

lawyers, legislators, and even hackers in criticizing the new cybercrime law, saying that its provisions on libel and state power to shut down websites will curtail freedom of expression.

Writing for Rappler in a Thought Leaders piece, Sen Teofisto Guingona III, said, "Without a clear definition of the crime of libel and the persons liable, virtually any person can now be charged with a crime."

In a statement, Bayan Muna Rep Teddy Casiño called on Malacañang "to suspend the implementation of the Cybercrime Law until this is carefully scrutinized and amended. As it is, another provision (Section 19 of the Act) moves for the taking down of websites. It gives power to the Department of Justice (DOJ) to restrict or block access to a website without court order."

Estonian e-nnovations

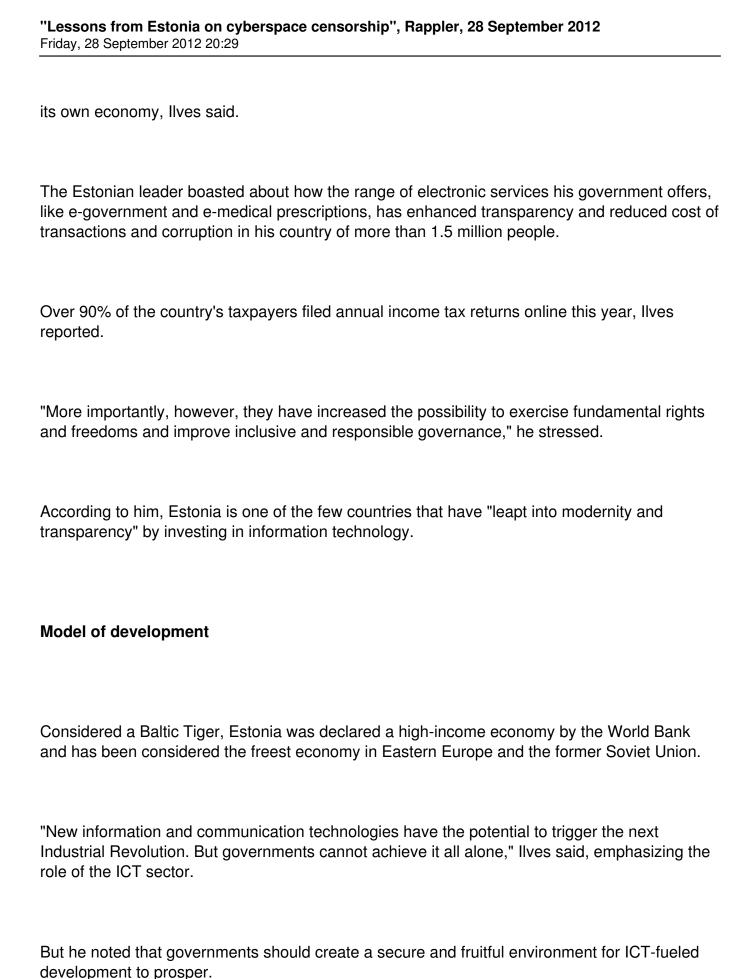
In a recently held conference on information and communication technologies (ICTs), industry leaders in the Philippines also challenged the government to appreciate how ICT improves the living conditions of the people.

The Philippines may also find a good model in Estonia as far as tapping the ICT sector is concerned to improve governance.

In his address, Ilves highlighted how ICT helped push development and promote good governance in his country.

Estonia, a member of the European Union, is reportedly the first country in the world to introduce online voting in parliamentary and municipal elections.

The information revolution has assisted Estonia, a former Soviet country, in rapidly transforming



"Twenty-one years after restoring our independence, Estonia is an example where a combination of responsible free enterprise, e-governance, international partnerships and eco-friendly policies can put you in the fast lane of development," he said.

The Estonian president is one of the world leaders who have already spoken at the 67th Assembly's General Debate at the UN Headquarters in New York. The debate which carried the theme, "Adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations by peaceful means," started on September 25 and will end on October 1.

Original article on the Rappler webpage.