



OPTIMIZATION OF THE DIPLOMATIC STRATEGY THROUGH CROSS CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING FOR THE GARUDA CONTINGENT IN NAQOURA SOUTH LEBANON

Oleh

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Abstract

Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Palestine and Israel are areas that never subside from conflict. One of Indonesia's foreign policy policies is free and active politics and Indonesia's role in the international arena as stated in the Preamble to the 1945 Constitution is "to participate in maintaining world peace", the embodiment of this policy is Indonesia's active role in implementing Global Governance under the umbrella of the United Nations. One of these active roles is that Indonesia is a member of the UN Security Council. Indonesia plays a role in the Unifil Garuda contingent as a manifestation of the implementation of world peace. The Garuda contingent, apart from having to be equipped with military tactical skills for war, must also be equipped with cross-cultural understaffing as a form of soft diplomacy where Indonesia must be able to know the local wisdom of the Lebanese people and be able to convey Indonesian interests in Lebanon. Related institutions have not been optimal in seeing cross cultural understanding as a force that must be prepared. This research uses descriptive method, according to Lukman Yudho Prakoso the phenomena that occur by formulating them through sentences. The conclusion of this paper is the need for a more optimal effort from the relevant institutions to further enhance cross-cultural understanding efforts to understand the socio-cultural conditions of the Lebanese people and introduce the socio-cultural conditions of Indonesia.

Keywords: Optimizing, diplomatic strategy, Cross Cultural Understanding

PENDAHULUAN

The current international political situation is still colored by old problems that have not been successfully resolved, and is getting more complex with the presence of a series of new problems. In addition, the tendency of the strategic environment is increasingly difficult to predict because disorder and instability are increasingly becoming the dominant pattern. According to Yudhoyono, Indonesia adheres to the concept of "Thousand friend zero enemies". However, Indonesia needs to anticipate threats, both military and non-military threats that can disrupt the integrity and sovereignty of the Republic of Indonesia.[1]

The stability of the security of the strategic environment is part of Indonesia's national

interest, so it is in Indonesia's interest to observe developments in situations that threaten world peace and regional stability in order to take appropriate steps. Indonesia is also aware that its national security is part of the strategic interests of other countries. The five veto-wielding countries in the UN Security Council, namely the United States, China, Russia, France, and Britain are still the powers that have great influence on world and regional security. The diverse and complex nature of threats between military threats and non-military defense threats requires a non-military approach that is integrated with a military approach. The development of military and non-military defense must be carried out together so as to produce a national defense force and capability that has a deterrent effect in maintaining the



existence and integrity of the Republic of Indonesia. Strategic environmental conditions can be a threat, both military and non-military threats. In the Republic of Indonesia Law number 3 of 2002.[2]

The Security Council determines a threat to peace or an act of aggression that emphasizes the parties to the dispute to resolve it by peaceful means and recommends an adjustment method or settlement terms. In some cases, the Security Council may use sanctions or even permit the use of force to maintain or restore international peace and security. Currently there are 2,700 TNI and Polri personnel who are members of the UN peacekeeping mission. TNI personnel ranks first in sending world peacekeepers in Lebanon on the Unifil mission. [3]

Lebanese society is a very heterogeneous community group consisting of, Shia, Druze, Sunni, and Maronites. General Emile Lahoud is an important figure in the Maronite Christian group with close ties to Syria. Fuad Siniora, who is the closest adviser to Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, is a Sunni strongman. Lebanon is often involved in conflicts, both conflicts that arise because of friction between groups within Lebanon such as Maronites, Shiites, and Sunnis who want to come to power as well as conflicts with Israel. [4].

Cross Cultural Understanding is a Softpower Diplomacy that does not rely on military strength but also on cultural and economic cooperation, in contrast to the word hard power which relies on military strength. So that Cross Cultural Understanding in soft power is a soft way to attract the attention of other countries to accept the existence of the country and attract sympathy [5]

The phenomenon of cultural understanding by a contingent is related to the difficulty of UNIFIL contingents from other countries to be well received and by the people of South Lebanon. Referring to this phenomenon, the TNI who is currently serving as part of the UN peacekeeping

mission is an implementation of the practice of defense diplomacy, where TNI soldiers are required to improve diplomatic capabilities, and strive to increase the ability of Cross Cultural Understanding. Cross Cultural Understanding is a competency or ability to acquire knowledge about certain cultural characteristics of people in a particular field (state or region). Putting personal intuition or personal assumptions on a culture is considered dangerous in a cross-cultural interaction. [6]

RESEARCH METHOD

This research method uses descriptive qualitative research. Qualitative research is research that gives a clear picture of a situation [7]. Describes a picture of the situation of social phenomena, a series of processes of capturing information in objects that will be associated with a problem both from a theoretical and practical point of view. then proceed with data interpretation in order to explain or analyze the problem and provide answers to the Cross Cultural Understanding Strategy for the Defense Diplomacy of the UN Peacekeeping Force. This research was conducted by combining various sources from scientific research in the form of books, journals, papers, scientific writings published on websites and other internet sources that are relevant to the problems discussed in this study.

The approach in this paper is a phenomenological approach that is used by using the experiences experienced by the author. Events or symptoms that occur and give meaning. [8]. The phenomenological approach. The phenomenological approach is an approach that gives implicit meaning from an experience that occurs which has the aim of giving meaning to the experiences experienced by each different individual.[9]

The qualitative research method is also a research method that emphasizes in-depth understanding aspects of a problem rather



than looking at the problem for generalization research. This research method prefers to use in-depth analysis techniques (in-depth analysis), which examines the problem on a case-by-case basis because the qualitative methodology believes that the nature of one problem will be different from the nature of another problem.[10]

Qualitative research is research that prioritizes problems of process and meaning / perception, where this research is expected to reveal a variety of qualitative information with researched and meaningful descriptions, which also does not reject quantitative information in the form of numbers or quantities.[11]

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1. Optimizing Theory

According to the Big Indonesian Dictionary, Optimization is derived from the root word optimal which means the best, the highest, the most profitable, make the best, make the highest, process optimization, methods, optimizing actions (making the most good, highest, and so on) so that optimization is a the act, process, or methodology of making something (as a design, system, or decision) becomes more/completely perfect, functional, or more effective. [12].

It also means best, highest, most profitable, make the best, maximizing, process optimization, methods, optimizing actions (making the best, the highest, and so on) so that optimization is a the act, process, or methodology of making something (as a design, system, or decisions) become more/completely perfect, functional, or more effective.[13]

3.2. Defense Strategy

Defense Strategy is an effort made by the state in preparing the country in case of war. Strategy is an actor's plan to achieve a goal by calculating the available resources without allowing the potential risk to pass the maximum threshold [14]

In simple terms, strategy is defined as a subject's action to calculate behavior based on a specific goal. The state is the main subject in strategic studies related to international relations. [15]

Strategy in the process of formulating and implementing foreign policy is a set of plans and policies consisting of deliberate efforts by the state to use political, diplomatic, military, and economic instruments together to advance the country's national interests [16]

The strategy carried out by the peacekeepers is not using a war strategy by using direct armed contact. The UN Peacekeeping Force uses a strategy that has a special approach in addition to being able to use the local language but also using a Cross Cultural Understanding approach to be able to win the hearts and minds of local residents. Social peacebuilding, a component that is often not recognized by traditional peacebuilding actors. Social peace building is approaching peace through the human element. This means dealing with the emotions of conflict and preparing a framework for de-escalation and prevention of violence. [17]

3.3. Defense diplomacy

Defense diplomacy can be defined as an art used to achieve national interests by using defense capabilities and resources. Currently, Indonesia uses a defense strategy doctrine that is defense active where Indonesia prioritizes a diplomatic approach as a form of national defense [18].

Defense Diplomacy covers a wide range of activities, namely: Bilateral and multilateral contacts between senior military and civilian defense officials; Appointment of defense attaches abroad; Bilateral defense cooperation agreements; Training of foreign military and civil defense personnel; Contacts and exchanges between military personnel and units, and ship visits; Placement of military or civilian personnel in the state defense of partner ministries or armed forces; Placement of the training team; Provision of military equipment



and other material assistance; Bilateral or multilateral military exercises for training purposes [19]

Strategy describes strategy as the relationship in thought and action between means and ends, resources and goals, strengths and goals, abilities and intentions in every area of human activity.[20]

3.4 Cross Cultural Understanding

Cross Cultural Understanding, is the ability to move from an ethnocentric attitude to an attitude that respects other cultures, so that later leads to the ability to behave appropriately in different cultures. Cross Cultural Understanding is basically like having a dual role. [21]. Cross Cultural Understanding is cultural standards to be able to understand native speakers.[21] Cross-cultural understanding is an ability that positions language learners in the position of envoys or diplomats, who are able to see and communicate with different cultures through the point of view of people who have communication skills.[23]

Cross Cultural Understanding emphasizes the importance of shared perceptions collectively to achieve coordination and control and suggests that coordination and control are even more difficult to achieve in culturally diverse organizations. Cross Cultural Understanding reveals a negative correlation between demographic diversity and various organizational performance indicators. Cross Cultural Understanding showcases Defense Diplomacy approaches which have different values, thus making the creation of mutual trust in multicultural settings more difficult to achieve Defense Diplomacy through Cross Cultural Understanding not only on language competence but also includes behavioral norms often found to intensify these difficulties [24]

CONCLUSION

The Garuda Unifil contingent is located in an area that has very heterogeneous social conditions. This social condition is motivated by layers of society that have different religious backgrounds such as Sunni, Shia and Christian. This difference is also the background of the Lebanese political situation which led to the division of power in the government. The Garuda Contingent needs to prepare an understanding of cultural background, namely by being equipped with Cross Cultural Understanding more optimally by stakeholders in Indonesia.[25-33]

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