1200 metros cuadrados (12 916,7 ft²) en El Viso, un barrio que albergan otras misiones diplomáticas situadas en Madrid, para ser la nueva sede de la misión.¹ Había originalmente una **casa solariega** de 50 años con dos plantas posteriormente demolido para construir la **cancillería**, mientras había en el otro lado un **establo** y un grande jardín también demolidos para construir la residencia del embajador.⁵ La nueva sede fue inaugurado por el presidente **Fidel V. Ramos** el abril de 1998 después de un año de obras.¹

Véase también [editar]

- [Relaciones España-Filipinas](#)
- [Embajada de España en Filipinas](#)
- [Inmigración filipina en España](#)
- [Misiones diplomáticas de Filipinas](#)

Referencias [editar]

- ↑ ^a ^b ^c «The Embassy» [La Embajada] (en inglés). Embajada de Filipinas en España. Consultado el 22 de abril de 2023.

Embajada de la República de Filipinas en el Reino de España

Pasuguan ng Republika ng Pilipinas sa Kaharian ng Espanya



Escudo genérico de las embajadas de Filipinas



Sede de la Embajada en Madrid

Información general

Ámbito	 España
Jurisdicción	 España Andorra
Tipo	Embajada
Sede	Calle Eresma, 2
Coordenadas	 40°26′48″N 3°41′08″O
División	Madrid

Organización

Embajador	Philippe Lhuillier
Historia	
Fundación	1951 (embajador residente)

[Sitio web](#)

[\[editar datos en Wikidata\]](#)

Articles on Philippine diplomatic missions follow a standard template.

The **Embassy of the Philippines in Tel Aviv** is the [diplomatic mission](#) of the [Republic of the Philippines](#) to the [State of Israel](#). Opened in 1962, it is located on 18 Bnei Dan Street ([Hebrew](#): רחוב בני דן 18) in the [Yehuda HaMaccabi](#) neighborhood of central [Tel Aviv](#), across from [Yarkon Park](#).

History [[edit](#)]

The Philippine Embassy in Tel Aviv was opened in 1962, five years after the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Philippines and Israel. Its opening coincided with the that of the [Israeli Embassy in Manila](#) that same year.^[1]

In 2012, the Embassy's website was hacked by a hacker who identified himself as "RcP" amid increased tension between Israeli troops and [Hamas](#) in the [Gaza Strip](#).^[2]

Proposed relocation to Jerusalem [[edit](#)]

In December 2017, the Israeli [Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#) claimed that the Philippines was one of at least ten countries reportedly looking to relocate its embassy from Tel Aviv to [Jerusalem](#), following the decision of the United States to do so earlier in the month.^[3] The [Department of Foreign Affairs](#) (DFA) denied that such a move was being discussed, citing its support for a [two-state solution](#) as part of the wider [Israeli–Palestinian peace process](#).^[4]

DFA Undersecretary [Ernesto Abella](#) again denied in August 2018 that the Philippine government was considering moving the embassy to Jerusalem when he mentioned that it was not a part of President [Rodrigo Duterte](#)'s agenda for his then-upcoming state visit to Israel.^[5]




Staff and activities [[edit](#)]

The Philippine Embassy in Tel Aviv is headed by Ambassador Pedro R. Laylo Jr., who was appointed by President [Bongbong Marcos](#) on July 18, 2022.^[6] Prior to becoming Ambassador, Laylo, a pollster, founded the polling firm Laylo Research Strategies, regarded for the quality of its [opinion polls](#),^[7] and previously sat on the board of the [Bases Conversion and Development Authority](#).^[6] His appointment was confirmed by the [Commission on Appointments](#) on September 28, 2022,^[8] and he presented his credentials to Israeli President [Isaac Herzog](#) on January 11, 2023.^[9]

The Embassy's activities center around providing to the welfare of [Filipinos in Israel](#), many of whom are [Overseas Filipino Workers](#) (OFWs). Following the death of a Filipino worker from a bomb explosion in [Haifa](#) in 2001, the Embassy organized text brigades to quickly disseminate information to Filipinos throughout the country,^[10] while in 2005, Ambassador Antonio Modena protested the treatment of Filipinos entering or exiting Israel, many of whom were subjected to excess security screening or were segregated from other departing or arriving foreigners.^[11]

In addition to catering to the welfare of Filipinos in Israel, the Philippine Embassy in Tel Aviv also provides assistance to nationals of member countries of the [Association of Southeast Asian Nations](#) (ASEAN) which do not have a diplomatic presence in Israel, such as with the case of 12 Malaysians detained by Israeli authorities following the [Gaza flotilla raid](#) in 2010.^[12]

Embassy of the Philippines, Tel Aviv
Pasuguan ng Pilipinas sa Tel Aviv
שגרירות הפיליפינים בתל אביב



Location	Tel Aviv
Address	18 Bnei Dan Street
Coordinates	32°05′42.9″N 34°47′10.1″E﻿ / ﻿32.09525°N 34.78614°E﻿ / 32.09525; 34.78614
Ambassador	Pedro R. Laylo Jr.
Website	tel-avivpe.dfa.gov.ph

- Infobox (depending on your language, this is usually [[[Template:Infobox diplomatic mission](#)]] or something similar)
 - The mission's name should be in the wiki's language and the official languages of the sending and receiving countries
 - If there's a shield or other special logo used by the mission, it should be in the infobox
- Lead paragraph(s)
- History
- Staff and activities
 - Who's the ambassador
 - Some interesting things the mission does

If the mission has a lot of information available on its chancery (i.e. it's in a well-known building, or if the construction of the chancery is particularly notable or well-documented), it makes sense to have a separate section for it. This also adds character and depth to the article, more than just a brief mention of its history, the ambassador and the mission's activities.

Chancery [edit]



The Embassy's former chancery at 11-24 Nanpeidaichō in Shibuya, which is now an annex and community space.

The chancery of the Philippine Embassy in Tokyo is currently located on a 3,179-square-meter (34,220 sq ft) site in Roppongi which was acquired by the Philippine government as part of a negotiated settlement with Japan on war reparations.^[14] As part of that agreement, the Roppongi property was specifically acquired for the purpose of hosting the Embassy's chancery.^[15]

Before the current chancery was built, the site originally hosted a three-story villa built in 1923 in the Renaissance style. The villa — highly acclaimed at the time — featured an observatory tower and was surrounded by Japanese gardens with tall trees and laced with imported stones. Originally owned by Ryoji Oda and his wife, Ineko, for 33 years, the property was seized by the Japanese government due to non-payment of tax arrears, and was subsequently transferred by Japan to the Philippine government on June 27, 1958, in fulfillment of its reparations obligations.^[11]

In 1976, the Embassy relocated to a three-story building on a 2,490-square-meter (26,800 sq ft) site in Nanpeidaichō, which was also turned over to the Philippine government as part of Japan's war reparations.^[11]

Previously known as the Philippine Reparations building, the Embassy relocated to Shibuya owing to difficulties in maintaining the Roppongi property, and by 1997 it was virtually left abandoned owing to those difficulties.^[11] Today, the Nanpeidaichō property serves as an annex of the chancery, as well as a venue for community events organized by the Filipino community in Japan.^[16]

On April 18, 1997, the Philippine government entered into an agreement with a consortium between Mitsui Fudosan, the Itochu Corporation and the Shimizu Corporation to redevelop the Roppongi property at no cost to the government, which was approved two months later by President Fidel V. Ramos. Ramos led a groundbreaking of the project on November 19, 1997 while transiting through Tokyo on his way to APEC Canada 1997 in Vancouver, and construction of the 2,413-square-meter (25,970 sq ft) building was completed in February 2003.^[12]

Although the Embassy owns the underlying land on which the chancery is built, it doesn't own the entire building;^[12] instead, it only owns outright the portions that it occupies, which include part of the basement and the entire first floor. Full ownership of the building is scheduled to revert to the Philippine government in 2047.^[16]

Chancery [edit]



Jägerstraße 71, the building where José Rizal completed *Noli Me Tángere*, was the first building the Philippine government considered for the Embassy's permanent chancery

The chancery of the Philippine Embassy in Berlin was first located along Uhlandstraße in Wilmersdorf,^[14] renting space in a building built over an 11-unit Gründerzeit-era residential building.^[15] That chancery, located on the building's sixth floor, had a 300 m² (3,200 sq ft) reception area and a grand piano that was used for improvised concerts.^[16] In 2012, Philippine Senator Franklin Drilon, recounting a previous visit to Berlin, had criticized the chancery's location, claiming that it was an "embarrassment" for it to be above a supermarket where frankfurters could be seen hanging outside near the chancery windows;^[17] Zaide, who was ambassador at the time Drilon visited, denied his version of events, claiming that he didn't recall that specific visit.^[16] The Uhlandstraße location was abandoned in favor of a new office along the Kurfürstendamm on November 23, 2015.^[18]

Planning for a new, permanent chancery began in the 2000s, with the government first looking at purchasing the property on Jägerstraße 71 in Friedrichstadt, across from the first headquarters of Deutsche Bank. At the time, the Philippines was the only Southeast Asian country whose embassy in Germany didn't own its chancery nor its ambassadorial residence outright, and housing the Embassy in that building would've been fitting as it was where José Rizal completed his first novel, *Noli Me Tángere*.^[19] With all Philippine government offices in Germany being

hosted in the building, plus the ambassadorial residence being located on the top floor, the building was proposed to become the Philippine Center for Europe.^[19]

Unable to proceed with the Jägerstraße location as the property was not available for purchase, the Embassy, led by Ambassador Ma. Cleofe Natividad, then began searching for a new property,^[20] with the process formally kicking off on May 11, 2012 alongside procurement for the construction of a new chancery for the Philippine Embassy in Islamabad.^[21] Negotiations opened in late 2013 for the construction of a chancery on Von-der-Heydt-Straße in Berlin's diplomatic quarter, south of the Tiergarten, with Düsseldorf-based HPP Architekten serving as consultant to the project.^[22] Construction of the building, a five-story structure combining both the chancery and the ambassadorial residence on the top floor, was awarded to Groth Gruppe, which was also responsible for building several other buildings in the area where the Embassy was set to be constructed,^[20] and an agreement was signed on September 20, 2014 to facilitate construction, witnessed by President Benigno Aquino III.^[23]

Despite those agreements being signed, the project was likewise not able to proceed due to several factors, including a lack of funds, the hot Berlin real estate market and the slow pace of bureaucracy, which ultimately led to the construction of the present-day chancery.^[20]

Because there's no standard way of writing articles on diplomatic missions, the goal is to provide a consistent template that others can emulate for their countries.



The DYK Barnstar

Thanks for all the work you've been putting into developing articles and making great hooks! Personally, I appreciate your coverage of diplomatic missions because a lot of their articles are rather stubby, so it's nice to see more extensive coverage. [MSG17](#) ([talk](#)) 01:40, 26 December 2020 (UTC) [[reply](#)]

Let's give our diplomatic missions the love and treatment they deserve.

THANK YOU!
