

## Indonesia's Humanitarian Diplomacy Contribution to ASEAN Security Stability through the Provision of Cyclone Mocha Disaster Relief in Myanmar

**Akbar Zakaria<sup>1\*</sup>, Pujo Widodo<sup>2</sup>, Susaningtyas Nefo H. Kertopati<sup>3</sup>, Mohammad Ferdinand Firdaus<sup>4</sup>**

<sup>1,3)</sup> Faculty of Defense Strategy, The Republic of Indonesia Defense University

<sup>2)</sup> Faculty of National Security, The Republic of Indonesia Defense University

<sup>4)</sup> Coordinating Ministry for Human Development and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia

\*Corresponding Author

Email: [akazakaria100@gmail.com](mailto:akazakaria100@gmail.com)

### Abstract

*Cyclone Mocha in Myanmar has disrupted government activities in Myanmar. This disruption is one of the security threats that needs to be responded to appropriately so that it does not have an impact on regional security stability. Indonesia as the bearer of the ASEAN chairmanship needs to take a diplomatic stance in providing humanitarian assistance so as not to trigger conflict. Therefore, Indonesia's humanitarian diplomacy efforts at this moment need to be analyzed to become a lesson for the future. The method used in this study is a literature study that analyzes data inductively based on relevant information from sources available on the internet. The study found that Indonesia's humanitarian diplomacy still pays attention to regional security interests. Indonesia sent aid through the AHA Center as an ASEAN disaster agency and directly on behalf of the Indonesian people. Sending aid on behalf of the Indonesian people shows Indonesia's neutrality towards Myanmar's military junta government. The local government accepts this method because it is considered to have no special tendencies that take advantage of Myanmar's national emergency conditions. Indonesia's humanitarian diplomacy in ASEAN, especially Myanmar, reflects the Indonesian state's efforts to promote and protect human rights, peace, stability, and prosperity in the ASEAN region. This shows Indonesia's commitment to maintaining regional security stability through mobilizing humanitarian solidarity.*

**Keywords:** Cyclone Mocha, Defense Strategy, Humanitarian Diplomacy, Regional Security

## INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is an archipelago country with the influence of volcanism and In early May 2023, Myanmar experienced a 240 km/h supercyclone called Tropical Cyclone Mocha. This cyclone has caused severe flooding and damage in several provinces such as Rakhine, Sagaing, Magway, and Chin Provinces. Tropical Cyclone Mocha affected 3.4 million people and resulted in 148 fatalities and severe damage to human settlements and infrastructure (UN Ocha, 2023).

Given the enormous impact and losses, the Government of Myanmar decided to open the door to foreign aid, especially from Southeast Asian countries including Indonesia (AHA Centre, 2023). Responding to this, the Indonesian people through the Indonesian Government, which is currently the Chair of ASEAN, provided humanitarian assistance to the people of Myanmar affected by Cyclone Mocha. also. The Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2023) in its official release said that the provision of this assistance was based on the spirit of humanity, solidarity, and cooperation that promotes the spirit of One ASEAN-One Community and One ASEAN-One Response. The Coordinating Ministry for Human Development and Culture of Indonesia (2023) provided joint assistance in the ASEAN Emergency Response and Assessment Team (ASEAN-ERAT) platform in May 2023. In addition, there is also assistance support provided in June 2023 in the form of goods with a value of around Rp 7.1 billion.

This phenomenon is interesting to study considering Myanmar's domestic political conditions which are still reaping the pros and cons among ASEAN countries. The motives and objectives of Indonesia's diplomacy during the disaster emergency response period need to be discussed more comprehensively. Looking more specifically at the bilateral relationship between Indonesia and Myanmar, the friendship between the two countries has existed since both

countries became independent in the mid-20th century. This relationship covers various aspects, including political, economic, and socio-cultural. However, this bilateral relationship has experienced ups and downs due to political developments and issues in both countries. In recent years, the relationship between Myanmar and Indonesia has been colored by events related to the political situation in Myanmar. In early 2021, a military coup took place in Myanmar and the civilian government led by elected leader Aung San Suu Kyi was overthrown (Roza, 2021). This coup drew international condemnation, including from Indonesia (Yasa, 2022). Indonesia proposed an ASEAN summit meeting to discuss the situation in Myanmar in 2021. The meeting was the first international effort to ease the political crisis in Myanmar (Fatimah, 2021).

In addition, economic and trade relations between Indonesia and Myanmar have increased in recent years (BPS, 2021). Indonesia is one of Myanmar's important trade partners in ASEAN. Both countries have the potential to increase economic cooperation in various sectors, including industry, agriculture, energy, and tourism. While in the socio-cultural field, Indonesia and Myanmar also have exchanges in education, culture, and tourism. There are also Indonesian communities in Myanmar and Myanmar communities in Indonesia that play a role in strengthening socio-cultural relations between the two countries.

The close relationship between Indonesia and Myanmar is influenced by the factor of security stability. Including threats to this stability are disasters. The issue of disasters in one of the ASEAN countries will affect regional security stability. ASEAN as a form of regional governance in Southeast Asia is an entity that is obliged to minimise security risk factors including natural disasters to create stable development and ensure its sustainability (Syaban, 2014). The disaster resilience scheme is under the auspices of the ASEAN Community on Socio-Cultural Affairs with the framework of the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMMD) which resulted in the AADMER agreement with the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) as the coordinating center and the ASEAN Political-Security Community including focusing on disaster management policies through the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and the ASEAN Defense Ministerial Meeting Plus (Syaban, 2014).

Based on this background, this research discusses the mechanisms and objectives of Indonesia's humanitarian diplomacy in providing disaster relief for Cyclone Mocha in Myanmar and how it impacts security stability in ASEAN. Through the analysis of this diplomacy, it is hoped to foster a better understanding of the form and impact of Indonesia's efforts in its humanitarian diplomacy. This study also helps to identify areas that need improvement and strengthen international cooperation to better achieve humanitarian goals and national interests.

This research uses a defense science perspective and diplomacy as a part of defense strategy. Defense science serves as a logical teach that explores all features related with national security, which adjusts with the targets of state administration. The philosophical investigation of defense issues stems from the presence of the State substance and the basic to defend it against potential dangers. The center of defense science lies in analyzing a country's reaction to dangers; on the off chance that the danger is military, the reaction will be military, while non-military dangers warrant non-military approaches. The scope of non-military dangers is broad and differing, counting concerns such as worldwide participation and the penetration of remote belief systems.

Defence Science is the study of how to utilize a country's assets in peacetime and mobilize it in reaction to hazards that endanger a country's sovereignty and regional influence (Supriyatno and Ali, 2018). These dangers can arise from within or without. The concept of delivery covers a wide range, including clashes with other states, organizations and people. It encompasses combat techniques in general as well as specific battles fought in war, with the

extreme point of achieving victory in both strategic engagements and broader political objectives.

The government actualizes a national defense framework, which includes both non-military and military components, to defend the country's regional shrewdness. The Ministry of Defense assumes essential obligations for national defense (Prihantoro, 2021). National defense includes the foundation of combined forces, consisting of friendly and military components, plans to protect regional acumen, guarantee citizen security, and ensure national interface. This comprehensive approach is referred to as national defense. Sensitive units receive different defense measures based on accessible assets, calculate special self-defense procedures, discuss defense techniques, strategic activities, and key approaches. Attacks are countered or repelled through protective measures (Suhirwan and Toruan, 2021).

Several previous studies reveal the important role of defense science in the success of humanitarian diplomacy. This role is at the level of foreign policy philosophy that pays attention to national defense objectives, such as state sovereignty, territorial integrity, and national safety. T.B. Prasetyo and S. Brantas (2014) state that defense science can realize a deterrent effect in supporting bargaining positions in the arena of diplomacy (including humanitarian diplomacy). In the context of aid to Myanmar, this effect is expected to promote security stability in ASEAN. Indonesia's success in sending aid is also an important point that needs to be underlined. Research by Fransiska A. Susanto (2020) revealed that Myanmar has rejected humanitarian assistance due to domestic security. This history of rejection makes it difficult for many countries to conduct humanitarian diplomacy.

Defense diplomacy, which is alluded to as military strategy or security discretion, includes utilizing military and defense exercises to fortify political ties, cultivate belief, and advance security participation between countries. Whereas there isn't a generally acknowledged single hypothesis of defense strategy, a few researchers have contributed to its comprehension. Eminently, Dr. Geoffrey Till, a regarded master in sea procedure and universal security, has made considerable commitments to the field. Even though his work doesn't expressly center on defense strategy, his investigate on sea technique and security holds significance to understanding the hypothesis of defense strategy. As a wide and advancing field, defense strategy joins assorted insightful points of view and viable encounters. Different researchers may emphasize diverse angles of defense strategy depending on their ranges of investigation and mastery (Geoffrey Till, in Prasetyo and Berantas, 2014).

## RESEARCH METHODS

Based on the explanation above, diplomacy is always related to foreign policy but the two have differences. If foreign policy talks about policy formulation, including factors that influence state action, then diplomacy is a strategy to implement the results of policy formulation. This definition of diplomacy as a strategy raises its problems. Many people think that diplomacy is the same as negotiation (Setiawan, 2016). Adam Watson (1982) defines diplomacy as a negotiation between political entities that recognize each other's independence. The definition of diplomacy as a negotiation can also be found in the Oxford English Dictionary which defines diplomacy as, the conduct of international relations through negotiation. This definition gave birth to concepts such as gunboat diplomacy, which is a negotiation accompanied by military support. There is also the concept of coercive diplomacy, which is an effort to change the behavior of state and non-state actors through the limited use of threats or force. This model of diplomacy is intended as an alternative to war. Economic sanctions are an example of coercive diplomacy (Art and Jarvis, 2007).

Humanitarian diplomacy is conducted at many levels by individuals representing not only states but also intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). As such, diplomacy occurs on several tracks, often interactively and simultaneously. Track 1, diplomacy refers to official diplomacy practiced by state and IGO officials using traditional channels and tools. Track 2, diplomacy extends diplomatic activities to include more unofficial interactions involving civil society actors such as NGOs and prominent individuals. The implementation of human rights and humanitarian diplomacy occurs at several levels that can complement each other, as well as work across purposes (Rahmawati, et al., 2021).

Humanitarian diplomacy is strongly influenced by the principle of humanitarianism (Suryanti, 2021). The principles of humanitarianism consist of the principle of humanity, the principle of impartiality, the principle of neutrality, and the principle of independence (Mackintosh, 2000). The principle of humanity means that humanitarian action is carried out by the activist spirit brought by humanitarian groups to help victims of the Iam fund war disaster so that human suffering is reduced. This principle prioritizes the sense of empathy possessed by every humanitarian activist. The principle of neutrality means that humanitarian actions carried out must be neutral in the sense that they do not differentiate between certain ethnicities, races, religions, or ethnicities and do not take sides with certain groups. The principle of impartiality means that humanitarian action is carried out without being based on certain interests, such as political interests. This means that the principle of impartiality must be purely free. Finally, the principle of independence states that humanitarianism is carried out without any political influence or political support involved (Hammond, 2015).

Humanitarian diplomacy by Indonesia has been carried out several times, such as in the case of the Palestinian conflict and the Rohingya ethnic conflict in Myanmar. Humanitarian diplomacy is the right step for Indonesia as a Middle Power that continues to actively contribute regionally and globally (Suratiningsih, et al., 2020). Humanitarian diplomacy in the form of humanitarian assistance can be the first step to gaining the trust of the destination country so that Indonesia can bridge the international community's goal to end a conflict or problem in that country (Aritonang, 2021). Indonesia's humanitarian diplomacy strategy often involves the role of non-governmental organizations (humanitarian organizations and the UN), this is done to leave the impression of Indonesia's intervention in the internal affairs of related countries (Kusuma and Sitorus, 2019). Several studies related to Indonesia's humanitarian diplomacy have analyzed the mechanisms and objectives of such diplomacy. This research will also answer the problem of the mechanisms and objectives of Indonesia's humanitarian diplomacy in providing disaster relief for Cyclone Mocha in Myanmar and how it affects security stability in ASEAN.

This research is important because Myanmar is part of the ASEAN community whose domestic security stability will have an impact on regional security stability. The condition of Myanmar after the Myanmar military coup affects the stability of the ASEAN Region as evidenced by the influx of refugees from Myanmar to other countries such as Thailand and its development will increase to other ASEAN countries such as Cambodia, Vietnam, Malaysia, and so on (Hakiem, et al., 2022). In addition, the Cyclone Mocha disaster in Myanmar also has the potential to amplify security threats in Myanmar itself. Firdaus, et.al (2023) stated that natural disasters are one of the impact multipliers of security threats. Understandably, the natural disaster in Myanmar will affect the political temperature after the military coup in Myanmar because the disaster paralyzed the running of the local government. If not addressed, Myanmar's domestic security issues will affect its neighboring countries.

This research uses a descriptive qualitative research model approach, namely research by analyzing problems empirically (Sundari, et al. 2021). The qualitative approach used in this research is a type of literature study whose data sources are analyzed from books, journals, and government releases related to the Indonesian government's diplomacy efforts in humanitarian

diplomacy in Myanmar. Furthermore, the data is analyzed inductively by collecting various information relevant to this research. The next stage is to analyse humanitarian diplomacy involving an assessment of several factors that influence humanitarian diplomacy such as objectives, cooperation models, forms of responses, and the influence of diplomacy

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### ASEAN Security Stability After Myanmar's Internal Political Upheaval

Security stability in ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) is one of the main objectives of regional cooperation in the region. ASEAN is a regional organization consisting of 10 member states, namely Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

ASEAN's security stability is built on the consensus of member states in the form of ASEAN Agreements and Frameworks. ASEAN adopts the principles of consensus and deliberation in decision-making. This approach allows member states to reach agreements and manage differences peacefully. This has helped maintain stability and reduce the potential for conflict in the region. These agreements aim to build trust, prevent conflict, and promote peace among member states. These agreements and frameworks include the ASEAN Charter and the Declaration on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ).

In addition, security stability in ASEAN is also supported by international law and dispute resolution. ASEAN encourages member states to respect and comply with international law. When disputes arise, ASEAN encourages member states to settle through dialogue, negotiation, and dispute settlement mechanisms based on international law.

The most important factor of security stability in the Southeast Asian region is security and defense cooperation. ASEAN promotes security and defense cooperation among member states. This includes security dialogues, joint military exercises, and information exchange to enhance understanding and trust among member states. Economic and Social Development. ASEAN recognizes that balanced economic and social development is an important factor in achieving security stability. Through economic cooperation and regional integration, ASEAN creates a stable investment climate, promotes inclusive economic growth, and reduces social disparities among member states.

While ASEAN has made much progress in achieving security stability, challenges and differences that may arise between member states still need to be addressed. However, the agreements and collaborative approach that characterize ASEAN help to create a more stable and peaceful environment in the Southeast Asian region.

The military junta in Myanmar has created challenges to security stability in ASEAN. After the military coup in early 2021, the political situation in Myanmar experienced prolonged tension and violence. In the face of this situation, ASEAN has endeavored to play a role in addressing the crisis in Myanmar.

However, ASEAN's efforts to defuse the Myanmar crisis have not always gone smoothly. In April 2021, ASEAN held a special summit meeting in Jakarta, Indonesia, to discuss the situation in Myanmar. The meeting resulted in the "Five-Point Consensus" which included the transfer of power, dialogue and mediation, cessation of violence, humanitarian assistance, and the search for a political solution. However, ASEAN's efforts to implement this consensus are faced with the challenge of securing commitments from the Myanmar military junta.

In addition, ASEAN countries' reactions to the crisis in Myanmar have also been inconsistent. Some ASEAN member states took a strong stance and condemned the coup and the violence perpetrated by the military junta, while others took a more neutral approach and chose

to avoid intervening in Myanmar's domestic affairs. This divergence in approach reflects the challenge of achieving consensus and strong coordination among ASEAN member states.

In addition, the situation in Myanmar also has the potential to affect security stability in the wider ASEAN region. The armed conflict and violence in Myanmar could create significant refugee flows, negative economic impacts, and cross-border tensions with neighboring countries. This suggests that the crisis in Myanmar has a wider impact on regional security in ASEAN.

ASEAN's efforts to address the crisis in Myanmar are still ongoing. ASEAN member states continue to mediate dialogue and seek an inclusive political solution. Security stability in ASEAN requires strong cooperation and consensus among member states to address the challenges faced by the military junta in Myanmar and to promote peace and stability across the region.

### **Indonesia's Challenges as ASEAN Chairmanship**

As ASEAN chair, Indonesia faces several challenges that need to be addressed in carrying out its leadership role and advancing the ASEAN agenda. Indonesia must play an active role in maintaining unity and consensus. ASEAN consists of ten member states with diverse interests and views. The main challenge for Indonesia is to maintain unity and achieve consensus among member states in dealing with complex and varied issues. Uniting different approaches and interests in advancing the ASEAN agenda can be a challenging task.

Indonesia also needs to play the role of a collaborator as well as a moderator in addressing different approaches to conflict resolution. There are different approaches to conflict resolution among ASEAN countries. Some countries may favor a diplomatic approach, while others may favor decisive action. Indonesia needs to play the role of mediator and find an agreement that is acceptable to all parties to overcome this difference in approach.

ASEAN is often confronted with sensitive regional issues that can trigger disputes between member states, such as the South China Sea issue, the Rohingya conflict in Myanmar, and political differences among member states. Indonesia as chair must manage these issues wisely and seek solutions that fulfill the interests of all parties, while maintaining ASEAN's integrity and the principle of non-intervention. Therefore, Indonesia's role is vital in promoting regional security and stability. Maintaining security and stability in the region is ASEAN's top priority.

Indonesia's efforts to build security and stability can be through humanitarian solidarity as well as the development of economic and sustainability issues. Steps to improve economic integration in ASEAN and promote sustainable development are believed to reduce the turmoil of different political interests between countries because ASEAN has a unified vision of becoming a developed Southeast Asian country. This involves facilitating trade and investment, strengthening regional connectivity, and addressing economic inequality among member states.

ASEAN's role in the international community is also key for the community and region to exist. Indonesia as ASEAN chair needs to strengthen ASEAN's role in the international community. This involves building partnerships with countries outside ASEAN, championing ASEAN's interests in international forums, and promoting ASEAN's image as an important player in global affairs. In the face of all these challenges, Indonesia can leverage its diplomacy and leadership skills to build consensus, encourage dialogue, and advance the ASEAN agenda. One of Indonesia's strategies to maintain openness, transparency, and trust among member states to achieve significant progress is through humanitarian diplomacy.

### **Indonesia's Assistance in Myanmar's Mocha Cyclone Disaster**

In the context of ASEAN security, natural disasters such as cyclones or other disasters can have an impact on stability and security in the region. Natural disasters can cause infrastructure damage, and loss of life, and result in humanitarian crises that affect the social and economic stability of a country. In this regard, ASEAN can play a role in assisting member states

affected by disasters by providing humanitarian assistance, coordinating disaster management, and post-disaster recovery efforts.

ASEAN has established mechanisms and frameworks for disaster management, such as the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) and the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre). These mechanisms allow ASEAN member states to share information, resources, and coordination in the face of natural disasters.

In the context of Cyclone Mocha in Myanmar, should such a disaster occur, ASEAN may seek to provide humanitarian assistance to Myanmar through the AHA Centre and inter-member cooperation. This assistance includes logistical support, dispatch of medical personnel, food items, and other urgent needs to assist victims and restore affected areas.

However, it is important to note that ASEAN's response to natural disasters may be affected by political dynamics, the security situation, and the willingness of the Myanmar government to accept international assistance. In addition, ASEAN may also work with other countries and international organizations to provide assistance and support post-disaster recovery efforts in Myanmar.

Overall, Indonesia's humanitarian diplomacy in ASEAN demonstrates the country's active role in promoting and protecting human rights, as well as contributing to disaster management and post-disaster recovery in the ASEAN region. These efforts are in line with ASEAN values and principles that aim to achieve peace, stability, and prosperity for all people in the region.

### **Analysis of Indonesia's Humanitarian Diplomacy with Myanmar in the Mocha Cyclone Disaster**

International aid can be used as a public diplomacy tool to strengthen bilateral and multilateral relations. By providing effective and relevant aid, Indonesia can strengthen ties with recipient countries and expand its diplomatic network at the global level. This will increase Indonesia's Soft Power, which is influence and attraction through positive values, culture, and policies. This can help expand Indonesia's influence in the international arena and enhance its diplomatic capabilities to promote national interests.

International aid can also be the basis for building close partnerships and cooperation with recipient countries. Through aid, Indonesia can strengthen bilateral relations with these countries and expand cooperation in various fields, such as trade, investment, education, and security. Specifically on security impacts, providing international assistance to countries experiencing conflict or crisis can contribute to regional security and stability. By assisting countries affected by conflict or disaster, Indonesia can prevent or reduce the potential for destabilization and tension in the region.

One of the positive impacts that Indonesia has in providing international assistance to other countries is improving its image or reputation. Through international aid, Indonesia can build an image and reputation as a country that cares and plays an active role in helping countries in need. This can increase international trust and recognition of Indonesia and open up opportunities for further cooperation and investment.

Another positive impact is on education and learning. Through international assistance, Indonesia can learn from other countries' experiences and best practices in disaster management, development, and conflict resolution. This can be applied to improve domestic disaster management and sustainable development capabilities. This benefit not only has a positive impact on the recipient country but also Indonesia in increasing its role and influence at the global level and strengthening its position in international cooperation.

Regarding the delivery of humanitarian assistance to Myanmar, Indonesia uses two channels, namely the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster

Management (AHA Centre) and directly. The AHA Centre is the official body responsible for coordinating disaster management in ASEAN. The AHA Centre has several functions such as information collection and management, capacity building, disaster response coordination, and post-disaster recovery. The AHA Centre is tasked with collecting and managing disaster-related information in the ASEAN region. They monitor and collect data on natural disasters, track the development of the situation, and analyze the impact of disasters. This information is then used to facilitate effective coordination and response.

The AHA Centre seeks to strengthen the capacity of ASEAN member states in disaster management. They provide training, knowledge exchange, and technical assistance to strengthen disaster management capabilities at the national and regional levels. The Centre also assists member states in developing disaster response plans and strengthening early warning systems. The AHA Centre's next role is to coordinate disaster response at the regional level. It works with member states and other partners to facilitate information exchange, logistics coordination, and delivery of humanitarian assistance. The AHA Centre may also activate regional emergency response mechanisms, such as the ACT (ASEAN Emergency Response and Assessment Team), to respond to disasters that require special attention.

Finally, the AHA Centre is also involved in post-disaster recovery efforts in the ASEAN region. It works with member states to plan and implement recovery activities, including infrastructure reconstruction, community rehabilitation, and economic recovery. The AHA Centre also plays a role in facilitating the exchange of lessons learned and best practices among member states to strengthen resilience to future disasters.

The AHA Centre's obligations are based on the principles contained in the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER), which serves as the legal basis for disaster management cooperation in ASEAN. Through its roles and obligations, the AHA Centre contributes to capacity building and cooperation among ASEAN Member States in dealing with the threat of natural disasters in the region.

The delivery of assistance through the AHA Centre is one of Indonesia's contributions to a body that has important roles and obligations in disaster management in the ASEAN region. The delivery of humanitarian assistance through the AHA Centre cannot be on behalf of individual countries but as an ASEAN unit. Based on the official release of the Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2023), the Indonesian Government's assistance through the AHA Centre is in the form of support for aid transport facilities using the Indonesian Air Force's Hercules C-130 Aircraft which facilitates the delivery of humanitarian assistance. Indonesia as the chair of ASEAN gained a good image from this aid support.

In addition, the delivery of disaster relief is also carried out directly by the Government of Indonesia. Humanitarian aid delivery generally uses two relationship models, namely G2G (Government-to-Government) and P2P (People-to-People). The G2G and P2P relationship models refer to two different approaches to cooperation between states and individuals at the international level. G2G relationships involve interaction and cooperation between the governments of one country and another. This form of cooperation between governments is done officially, through bilateral or multilateral agreements. G2G relationships must be based on the recognition of equal sovereignty and involve diplomats, government officials, and other government agencies. Examples of G2G relations include bilateral trade agreements, security cooperation, diplomatic meetings, and negotiation of international agreements between governments.

P2P relations involve interaction and cooperation between individuals, civil society organizations, and non-governmental groups among countries. It is a form of cooperation that takes place outside the official sphere of government. P2P relations often involve collaboration in social, cultural, educational, sports, volunteering, and student exchange. Examples of P2P

relationships include student exchange programs, cultural exchanges, international volunteering, cooperation in humanitarian projects, and interfaith dialogue.

These two models have different values and benefits. While G2G relationships are the official channels for political decision-making and policymaking between countries, P2P relationships strengthen social, cultural, and personal ties between individuals from different walks of life. These two models can complement each other and work together to strengthen international cooperation comprehensively and sustainably.

P2P disaster relief schemes are approaches between individuals, groups, or civil society organizations that provide direct assistance to those affected by disasters, without going through government channels or official agencies. This approach aims to provide rapid and direct assistance to those in need, as well as mobilize community solidarity and participation in disaster management efforts. Some examples of disaster relief schemes through P2P schemes are donations and fundraising. Individuals or community groups can make cash donations or raise funds to support disaster management operations. These donations can be used to purchase urgent needs, such as food, clean water, medicines, and other supplies for disaster victims.

People can give necessary items to disaster victims, such as clothes, blankets, dry food, medical equipment, and other daily necessities. These items can then be distributed directly to those in need. Field Volunteers: Individuals can volunteer and engage in field operations to provide direct assistance to disaster victims. They can assist in evacuation, relief distribution, medical care, or other activities that support disaster relief efforts.

**Technical Assistance and Expertise.** People with specialized expertise or skills, such as medical personnel, engineers, or reconstruction experts, can donate their time and expertise to assist in disaster relief efforts. They can provide health services, repair damaged infrastructure, or provide training and mentoring to local communities. Forms of collaboration with local communities. The P2P approach also involves collaboration with local communities affected by the disaster. By involving local communities, assistance can be tailored to local needs and conditions, and strengthen the community's capacity to deal with future disasters. The P2P approach in disaster relief provides an opportunity for civil society to actively participate in disaster management efforts. This can strengthen bonds of solidarity and interdependence among communities, and provide faster and more relevant responses to urgent needs.

The provision of humanitarian assistance to other countries, in addition to considering the type of relationship built, also considers Indonesia's historical work in the international world. Indonesia's diplomatic work has created a strong image at the regional and international levels. Some of Indonesia's existing diplomatic work and image include peace diplomacy, conflict resolution, regional cooperation, culture, and the environment. In peace diplomacy, Indonesia is known as a country that adheres to the principles and practices of peace diplomacy and has played an active role in mediating conflicts and promoting peaceful resolution in various regional and global issues. A well-known example is Indonesia's role in the Helsinki Peace Agreement that ended the conflict in Aceh. In addition, on conflict resolution, Indonesia has been involved in conflict resolution efforts in various regions, both domestically and at the international level. In some cases, such as East Timor and Cambodia, Indonesia has contributed to efforts to mediate and reach sustainable political agreements.

At the regional level, Indonesia plays an important role in ASEAN, as one of the founding and active members of the regional cooperation. Through ASEAN, Indonesia seeks to promote economic, political, and security cooperation in Southeast Asia, as well as strengthen its position as a regional leader. Indonesia has played an active role in humanitarian diplomacy, especially in providing aid and assistance in crises and natural disasters. Through humanitarian assistance, such as that provided to Aceh post-tsunami or relief efforts for the Rohingya, Indonesia has built a positive image as a country that is caring and responsive to humanity.

Cultural diplomacy is also an important part of Indonesia's work. Through the promotion of Indonesian art, culture, and cultural diversity, such as Dance, Music, Batik, and World Cultural Heritage, Indonesia has managed to strengthen cultural relations and promote the unique positive values of the country. Not only that, Indonesia has a significant role in environmental diplomacy and climate change. As a country with rich natural diversity, Indonesia has played a role in international negotiations regarding environmental protection and climate change mitigation efforts.

Indonesia's diplomatic image is characterized by an inclusive, moderate, and pragmatic approach. Indonesia is known as a country that is active in international forums and strives to be a liaison between countries in the Southeast Asian region and the world. Through continuous diplomatic efforts, Indonesia has gained positive recognition and reputation at the international level.

Based on the above considerations, providing disaster relief to the military junta government in Myanmar involves several complex ethical and political considerations. Following the military coup in February 2021, many countries and international institutions faced the dilemma of providing direct assistance to the military junta government, which is considered illegitimate by most of the international community. On the other hand, providing disaster relief also takes into account the following principles and considerations:

1. Humanitarian Principle. This principle prioritizes humanitarian interests and assists those in need regardless of the political background of the government. However, providing aid to military junta governments can face ethical dilemmas due to the risk of the junta using the aid to strengthen their power or violate human rights.
2. Principle of Neutrality. The provision of aid should be done neutrally, without favoring any particular party. However, providing direct assistance to a military junta government may be seen as recognizing or supporting a regime that is considered illegitimate by much of the international community.
3. Political Considerations. Assisting a military junta government can have significant political consequences. States and international institutions should consider the political and reputational repercussions that may arise from assisting authoritarian regimes that engage in human rights abuses.

In the context of Myanmar, several countries and international agencies have chosen to assist non-governmental channels and independent humanitarian organizations that can work directly with civil society and affected groups. This approach helps ensure that aid directly reaches those in need without bypassing the military junta government. Donor countries should look at the impact of the disaster on the military junta government in Myanmar before sending aid. Such impacts include a possible decline in legitimacy. Natural disasters can reveal the weaknesses and failures of the government in responding to and protecting the people. If the military junta government fails to provide adequate aid or deal with the disaster effectively, this could lead to a decline in their legitimacy in the eyes of the people.

Disasters also increase dependence on other countries. Military junta governments may face difficulties in responding to and coping with disasters with their internal resources. This may result in an increased dependence on international aid and humanitarian organizations to provide assistance and support. Of course, such dependency will increase foreign intervention in their domestic politics.

The next impact is government paralysis. Disasters often damage infrastructure and impede access to affected areas. In the context of a military junta government, logistical and access constraints can exacerbate disaster response and affect the government's ability to reach remote areas or conflicts. If the military junta government is unable to respond to disasters humanely, this can lead to a decline in its image and trust in the government. Ultimately, disasters

open up opportunities for anti-government propaganda. If it cannot be contained, there will be an increase in social and political tensions. Disasters can exacerbate social and political tensions that already exist within a society. In the context of Myanmar, disasters can amplify existing discontent and tensions against the military junta government, and trigger further protests or instability.

Conversely, the military junta government can also utilize disasters as an opportunity to boost their propaganda and strengthen their control over narratives and information. They may manipulate disaster reports or use international aid to reinforce their positive image at home and abroad.

The above considerations have become the Indonesian government's concern in assisting Myanmar. Indonesia must see the development of bilateral relations before and after Myanmar's military junta government. Although this humanitarian mission is a manifestation of Indonesia's free and active foreign policy, the assistance provided must still aim to maintain the stability of a peaceful and safe Southeast Asian region. For this reason, the Government of Indonesia in this humanitarian mission is acting on behalf of the Indonesian people, not the Indonesian government. Although the aid comes from and is coordinated by the government, the relationship built is not solely using the G2G approach, but P2P. This is a smart strategy, which shows Indonesia's commitment to the ASEAN resolution on Myanmar's political situation and also its commitment to humanitarian affairs. If Indonesia's aid is delivered on a G2G basis on behalf of the Government of Indonesia, then Indonesia has implicitly recognized the legitimacy of the military junta government in Myanmar. Conversely, Myanmar will also benefit from this approach because it gets support for disaster management without worrying about excessive intervention from donor countries. The humanitarian diplomacy strategy used by Indonesia can maintain harmonious relations between Indonesia and Myanmar. More broadly, this kind of humanitarian diplomacy can maintain the solidarity of ASEAN member countries amid a dynamic political situation.

## CONCLUSION

One of the security threats currently of concern to countries in Southeast Asia is the disaster that has hit several countries, including Myanmar. In parallel to the disaster issue, Myanmar also has a political issue that is in escalation after the takeover of the government by the military junta. Natural disasters and protracted political crises will further weaken the sovereignty of a country and potentially become a humanitarian crisis. Indonesia as a country that has a free and active foreign principle, has contributed to maintaining the stability of ASEAN security. The contribution was realized in the provision of aid for Myanmar's Cyclone Mocha natural disaster. This assistance is also a form of Indonesia's humanitarian diplomacy to encourage Myanmar's political stability. This is so that Myanmar's domestic conditions do not have a domino effect on Southeast Asian security such as waves of Myanmar refugee migration affected by disasters or political crises. Indonesia's humanitarian diplomacy is carried out while respecting Myanmar's sovereignty and maintaining a neutral stance on domestic political issues, therefore the Indonesian Government sends aid on behalf of the Indonesian people (P2P approach). This shows that politically, Indonesia has not recognized the military junta government but still encourages Myanmar to be able to restore relations between the civilian government and the military junta. This step becomes very strategic, compared to the steps of other countries that have channeled aid through non-governmental organizations. By showing the interests of the Indonesian people who are politically neutral, the Indonesian Government is trying to position itself as a peace mediator that Myanmar can trust. In addition, the delivery of

humanitarian aid also strengthens harmony between countries in the Southeast Asian region within the framework of One ASEAN-One Community. The solidarity of countries in Southeast Asia remains a priority even though politically there are still issues that need to be resolved. Such security stability will support ASEAN countries to achieve their respective domestic interests.

## REFERENCES

- AHA Center. (2023). Tropical Cyclone Mocha Myanmar. Situation Update. No. 5
- Albayumi, F., Nourma M.H., Djoko S. (2018). Diplomasi Indonesia dalam Menyelesaikan Krisis Pengungsi Rohingya Tahun 2017. *Nation-State: Journal of International Studies* Vol. 1 No. 1
- Aritonang, C. Aderia. (2021). Diplomasi kemanusiaan yang dilakukan Indonesia di Myanmar untuk mengakhiri kejahatan kemanusiaan yang dialami oleh etnis Rohingya. Undergraduate Thesis. Bandung: Universitas Katolik Parahyangan.
- Art, Robert dan Robert Jervis (eds.). (2007). *International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues*, 8th ed. New York: Pearson Education.
- Badan Pusat Statistik. (2021.). <https://www.bps.go.id/indicator/8/336/1/neraca-perdagangan-beberapa-negara.html>
- Fatimah, D.N. (2021). Peran ASEAN dalam Menyelesaikan Konflik Kudeta Militer Myanmar. *PCD Studies Center Analysis*.
- Firdaus, M. F., Sudarya, A., & Deksino, G. R. (2023). Application of Defense Science in Dealing with Ecological Damage in Indonesia. *International Journal of Global Community*, 6(1 - March), 65 - 88. Retrieved from <https://journal.riksawan.com/index.php/IJGC-RI/article/view/145>
- Hammond, L. (2015). *The Routledge Companion to Humanitarian Action*, Chapter 7 Neutrality and Impartiality. New York: Routledge Handbook Online.
- Hakiem, F.N., Annisa F.P.I., dan Tania A.H. (2022). Pengaruh Kudeta Militer Myanmar Terhadap Stabilitas Kawasan ASEAN pada Tahun 2021. *Review of International Relation*, Vol. 4 (2).
- Kementerian Luar Negeri Republik Indonesia (2023). Bantuan Kemanusiaan ASEAN Untuk Korban Siklon mocha Myanmar: Portal Kementerian Luar negeri Republik Indonesia. Bantuan Kemanusiaan Asean Untuk Korban Siklon Mocha Myanmar. Diambil pada 9 September 2023 melalui <https://kemlu.go.id/portal/id/read/4749/berita/bantuan-kemanusiaan-asean-untuk-korban-siklon-mocha-myanmar>
- Kementerian Luar Negeri Republik Indonesia. (2023). Press Release Indonesia Serahkan Bantuan Kemanusiaan untuk Korban Siklon Mocha di Myanmar. Diambil pada tanggal 9 September 2023 melalui <https://www.kemlu.go.id/yangon/id/news/25237/press-release-indonesia-serahkan-bantuan-kemanusiaan-untuk-korban-siklon-mocha-di-myanmar>
- Kementerian Koordinator Bidang Pembangunan Manusia dan Kebudayaan. (2023). Pemerintah Indonesia tindak lanjuti pemberian bantuan perbaikan fasilitas Bandara Vanuatu dan Bantuan Kemanusiaan Ke Negara Myanmar. Diambil pada 9 Agustus 2023 melalui <https://www.kemenkopmk.go.id/pemerintah-indonesia-tindak-lanjuti-pemberian-bantuan-perbaikan-fasilitas-bandara-vanuatu-dan>
- Kementerian Koordinator Bidang Pembangunan Manusia dan Kebudayaan. (2023). Indonesia Kirimkan Bantuan Kemanusiaan Untuk Korban Bencana Siklon Mocha Myanmar. Diambil pada 9 Agustus 2023 melalui <https://www.kemenkopmk.go.id/indonesia-kirimkan-bantuan-kemanusiaan-untuk-korban-bencana-siklon-mocha-myanmar-0>

- Kusuma, A. Johan dan Fernando E.M. Sitorus. (2019). Strategi Diplomasi Kemanusiaan Pemerintah Indonesia Dalam Kasus Krisis Kemanusiaan Yang Dialami Etnis Rohingya di Myanmar Tahun 2017. *Mandala: Jurnal Ilmu Hubungan Internasional*. Vol. 2 (2).
- Mackintosh, K. (2000). The Principles of Humanitarian Action in International Humanitarian Law. *Overseas Development Institute*, 1–14. Retrieved from <https://www.odi.org/sites/odi.org.uk/files/odi-assets/publications-opinion-files/305.pdf>
- Prasetyo, T.B., and S. Berantas. (2014). Defense Diplomacy as Part of the Total Indonesian Diplomacy. *Jurnal Pertahanan* Vol.4 (2)
- Rahmawati, R., Putri N.A., dkk. (2021). Hak Asasi Manusia dan Diplomasi Kemanusiaan. *Jurnal Global Mind*, Vol. 3 (1). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.53675/jgm.v3i1.219>
- Setiawan, Asep. (2016). *Diktat Teori dan Praktik Diplomasi*. Universitas Muhammadiyah Jakarta.
- Sundari, R., Rendi P., Dian V.S. (2021). Upaya Diplomasi Pemerintah Indonesia Dalam Mediasi Konflik Kemanusiaan di Myanmar. *Jurnal Niara*, Vol.14 (1).
- Supriyatno, M. & Ali, Y. (2018). *Pengantar Manajemen Pertahanan*. Bogor; Universitas Pertahanan Republik Indonesia Press
- Suhirwan, S. & Toruan, T. (2021). *National Defense Strategy*. The Republic of Indonesia Defense University
- Suratiningsih, Dewi., Dea Puspita, dan Safira. (2020). Diplomasi Pemerintah Indonesia Dan Ngo Kemanusiaan Indonesia dalam Isu Palestina pada Tahun 2014-2020. *Proyeksi: Jurnal Ilmu Sosial dan Humaniora*, Vol. 25 (1). DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.26418%2Fproyeksi.v25i1.2602.g10000828>
- Suryanti, M. S. D. (2021). Politik Aksi Humaniter Organisasi Kemanusiaan Dalam Menangani Imigran Ilegal Tahun 2016 (Studi Kasus IOM dan UNHCR di Surabaya). *POLITICOS: Jurnal Politik dan Pemerintahan*, Vol. 1(1): pp. 32-42
- Syaban, M. (2014). Kepemerintahan Bencana (Disaster Governance) Asia Tenggara. *Andalas Journal of Internasional Studies*, Vol.3 (1). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25077/ajis.3.1.51-73.2014>
- UN Ocha. (2023). *Myanmar: Cyclone Mocha. Situation Report No. 2*
- Watson, Adam. (1982). *Diplomacy: The Dialogue Between States*. London: Routledge
- Yasa, Kadek P. (2022). Analisis Kudeta Militer Myanmar Terhadap Pemerintahan Sipil Ditinjau dari Perspektif Hukum Pidana Internasional. *Jurnal Ilmu Hukum Sui Generis*, Vol. 2 (2).