

### **5<sup>th</sup> SONA of President Duterte: Government Action on Territory and Sovereignty**

The 5<sup>th</sup> SONA of president Duterte talked about trying to claim back the land territory Scarborough Shoal against China. The action of the government of sending marines was not even effective enough because it was hit by the cruise missile noted that it did not started sailing yet. By this result I can say that our government does not have enough power to fight back against China and claim what's ours because our country is nowhere near ready for this war. This fact is further supported by the factors we lack as elucidated by the president.

First, we don't have enough weapons to fight back. As what the president said "China has the arms, we do not have it", it further tells that we do not have enough resources to make weapons or even acquire weapons. That makes our country not fully armed for the war that we are into. Moreover, according to an article by AZOMining (2012), that our country's natural resources are copper, nickel, petroleum, silver, cobalt, gold, and salt. That indicates we don't have the material needed to produce such weapon. Furthermore, even though we have the material in making such weapon, we don't have the facility and tools to produce like the missile that were used by China.

Second, our country is a Third World Country. This further tells that we are still developing. Moreover, the advancement of science and technology that we are experiencing is far behind comparing to other countries. Furthermore, according to the article of Romero (2014) that one of major factor was corruption, in this manner it won't sustain the growth of the economy. This will be a disadvantage in our part to fight with the economic status we are categorized as of now.

However, even though the factors stated by the president was factual. The government should still fight for it. They should not neglect some of the activities caused from China since it affected the living of the people in near shores. In addition, the activities of China such as construction greatly affect the aquatic ecosystem in the ocean. In addition, according to Hayes (2014), that they are building a factory that can greatly damage aquatic life in the near shores.

Hence, our government still need to find ways to develop our country. In order to match other countries who are trying to take over the possession that supposedly we owned. Some of the action that must be done was stated by the president such as accepting foreign investors. In this way, local investors can also promote the products and invention that they have. It can also increase the tourism in our country.