Dear colleagues,

My book, *Aid Imperium: United States Foreign Policy and Human Rights in Post-Cold War Southeast Asia* (University of Michigan Press, 2021) is now available in hardback and ebook formats. Further details are listed below. I hope that the book's focus on foreign aid and human rights will be interesting to some members here.

The publisher has a 30% discount promo when it is purchased from the University of Michigan Press website. Visit [https://www.press.umich.edu/12036762/aid_imperium](https://www.press.umich.edu/12036762/aid_imperium) and enter coupon code UMF21 at checkout to earn 30% off your order.

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*Aid Imperium: United States Foreign Policy and Human Rights in Post-Cold War Southeast Asia*

*The University of Michigan Press, 2021*

Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies Book Series

[https://www.press.umich.edu/12036762/aid_imperium](https://www.press.umich.edu/12036762/aid_imperium)

Salvador Santino F. Regilme Jr.

Does foreign aid promote human rights? As the world’s largest aid donor, the United States has provided foreign assistance to more than 200 countries. Deploying global
numerical data on US foreign aid and comparative historical analysis of America’s post–Cold War foreign policies in Southeast Asia, Aid Imperium provides the most comprehensive explanation that links US strategic assistance to physical integrity rights outcomes in recipient countries, particularly in ways that previous quantitative studies have systematically ignored. The book highlights the active political agency of Global South states and actors as they negotiate and chart their political trajectories with the United States as the core state of the international system. Drawing from theoretical insights in the humanities and the social sciences as well as a wide range of empirical documents, Aid Imperium is the first multidisciplinary study to explain how US foreign policy affects state repression and physical integrity rights outcomes in Southeast Asia and the rest of the Global South.

Salvador Santino Fulo Regilme Jr. is a Permanent University Lecturer of International Relations at Leiden University, the Netherlands.

Reviews:

“In this clear-eyed and commendable study, Salvador Santino Fulo Regilme Jr. explores whether and how foreign aid can improve human rights outcomes—and sometimes sets them back. Theoretically rigorous, with illuminating case studies of US aid to Southeast Asia, this book opens a new era of debate on a crucial topic.” —Samuel Moyn, author of Not Enough: Human Rights in an Unequal World

“Does US foreign aid help or hurt human rights in recipient countries? Aid Imperium, with unique scholarly insight, systematic rigor and conceptual care, offers nuanced answers to this important question. This is a must-read for anyone interested in US foreign policy and human rights.” —Julian Go, Professor of Sociology, The University of Chicago

“As someone who has straddled the worlds of human rights advocacy and comparative politics for many years, I have long been hoping to see such a wonderful book, one that is both theoretically sophisticated and empirically rich, and particularly one that combines true academic excellence with genuine experience of ‘how things really work.’ It should be read by scholars and practitioners alike.”
At a time when the fate of democracy is in question, this book is a must read. It explores the complex effects of U.S. foreign strategic support on human rights. With a laser focus on the Philippines and Thailand, it explains how and why certain types of leaders use this support to empower the state to foster the repression of their peoples. — Emilie M. Hafner-Burton, Professor of Politics, School of Global Policy and Strategy, University of California, San Diego; author of Making Human Rights a Reality

Does US aid improve physical integrity rights in receiving countries? Through a masterly analysis of American ‘foreign strategic support’ in Thailand and the Philippines, Aid Imperium reintroduces politics to the picture, transforming aid recipients from passive players into key political actors for whom relations with the US and their own security imperatives plays a pivotal role in explaining the human rights impact of aid.” — Stephen Hopgood, SOAS, University of London

Salvador Santino Fulo Regilme Jr. has assembled hard data to support his interpretation of an ‘interest convergence theory’ that quantifies what he refers to as the ‘US Foreign Aid Imperium.’ His excellent reportage also brings the story forward to today’s headlines for readers unfamiliar with his two country cases.” — Paul Rodell, Georgia Southern University

Regilme makes it possible to explain why authoritarian regimes seem to continue getting more aid without necessarily changing their repressiveness and human rights record.” — Obert Hodzi, University of Liverpool

Aid Imperium is a must-read for those who seek deeper understanding of how foreign strategic assistance shapes physical integrity rights in the Global South. Regilme Jr offers a comprehensive and dynamic framework for how ideational factors shape the material consequences of foreign aid, and provides important insights into the conditions that facilitate domestic state repression and human rights abuse.” — Shannon Lindsey Blanton, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Aid Imperium offers compelling analysis of the ambiguous relationship between U.S. foreign support and domestic human rights abuses in Southeast Asia. Using
cases from the Philippines and Thailand, S.S.F. Regilme teases out positive and negative causal relationships that other studies have failed to identify, integrating key factors from both international relations and domestic politics. —Stephen Brown, Professor of Political Science, University of Ottawa