

FACT-CHECKING

SHUNICHI FUJIKI

The Japanese Nationalist Who Spoke at the UN for Duterte

Fujiki is an "independent human rights researcher"

X MISLEADING / FALSE

THE FINDING

Fujiki is not an independent researcher. He is a **Japanese nationalist activist and businessman** who serves as a senior researcher at **iRICH** (International Research Institution of Controversial Histories) — an organization that exists, by its own founding documents, to **"protect the honor and dignity of Japan"** regarding historical controversies.

SOURCES SAY

Georgetown Journal of International Affairs

Characterizes iRICH as part of an "interlocking web" using Holocaust-denial-style methods

US Institute of Peace

Describes similar groups as deploying "Holocaust-like denialism"

CLAIM 02

His speech represents an official UN position or validation

X FALSE

WHAT HE CLAIMS

That his UN platform gives his pro-Duterte statements international legitimacy and credibility beyond that of ordinary advocacy.

THE REALITY

Fujiki spoke as a representative of the International Career Support Association (ICSA), which holds **"special consultative status"** — a category for advocacy groups, not official UN voices.

Statements in general debates are made in a **personal or organizational capacity** and do not represent the United Nations.

Duterte is a victim of "political persecution" by the ICC

 DISPUTED ADVOCACY

THE CONTEXT

Fujiki used his UN platform to frame Duterte's ICC proceedings as a "grave injustice" and a violation of national sovereignty.

The ICC has denied Duterte's request for release three times. The proceedings cover thousands of killings — documented by Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, and Philippine civil society groups — committed under Duterte's drug war.

3x

ICC denied Duterte's
release requests

6,252+

Deaths in anti-drug
operations (PNP figures)

Fujiki is a credible voice on historical human rights issues

X HIGHLY QUESTIONABLE / COUNTER-EVIDENCE

HISTORICAL CONSENSUS

The "comfort women" system is documented by the UN, Human Rights Watch, and Amnesty International. Japan's own government acknowledged it in the landmark 1993 Kono Statement.

FUJIKI'S TACTICS

He organized campaigns to remove comfort women memorials across the US, South Korea, and Taiwan. He engineered a provocative 2014 stunt — placing a paper bag over a memorial statue in California.

SCHOLARLY VERDICT

Scholars characterize his methods as "academic fraud analogous to Holocaust denialism" (Univ. of Connecticut historian Alexis Dudden, *Inside Higher Ed*).

Philippine media accurately portrayed who Fujiki is

X FALSE

WHAT OUTLETS LIKE MINDANAO TIMES & DISKURSO PH OMITTED:

His decade-long record of comfort women denial • His nationalist affiliations • His alias "Shun Ferguson" • iRICH's revisionist purpose • His harassment campaigns against memorials

“Reporting a speech is not the same as reporting the truth of what is said. When outlets skip that distinction, they don't just fail their readers: they become transmission belts for exactly the kind of disinformation they should be interrogating.

— Rights Report Philippines

VERDICT SUMMARY

01 Fujiki is an independent researcher

MISLEADING / FALSE

02 His speech carries UN authority

FALSE

03 Duterte faces "political persecution"

DISPUTED ADVOCACY

04 Fujiki is credible on human rights

COUNTER-EVIDENCE EXISTS

05 Media accurately portrayed him

FALSE