

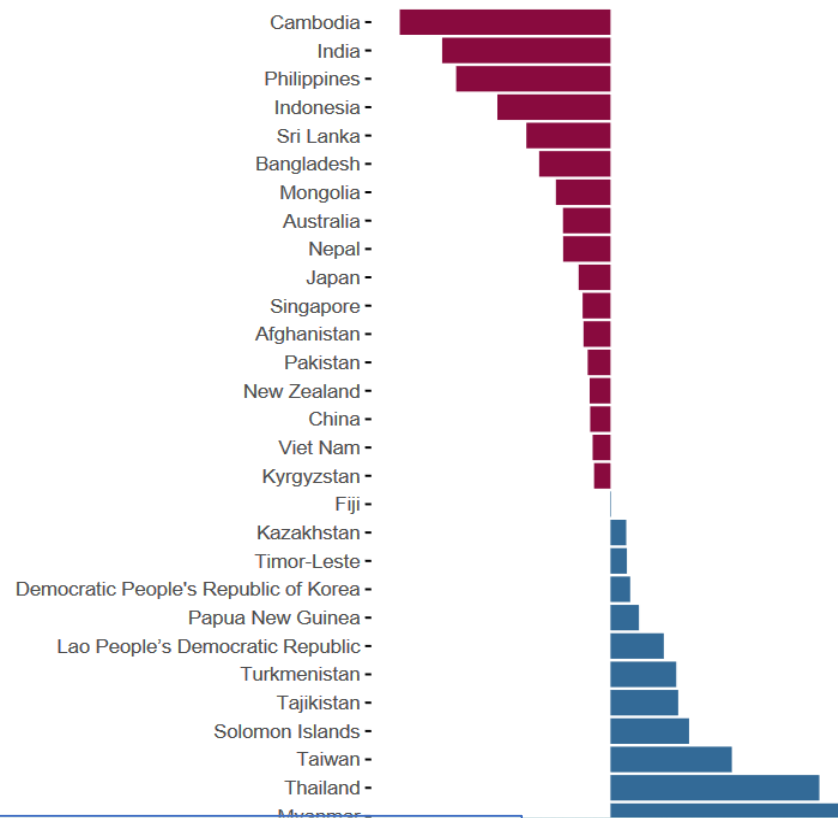
## Key Discussion Points:

- I. Serious issues/ challenges on PH democracy and rule of law
- II. Need to address continuing backsliding or regression
- III. Opportunities for addressing democracy and ROL deficits

# PH democratic backsliding even prior to the pandemic

FIGURE 3

Changes in aggregated scores of GSoD attributes between 2015 and 2020\*



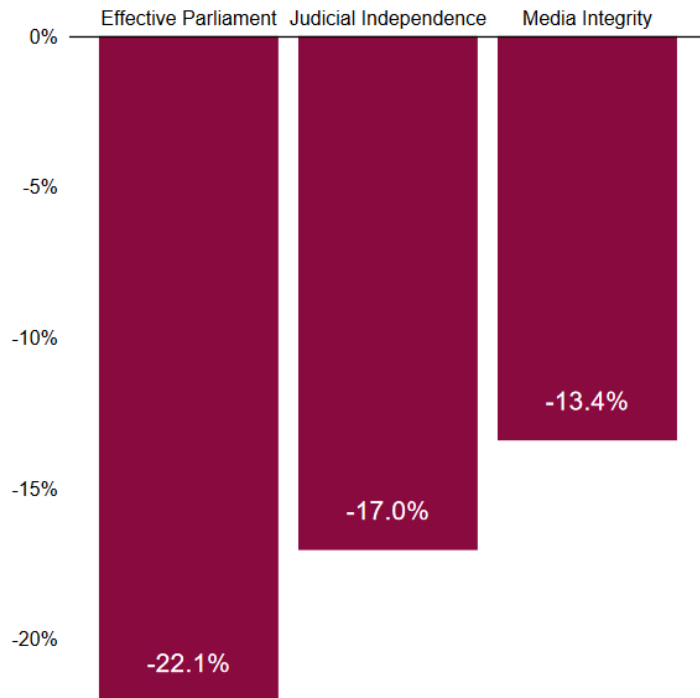
- ❖ Representative government
- ❖ Fundamental Rights (access to justice, civil liberties, social inclusion and equality)
- ❖ Checks on Government (effective parliament, independent judiciary, media integrity)
- ❖ Impartial Administration (absence of corruption; predictable enforcement)
- ❖ Participatory Engagement (CSO participation, electoral participation, direct democracy, local democracy)

Source: International IDEA State of Democracy in the Asia Pacific, 2021

# Significant declines in Checks on Government (similar to Sri Lanka), Fundamental Freedoms and Impartial Administration

FIGURE 12

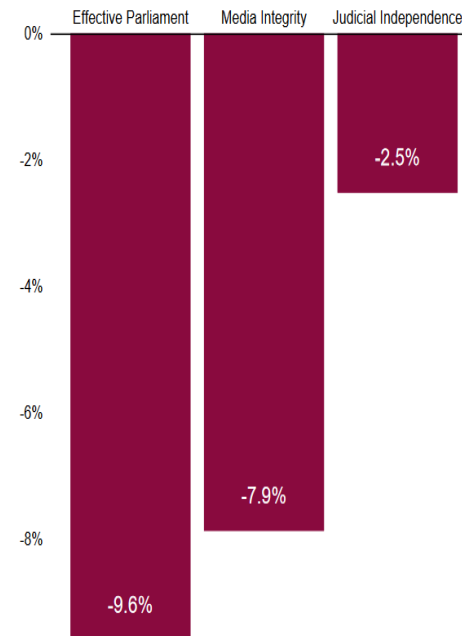
Percentage decrease in Checks on Government subattributes in the Philippines, 2015–2020



Source: International IDEA, The Global State of Democracy Indices 1975–2020, v. 5.1, 2021, <<https://www.idea.int/gsod-indices/dataset-resources>>, accessed 3 September 2021.

FIGURE 11

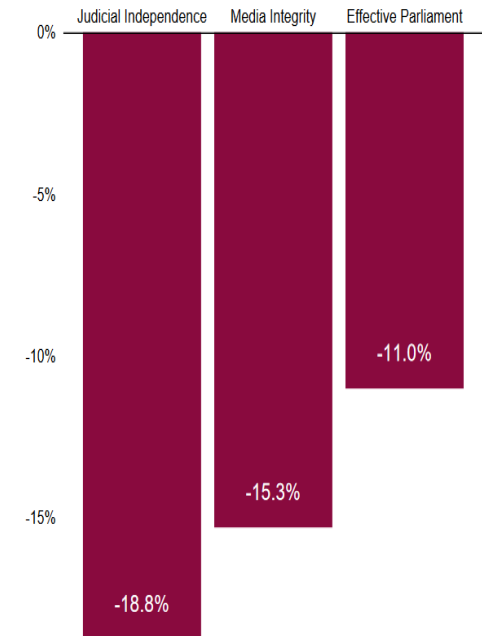
Percentage decrease in Checks on Government subattributes in India, 2015–2020



Source: International IDEA, The Global State of Democracy Indices 1975–2020, v. 5.1, 2021, <<https://www.idea.int/gsod-indices/dataset-resources>>, accessed 3 September 2021.

FIGURE 13

Percentage decrease in Checks on Government subattributes in Sri Lanka, 2015–2020



Source: International IDEA, The Global State of Democracy Indices 1975–2020, v. 5.1, 2021, <<https://www.idea.int/gsod-indices/dataset-resources>>, accessed 3 September 2021.

# Similar alarming declines on ROL indices

Republic, and Argentina tie for the third biggest decline (-3.7%).

## Philippines Rankings

WJP Rule of Law Index 2021 performance (1 is best)

PHILIPPINES OVERALL GLOBAL RANK: 102/139

PHILIPPINES OVERALL REGIONAL RANK\*: 13/15

FACTOR	GLOBAL RANK	REGIONAL RANK*	INCOME RANK**
Constraints on Government Powers	85/139	10/15	12/35
Absence of Corruption	77/139	10/15	6/35
Open Government	71/139	8/15	8/35
Fundamental Rights	123/139	12/15	26/35
Order and Security	110/139	15/15	25/35
Regulatory Enforcement	82/139	11/15	12/35
Civil Justice	101/139	12/15	20/35
Criminal Justice	120/139	13/15	27/35



[www.worldjusticeproject.org](http://www.worldjusticeproject.org)



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The corrosive impact of mis/disinformation on democracy

Mis/disinformation heightening political polarization/ social divides

A threat to deliberative democracy

Nullifies vertical – and other forms of accountability

Engenders vigilante justice

Need to arrest continuing declines

Current trends – ex. ROL fell 3 positions in global rank, in 6 years could be in precarious rank as countries at the bottom rung

Unchecked Executive – greater concentration of powers  
Impunity, Violence, Lack of Accountability, Civil unrest –  
hallmarks of those in the lowest ranks

ROL and democracy – as the foundation of good policies and good governance

## Opportunities:

1. Strong Mandate and SONA commitments – no strong commitment for strengthening democracy and ROL, inclusion, participation, gender
2. ‘New’ branding for Filipinos – creative but violent/ or creative and peace-loving/ rights-respecting
3. Judiciary – independence and capacity; confidence in justice system
4. Compliance – ‘procedural justice’; impartial administration
5. SDG 16 – peace, justice and strong institutions (freedom from fear, violence, insecurity - participation); **Mindanao peace process**