

Theodore O. TE, The Philippines

Speaker, Round table: Abolition & Alternatives Sanctions



Professor Te teaches Criminal Law and Remedial Law, among others. His primary research interests are in human rights and public interest law particularly on the rights of the accused and the effectivity of current legal remedies to protect these rights. Before entering the academy in 1995, Professor Te practiced law in a private capacity with a law firm with a human rights orientation and a full pro bono docket while at the same time, being active with the Free Legal Assistance Group (FLAG), the country's oldest human rights organization of lawyers which counts as among its issues and concerns civil and political rights, the death penalty, prison conditions, political offenders and freedom of expression and of the press, among others. He has had extensive experience litigating criminal cases on both the trial and appellate level.

He has argued on many occasions before the Supreme Court with varying levels of success. He was the first to present oral arguments before the Supreme Court on the constitutionality of the death penalty in the Philippines and was part of the first group of petitioners to challenge the Visiting Forces Agreement between the United States and the Philippines.