

The Effect of Indonesia's Candidature as United Nations' Security Council Non-permanent Member on Its Foreign Policy

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Abstract : The creation of United Nations' Security Council is aimed to implement the purpose of maintaining international peace and security, as it is stated on the United Nations Charter. Indonesia, as one of the member states of United Nations, has taken its role in United Nations Security Council several times. The country has served its position in the Council as a non-permanent member for three times, which are for the periods of 1974-1975, 1995-1996, and 2007-2008. In 2016, Indonesia announced its candidature as a non-permanent member of United Nations Security Council for the period of 2019-2020. Indonesia has a big amount of potential in terms of becoming United Nations Security Council for the period of 2019-2020. First, Indonesia has been active in maintaining peace and security between United Nations member states, for example by becoming an active contributor for UN Peacekeeping Operations (UNPKO). Second, Indonesia's position as a non-permanent member of United Nations Security Council will give a chance for the country to speak up on current international issues, especially regarding democracy and terrorism. If Indonesia was selected as a nonpermanent member for the Security Council, it will affect the country's foreign policies in different sectors, especially those that are in relations with permanent members of Security Council. The research question that will investigate is "How does Indonesia's candidature for the United Nations Security Council will affect the country's foreign policy implementation?" The research methods that are used for this paper is literature review on Indonesia's foreign policies.

1 INTRODUCTION

Six main organs in the United Nations were established based on the UN Charter. One of the organs established was the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). The Charter itself gives primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security to the Security Council, which may meet whenever peace is threatened. The Charter points out four United Nations purposes, which are to maintain international peace and security, to develop friendly relations among nations, to cooperate in solving international problems and in promoting respect for human rights, and to be a center for harmonizing the actions of the nations. The creation of Security Council itself is to implement the purpose of maintaining international peace and security. The actions that can be taken along the process are undertaking investigation and mediation on concerning a threat to peace, issuing ceasefire when a dispute is leading towards hostilities, and deciding on several enforcements measures. There are five

permanent members of the Security Council, such as China, France, Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, and the United States, and ten non-permanent members of the Council, which are selected for two-year terms.

2 METHODS

The research method that is used for this paper is literature review. The research was conducted January 2018 until May 2018. Researcher looked through Indonesia's past involvement as a non-permanent member of the United Nations' Security Council. Researcher also looked through statements and documents created by Indonesia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding the candidature. Thorough research on Indonesia's existing foreign policies and projection for future policies was needed in order to create a prediction on how the candidature will affect Indonesia's foreign policy and how Indonesia is in a potential place to be the non-permanent member of

United Nations' Security Council. As an output, this paper will include a conclusion on Indonesia's potential in becoming the non-permanent member of the United Nations' Security Council and how it will affect Indonesia's foreign policy.

3 RESULTS

Indonesia, as one of the member states of the United Nations, has taken its role in the Security Council several times. The country has served its position in the Council as a nonpermanent member for three times, which are for the terms of 1974-1975, 1995-1996, and 2007-2008. During the period of 2007-2008, Indonesia was selected by 80% of the United Nations member states. In 2016, Indonesia announced its candidature for non-permanent membership of the United Nations Security Council for the period of 2019-2020. As in 2018, Indonesia has received support from at least 95 countries, in which it consists of 2 unilateral support, 19 oral support, and 54 mutual support based on pacts. The Vice President of Indonesia, Jusuf Kalla, said during the launching of the UN Security Council membership candidature campaign that Maldives posed as a strong candidate, however Indonesia had a greater chance in taking the position. This announcement was responded positively by several countries, including Costa Rica. Costa Rica's Foreign Minister Manuel Antonio Gonzales revealed that both countries shared similar stances in global issues, such as climate change and sustainable development, and Costa Rica respected Indonesia's leadership in ASEAN, which was one of the main considerations of the support for the membership candidature.

4 DISCUSSION

Indonesia has a big amount of potential in terms of becoming the United Nations Security Council for the period of 2019-2020. First, Indonesia has been active in maintaining peace and security between the United Nations member states. Maintaining peace and security is the main purpose of the United Nations Security Council and Indonesia has taken a few actions in order to serve that purpose. One of the most notable actions taken by Indonesia is becoming an active contributor for the UN Peacekeeping Operations (UNPKO). Indonesia has sent more than 30.000 troops and police personnel to conflict areas since 1957. Indonesia is planning to send 4.000 troops

by 2019 through "Vision 4.000 Peacekeepers" program. Indonesia has become the coordinator of Non-Alignment Movement (NAM) Working Group on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation since 1994 and as Co-President of Article XIV Conference of the Comprehensive Nuclear- Test-Ban Treaty from 2013 until 2015. Indonesia also served as Co-chairs of South East Asia Capacity Working Group and Co-Chairs of Detention and Reintegration Working Group with Australia during Global Counter-Terrorism Forum. Indonesia has also been active in maintaining peace and security through its leadership in ASEAN. Second, Indonesia's position as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council will give a chance for the country to speak up on current international issues. It is known that Indonesia is the world's largest Muslim country and the third-largest democratic country. By holding these positions, Indonesia is able to have great chances in contributing towards global discussions. Indonesia will be in a great position when it comes to raising its voices during discussions about terrorism and democracy. Indonesia will also be able to take steps if any security problem happens in another country, as the country itself is contributing in sending peacekeeper troops. Indonesia can also be a good representative for developing countries in the council. Lastly, Indonesia suggested a fundamental discussion in order to create balance within the amount of developed countries and developing countries in the Security Council. By having Indonesia as a member of the council, it will be one step ahead towards the aforementioned balance.

By having Indonesia as a nonpermanent member of United Nations' Security Council, Indonesia will have a good projection in creating foreign policies for the future. According to yearly press speech done by Indonesia's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Retno Marsudi, Indonesia is trying to focus on eight issues in order to develop its foreign policies. One of the issues that is listed on the list is about Indonesia's candidature as United Nations' Security Council non-permanent member. Aside from that, several other issues that become Indonesia's focus on advancing the country's foreign policy include its involvement in ASEAN, enhancing humanity and security diplomacy, succeeding international-scale events held in Indonesia, fencing borders and guarding sovereignty, enhancing protection for Indonesian citizens in foreign countries, intensification of economic cooperation discussion, and enhancing diplomacy in order to eradicate transnational organized crime. If Indonesia was selected as a non-permanent member of United Nations' Security

Council, Indonesia would be seen as a respected country and this will ease the country in advancing the foreign policy. For example, regarding involvement in ASEAN, it is said that Indonesia will focus on strengthening unity and centrality in ASEAN. In connection to the candidature, it could be a good chance for Indonesia to gain support from ASEAN countries. ASEAN countries will see Indonesia as a leading country, not only as one of the founding countries of ASEAN, but also as ASEAN countries representative in the Security Council. By becoming a non-permanent member of the Security Council, Indonesia will have a good shot in bringing the discussion about South China Sea dispute between China and ASEAN countries, so that the security and peace among the countries will be maintained. Second, in terms of enhancing humanity and security diplomacy, it is stated that Indonesia will enhance partnership with like-minded countries in order to maintain the world's security. By doing so, Indonesia will be able to gather countries in order to exchange perspectives in creating a peaceful and secure world. Third, Indonesia will host one of the biggest sporting event in Asia, Asian Games 2018. By proving that Indonesia is able to hold such event, it will be seen that Indonesia has a high level of security that it can protect representatives from various countries. Aside from Asian Games 2018, Indonesia will also be the host for other international-scale events, such as Indonesia-Africa Forum, World Conference on Creative Economy, Our Ocean Conference, and the annual meeting for International Monetary Fund and World Bank Group. Fourth, the settlement of discussion regarding Indonesian borders and sovereignty will symbolize Indonesia's commitment in maintaining security among countries which are abut with Indonesia. In 2017, Indonesia has done 35 discussions regarding borders, which consists of 11 maritime border discussions, 5 discussions with Malaysia's Prime Minister, and 19 discussions regarding demarcation of land borders. Indonesia has also ratified several treaties and memorandums of understanding regarding border areas with Singapore, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Papua New Guinea. Fifth, Indonesia will guarantee the rights of its citizens in foreign countries. The government will also create a special database regarding the number of Indonesian citizens who live abroad, launching a safe travel mobile application, and creating a one-system service for consular. By becoming a country that promotes technological usage in maintaining the security of citizens abroad, Indonesia might have a big chance to be considered as an advanced country that never stops creating

progress. Sixth, Indonesia will be focused on intensifying trade and economic partnerships in forms of Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), Free Trade Area (FTA), and Preferential Trade Area (PTA). Indonesia will also maintain investment partnerships with countries, such as Switzerland. Indonesia will be seen as a country with a potential market for trading and economic cooperation. This can affect other sectors, including security and peace. Lastly, Indonesia is one of a few countries that are on the front line to eradicate transnational organized crime. Indonesia will put its effort to create ASEAN Extradition treaty with other ASEAN countries. By having a real proof on maintaining the world's peace and security, it is guaranteed that Indonesia can be a great non-permanent member of the Security Council.

5 CONCLUSIONS

In conclusion, Indonesia has a great potential in becoming a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council. This potential is a result of the past actions Indonesia has done in order to serve the purpose of the Security Council itself. By having Indonesia as one of its members, the Security Council will be able to maintain the global peace and security, as well as balancing the amount of voices within developed and developing countries inside the council.

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