

Indonesia's Humanitarian Diplomacy in Providing Aid for Cyclone Mocha Disaster in Myanmar and its Impact on Security and Stability in Asean

Bouapheng Bounthavong^{1*}, Surachman Surjaatmadja², Syaiful Anwar³
Universitas Pertahanan Republik Indonesia

Corresponding Author: Bouapheng Bounthavong
bounthavongbouapheng73@gmail.com

ARTICLE INFO

Keywords: Cyclon Mocha,
Humanitarian Diplomacy,
Regional Security

Received : 5 October

Revised : 23 October

Accepted: 23 November

©2023 Bounthavong, Surjaatmadja, Anwar: This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the [Creative Commons Atribusi 4.0 Internasional](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).



ABSTRACT

Cyclone Mocha in Myanmar has caused disruption to government activities in Myanmar. This disruption is one of the security threats that needs to be responded 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 in order 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. This method is accepted by the local government 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 security stability in the region through mobilizing humanitarian solidarity

INTRODUCTION

In early May 2023, Myanmar experienced a catastrophic super cyclone with wind speeds of 240 km/h, known as Tropical Cyclone Mocha. This cyclone has resulted in severe flooding and destruction in several provincial regions such as Rakhine, Sagaing, Magway, and Chin. Tropical Cyclone Mocha has impacted 3.4 million people, causing a death toll of 148 individuals, and has inflicted extensive damage to residential areas and infrastructure (UN Ocha, 2023).

Given the significant impact and extensive losses, the Government of Myanmar has decided to open its doors to foreign assistance, particularly from Southeast Asian countries, including Indonesia (AHA Center, 2023). In response to this, the Indonesian society, through the Indonesian Government, currently holding the ASEAN Chairmanship, has extended humanitarian aid to the affected communities in Myanmar due to Cyclone Mocha. This action is driven by the spirit of humanity, solidarity, and mutual cooperation while upholding the principles of One ASEAN-One Community and One ASEAN-One Response. Indonesia provided joint assistance through the ASEAN Emergency Response and Assessment Team (ASEAN-ERAT) platform in May 2023 (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2023). Furthermore, there was additional support provided in June 2023 in the form of goods, with an approximate value of IDR 7.1 billion (Coordinating Ministry for Maritime and Investment Affairs, 2023).

The provision of disaster assistance to foreign countries, including Myanmar, represents Indonesia's humanitarian diplomacy efforts within ASEAN. This diplomacy promotes Indonesia's commitment to human rights and humanitarian values. This phenomenon is intriguing to examine, given the political situation within Myanmar, which continues to garner mixed reactions among ASEAN member states. The motives and objectives of Indonesia's diplomacy during times of emergency response to disasters need to be discussed comprehensively.

Looking more specifically at the bilateral relationship between Indonesia and Myanmar, the friendship between the two countries dates back to their respective independence in the mid-20th century. This relationship encompasses various aspects, including politics, economics, and socio-cultural ties. However, the bilateral ties have experienced ups and downs due to political developments and issues in both nations. In recent years, the relationship between Myanmar and Indonesia has been influenced by events related to the political situation in Myanmar. In early 2021, a military coup took place in Myanmar, overthrowing the civilian government led by elected leader Aung San Suu Kyi (Roza, 2021). This coup garnered international condemnation, including from Indonesia (Yasa, 2022). Indonesia proposed an ASEAN summit to discuss the situation in Myanmar. The meeting held in April 2021 marked the international community's initial effort to address the crisis and conflict in Myanmar (Fatimah, 2021).

Furthermore, Indonesia has also developed economic and trade relationships with Myanmar, which have grown in recent years (BPS, 2021). Indonesia stands as a significant trading partner for Myanmar within ASEAN. Both countries have the potential to enhance economic cooperation across various sectors, including industry, agriculture, energy, and tourism. In the

realm of socio-cultural ties, Indonesia and Myanmar engage in exchanges encompassing education, culture, and tourism. There are Indonesian communities in Myanmar and Myanmar communities in Indonesia that play a role in strengthening the socio-cultural relationship between the two nations. The issue of disasters in one of the ASEAN countries will impact the stability and security of the region. ASEAN, as a form of regional governance in Southeast Asia, constitutes a unified entity with the responsibility to minimize security risks, including natural disasters, in order to foster stable development and ensure its continuity (Syaban, 2014). The framework for disaster resilience operates under the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community, with the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM) resulting in the Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER), with the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) serving as the coordinating center. The ASEAN Political-Security Community also focuses on disaster management policies through the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and the ASEAN Defense Ministerial Meeting Plus (Syaban, 2014).

Based on the aforementioned background, this study delves into the analysis of Indonesia's humanitarian diplomacy in providing assistance for Cyclone Mocha disaster in Myanmar and its impact on security stability in ASEAN. Through this diplomatic analysis, it is expected to foster a better understanding of the forms and impacts of Indonesia's efforts in its humanitarian diplomacy. This study also aids in identifying aspects that require improvement and strengthening international cooperation to achieve humanitarian goals and enhance national interests.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Diplomacy is invariably linked to foreign policy; however, the two have distinct differences. While foreign policy concerns the formulation of policies, including the factors influencing a nation's actions, diplomacy is the strategy to implement the outcomes of these policy formulations. This interpretation of diplomacy as a strategy presents its own challenges. Many views diplomacy as synonymous with negotiation (Setiawan, 2016). Adam Watson defines diplomacy as the negotiation between political entities that acknowledge each other's independence (Watson, 1982). The concept of diplomacy as negotiation is also echoed in the Oxford English Dictionary's definition, which characterizes diplomacy as the conduct of international relations through negotiation. This definition has given rise to concepts like gunboat diplomacy, which involves negotiation backed by military force. There's also the concept of coercive diplomacy, which aims to alter the behavior of state and non-state actors through limited threats or force. This diplomatic model is intended as an alternative to war. Economic sanctions serve as an example of coercive diplomacy (Art and Jarvis, 2007).

Humanitarian Diplomacy operates on various levels, not solely on the state level, but also within intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). This results in diplomacy occurring along multiple tracks, often in an interactive and simultaneous manner. Track 1

diplomacy refers to official diplomacy practiced by state officials and IGOs using traditional channels and tools. Track 2 diplomacy expands diplomatic activities to encompass less formal interactions involving civil society actors such as NGOs and prominent individuals. The implementation of human rights and humanitarian diplomacy occurs at various levels that can complement each other, working across multiple needs (Rahmawati et al., 2021).

Humanitarian diplomacy is significantly influenced by the principles of humanitarianism (Suryanti, 2021). Humanitarianism principles consist of the principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality, and independence (Mackintosh, 2000). The principle of humanity entails humanitarian actions being carried out in line with the activist spirit brought forth by humanitarian groups, with the goal of alleviating the suffering of disaster and war victims. Essentially, this principle emphasizes the empathy possessed by every humanitarian activist. The principle of neutrality signifies that humanitarian actions must remain neutral, meaning they should not discriminate based on specific ethnicity, race, religion, or group affiliation. The principle of impartiality implies that humanitarian actions are conducted without being based on specific interests, such as political agendas. This principle necessitates complete freedom from biases. Lastly, the principle of independence dictates that humanitarian actions are carried out without political influence or engagement (Hammond, 2015).

METHODOLOGY

This research employs a qualitative descriptive research approach, which involves empirically analysing issues (Sundari et al., 2021). The qualitative approach used in this study is a literature review type, where data sources are analysed from books, journals, and government releases related to Indonesia's governmental humanitarian diplomacy efforts in Myanmar. Subsequently, data are analysed inductively by collecting various relevant information related to this research. The subsequent steps involve analyzing humanitarian diplomacy, encompassing an assessment of several influencing factors such as objectives, collaboration models, response forms, and the impact of diplomacy.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

- **Security Stability in ASEAN Post-Internal Political Turmoil in Myanmar**

Security stability within ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) is a primary goal of regional cooperation in the area. ASEAN is a regional organization comprising 10 member states: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Several factors contribute to achieving security stability in ASEAN:

1. **ASEAN Agreements and Frameworks:** ASEAN possesses various agreements and frameworks, including the ASEAN Charter and the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ) Treaty. These agreements aim to build trust, prevent conflicts, and promote peace among member states.

2. **ASEAN Consensus:** ASEAN adopts principles of consensus and consultation in decision-making. This approach enables member states to reach agreements and manage differences peacefully. It has helped maintain stability and reduce potential conflicts in the region.
3. **International Law and Dispute Resolution:** ASEAN encourages member states to respect and adhere to international law. In case of disputes, ASEAN encourages member states to seek resolution through dialogue, negotiation, and
4. **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.
5. **Economic and Social Development:** ASEAN recognizes that balanced economic and social development is crucial for 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.

Although ASEAN has made significant progress in achieving security stability, challenges and differences among member states still need to be addressed. However, the consensus-driven and collaborative approach that characterizes ASEAN helps create a more stable and peaceful environment in Southeast Asia.

The Military Junta in Myanmar has posed challenges to security stability in ASEAN. Following the military coup in early 2021, the political situation in Myanmar has been marked by prolonged tension and violence. In response to this situation, ASEAN has endeavored to play a role in addressing the crisis in Myanmar.

However, ASEAN's efforts to alleviate the Myanmar crisis have not always proceeded without obstacles. In April 2021, ASEAN held a special summit in Jakarta, Indonesia, to discuss the situation in Myanmar. The summit resulted in a "Five-Point Consensus" encompassing power transition, dialogue and mediation, cessation of violence, humanitarian assistance, and the pursuit of a political solution. Nonetheless, ASEAN's attempts to implement this consensus encountered challenges in securing a commitment from the Myanmar military junta.

Furthermore, ASEAN member states' reactions to the crisis in Myanmar have also been inconsistent. While some member states took a firm stance, condemning the coup and the violence perpetrated by the military junta, others adopted a more neutral approach, opting to refrain from intervening in Myanmar's domestic affairs. These differing approaches reflect the challenges of achieving a strong consensus and coordination among ASEAN member states. Furthermore, the situation in Myanmar also has the potential to impact security stability in the wider ASEAN region. Armed conflict and violence in Myanmar can lead to significant refugee flows, negative economic impacts, and cross-border tensions with neighboring countries. This underscores that the crisis in Myanmar has broader implications for regional security within ASEAN.

It is important to note that ASEAN's efforts to address the crisis in Myanmar are ongoing. ASEAN member states continue to work towards mediating dialogue and seeking inclusive political solutions. Security stability within ASEAN necessitates strong cooperation and consensus among member states to address the challenges posed by the military junta in Myanmar and to promote peace and stability across the entire region.

• ASEAN Member States' Stances on the Military Junta Government in Myanmar
The ASEAN member states' attitudes toward the military coup in Myanmar vary, reflecting differences in each country's approach and interests. Here is a general overview of ASEAN member states' positions in response to the military coup in Myanmar:

1. **Indonesia:** Indonesia took a strong stance and condemned the military coup in Myanmar. The Indonesian government called for the restoration of power to a legitimate and democratic government and advocated for dialogue and national reconciliation in Myanmar. Indonesia also hosted a special ASEAN summit in April 2021 to discuss the situation in Myanmar.
2. **Malaysia:** Malaysia also condemned the military coup and the violence in Myanmar. The Malaysian government summoned Myanmar's ambassador to protest the coup and emphasized the need to respect the honor and freedom of Aung San Suu Kyi. Malaysia also advocated for diplomatic efforts to address the crisis in Myanmar.
3. **Singapore:** Singapore unequivocally condemned the military coup and violence in Myanmar. The Singaporean government advocated for the restoration of democracy and emphasized the need for the return of power to a democratically elected government. Singapore also supported ASEAN's efforts in addressing the crisis in Myanmar.
4. **Philippines:** The Philippines denounced the military coup and violence in Myanmar. The Philippine government called for the respect of human rights and civil liberties in Myanmar. The Philippines supported ASEAN's efforts to promote dialogue and national reconciliation in Myanmar.
5. **Thailand:** Thailand initially adopted a neutral stance and did not issue strong public statements regarding the coup in Myanmar. However, Thailand sought to facilitate dialogue between the Myanmar military junta and relevant parties, including the National League for Democracy. Thailand also supported ASEAN's efforts in addressing the crisis in Myanmar.
6. **Vietnam:** Vietnam firmly condemns the military coup and emphasizes the necessity of respecting democratic principles in Myanmar. The Vietnamese government supports ASEAN's efforts in addressing the crisis and encourages the restoration of power to a legitimate government.

However, it is important to note that ASEAN member states' positions in responding to the coup in Myanmar may change over time, depending on the evolving situation and political dynamics in Myanmar. Achieving unity of stance and coordinated actions in handling the military coup poses a challenge for ASEAN, given the differing approaches and interests among member states.

- The Challenges of Indonesia as Chair of ASEAN

As the chair of ASEAN, Indonesia faces several challenges that need to be addressed in carrying out its leadership role and advancing the ASEAN agenda. Some of these challenges include:

1. **Maintaining Unity and Consensus:** ASEAN consists of 10 member states with diverse interests and perspectives. The main challenge for Indonesia is to preserve unity and achieve consensus among member countries in addressing complex and varied issues. Harmonizing different approaches and interests to advance the ASEAN agenda can be a demanding task.
2. **Addressing Differences in Conflict Resolution Approaches:** There are varying approaches to conflict resolution among ASEAN nations. Some countries might prefer diplomatic approaches, while others might lean towards more assertive actions. Indonesia needs to play a mediating role and seek agreements acceptable to all parties to overcome these differing approaches.
3. **Handling Sensitive Regional Issues:** ASEAN often faces sensitive issues, such as the South China Sea dispute, the Rohingya crisis in Myanmar, and political differences among member states. As the chair, Indonesia must manage these issues wisely and seek solutions that serve the interests of all parties, while upholding ASEAN's integrity and the principle of non-intervention.
4. **Promoting Security and Stability:** Safeguarding regional security and stability is a top priority for ASEAN. Indonesia must collaborate with member states to enhance security cooperation, strengthen existing regional mechanisms, and address threats such as terrorism, human trafficking, and cross-border crime.
5. **Encouraging Economic Integration and Sustainability:** Indonesia needs to drive efforts to boost economic integration within ASEAN and promote sustainable development. This involves facilitating trade and investment, enhancing regional connectivity, and addressing economic disparities among member countries.
6. **Strengthening ASEAN's Role in the International Community:** As the chair of ASEAN, Indonesia also needs to bolster ASEAN's role in the international community. This includes building partnerships with countries outside ASEAN, advocating for ASEAN's interests in international forums, and promoting ASEAN's image as a significant player in global affairs.

In facing these challenges, Indonesia can leverage its diplomatic expertise and leadership to build consensus, promote dialogue, and advance the ASEAN agenda. It's crucial for Indonesia to maintain openness, transparency, and trust among member states to achieve significant progress during its chairmanship.

- Indonesia's Assistance in the Cyclone Mocha Disaster in Myanmar

In the context of ASEAN security, natural disasters such as cyclones or other calamities can have an impact on regional stability and security. 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 aid, coordinating disaster relief efforts, and supporting post-disaster recovery.

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 enable ASEAN member states to share information, and resources, and coordinate efforts in addressing natural disasters.

In the context of the Mocha cyclone in Myanmar, if such a disaster were to occur, ASEAN would likely strive to provide humanitarian assistance to Myanmar through the AHA Centre and inter-member state cooperation. This assistance would encompass logistical support, the dispatch of medical personnel, food supplies, and other urgent necessities to aid victims and facilitate the recovery of the affected areas.

However, it's important to note that ASEAN's response to natural disasters can be influenced by political dynamics, security situations, and Myanmar's government's willingness to accept international assistance. Additionally, ASEAN can collaborate with other countries and international organizations to provide aid and support post-disaster recovery efforts in Myanmar.

Overall, Indonesia's humanitarian diplomacy within ASEAN showcases its active role in promoting and safeguarding human rights, as well as contributing to disaster management and post-disaster recovery efforts within the ASEAN region. These efforts align with the values and principles of ASEAN, which aim to achieve peace, stability, and prosperity for all communities in the region.

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

The AHA Centre (ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management) is the official body responsible for coordinating disaster management in ASEAN. The AHA Centre has important roles and responsibilities in disaster management within the ASEAN region. The following are some of the main responsibilities of the AHA Centre:

1. Collection and Management of Information: The AHA Centre is responsible for collecting and managing disaster-related information within the ASEAN region. They monitor and gather data on natural disasters, track the evolving situations, and analyze the impacts of disasters. This information is then used to facilitate effective coordination and response.
2. Empowerment of Member States: The AHA Centre strives to enhance the disaster management capabilities of ASEAN member states. They provide training, knowledge exchange, and technical assistance to strengthen disaster management capacities at both national and regional levels. The AHA Centre also assists member states in developing disaster response plans and strengthening early warning systems.

3. **Coordinated Disaster Response:** One of the critical roles of the AHA Centre is to coordinate disaster response at the regional level. They collaborate with member states and other partners to facilitate information exchange, logistical coordination, and humanitarian aid delivery. The AHA Centre can also activate regional emergency response mechanisms, such as the ASEAN Emergency Response and Assessment Team (ACT), to address disasters that require special attention.
4. **Post-Disaster Recovery:** The AHA Centre is also involved in post-disaster recovery efforts within the ASEAN region. They work with member states to plan and execute recovery activities, including infrastructure reconstruction, community rehabilitation, and economic recovery. The AHA Centre also plays a role in facilitating the exchange of learning and best practices among member states to enhance resilience against future disasters.

These responsibilities of the AHA Centre are based on the principles outlined in the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER), which serves as the legal foundation for disaster management cooperation within ASEAN. Through its role and obligations, the AHA Centre contributes to capacity-building and cooperation among ASEAN member states in addressing natural disaster threats in the region.

The Government-to-Government (G2G) and People-to-People (P2P) relationship models refer to two different approaches to cooperation between countries and individuals at the international level.

1. **Government-to-Government (G2G) Relationship.** The G2G relationship involves interactions and cooperation between the governments of different countries. It is a formal collaboration between governments through bilateral or multilateral agreements, involving diplomats, government officials, and other governmental institutions. G2G relationships often focus on political dialogue, information exchange, economic cooperation, and state diplomacy. Examples of G2G relationships include bilateral trade agreements, security cooperation, diplomatic meetings, and international negotiations between governments.
2. **People-to-People (P2P) Relationship.** The P2P relationship involves interactions and cooperation between individuals, civil society organizations, and non-governmental groups across countries. It is a form of collaboration that occurs outside the official government scope. P2P relationships often involve collaboration in social, cultural, educational, sports, volunteer activities, and student exchange fields. Examples of P2P relationships include student exchange programs, cultural exchanges, international volunteering activities, humanitarian project collaboration, and interfaith dialogues.

Both of these models have different values and benefits. The G2G relationship serves as the official channel for political decision-making and policy formulation between countries, while the P2P relationship strengthens social, cultural, and personal bonds among individuals from various segments of

society. These two models can complement each other and work together to enhance comprehensive and sustainable international cooperation.

The "people-to-people" disaster assistance scheme is an approach where individuals, groups, or civil society organizations provide direct aid to those affected by disasters, bypassing government channels or official institutions. This approach aims to deliver swift and immediate aid to those in need, as well as mobilize solidarity and community participation in disaster relief efforts.

Here are some examples of people-to-people disaster assistance schemes:

1. **Donations and Fundraising:** Individuals or community groups can contribute cash donations or organize fundraising campaigns to support disaster relief operations. These donations can be used to purchase essential items such as food, clean water, medicines, and other supplies for disaster victims.
2. **In-kind Assistance:** People can provide needed items to disaster victims, such as clothing, blankets, non-perishable food, medical supplies, and other daily necessities. These items can then be directly distributed to those in need.
3. **Field Volunteers:** Individuals can volunteer and engage in field operations to provide direct aid to disaster victims. They can assist in evacuation, aid distribution, medical care, or other activities that support disaster relief efforts.
4. **Technical and Expertise Assistance:** Individuals with specialized skills or expertise, such as medical professionals, engineers, or reconstruction specialists, can donate their time and expertise to assist in disaster relief efforts. They can provide medical services, repair damaged infrastructure, or offer training and mentoring to the local community.
5. **Collaboration with Local Communities:** The people-to-people approach also involves collaborating with local communities affected by the disaster. By involving local communities, assistance can be tailored to local needs and conditions, while also strengthening the community's capacity to face future disasters.

The people-to-people approach in disaster assistance provides an opportunity for civil society to actively participate in disaster relief efforts. This can strengthen bonds of solidarity and interdependence within communities, as well as offer quicker and more relevant responses to urgent needs.

Indonesia gains several advantages in providing international assistance to other countries. Some of these advantages include:

1. **Building Image and Reputation:** Through international assistance, Indonesia can build an image and reputation as a caring and actively engaged country in helping those in need. This can enhance international trust and recognition towards Indonesia, opening opportunities for further cooperation and investment.
2. **Public Diplomacy:** International assistance can serve as a tool of public diplomacy to strengthen both bilateral and multilateral relations. By providing effective and relevant aid, Indonesia can deepen ties with recipient countries and expand its diplomatic network on a global scale.

3. **Enhancing Soft Power:** Providing international aid can enhance Indonesia's soft power, which is the influence and attractiveness through positive values, culture, and policies. This can help broaden Indonesia's influence on the international stage and boost diplomatic capabilities in promoting national interests.
4. **Partnerships and Collaboration:** International assistance can form the basis for building close partnerships and collaborations 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 culture.
5. **Regional Security and Stability:** Providing international aid to countries experiencing conflicts or crises can contribute to regional security and stability. By assisting countries affected by conflicts or disasters, Indonesia can prevent or mitigate potential destabilization and tensions in the surrounding region.
6. **Education and Learning Benefits:** Through international aid, Indonesia can gain educational and learning benefits. In the process of providing assistance, Indonesia can learn from the experiences and best practices of other countries in disaster management, development, and conflict resolution. These lessons can be applied to improve disaster management capabilities and sustainable development domestically.

These advantages not only provide positive impacts for the recipient countries but also Indonesia in enhancing its role and influence on the global stage, as well as strengthening its position in international cooperation. Indonesia's diplomatic efforts have created a strong image at both regional and international levels. Here are some aspects of Indonesia's diplomatic engagement and image:

1. **Peaceful Diplomacy:** Indonesia is known as a country that upholds the principles and practices of peaceful diplomacy. Since its independence, Indonesia has actively mediated conflicts and promoted peaceful resolutions to various regional and global issues. A notable example is Indonesia's role in the Helsinki Peace Agreement that ended the conflict in Aceh.
2. **Conflict Resolution:** Indonesia has been involved in conflict resolution efforts in various regions, both domestically and internationally. In some cases, such as East Timor and Cambodia, Indonesia has contributed to mediating and achieving sustainable political agreements.
3. **Regional Cooperation:** Indonesia plays a vital role in ASEAN, as one of its founding members and an active participant in regional cooperation. Through ASEAN, Indonesia aims to promote economic, political, and security cooperation in Southeast Asia, strengthening its position as a regional leader.
4. **Humanitarian Diplomacy:** Indonesia has actively engaged in humanitarian diplomacy, particularly in providing aid and assistance in crisis and natural disaster situations. Through humanitarian assistance, such as the aid given to Aceh post-tsunami or efforts to aid the Rohingya,

Indonesia has built a positive image as a caring and responsive country in terms of humanitarian concerns.

5. **Cultural Preservation:** Cultural diplomacy is also important to Indonesia's diplomatic efforts. By promoting Indonesian arts, culture, and cultural diversity, such as dance, music, batik, and World Heritage Sites, Indonesia has successfully strengthened cultural relationships and promoted its unique positive values.
6. **Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change:** Indonesia plays a significant role in environmental and climate change diplomacy. As a country rich in biodiversity, Indonesia has been engaged in international negotiations on environmental protection and climate change mitigation.

An inclusive, moderate, and pragmatic approach characterizes Indonesia's diplomatic image. Indonesia is recognized as an active participant in international forums and strives to serve as a bridge between countries in the Southeast Asian region and the world. Through consistent diplomatic efforts, Indonesia has gained recognition and a positive reputation at the international level.

Providing disaster assistance to the military junta government in Myanmar involves several complex ethical and political considerations. After the military coup in February 2021, many countries and international organizations faced dilemmas in providing direct aid to a military junta government that is considered illegitimate by a significant portion of the international community. In general, the provision of disaster assistance takes into account several principles and considerations, including:

1. **Principle of Humanity:** This principle prioritizes humanitarian interests and provides aid to those in need regardless of the political background of the government. However, assisting a military junta government can present ethical dilemmas due to the risk of the junta using the aid to strengthen their power or violate human rights.
2. **Principle of Neutrality:** Providing aid should be done neutrally, without taking sides. However, giving direct assistance to a military junta government could be seen as recognition or support for a regime that is considered illegitimate by a significant portion of the international community.
3. **Political Considerations:** Providing aid to a military junta government can have significant political consequences. Countries and international organizations must consider the political and reputational impact that may arise from providing assistance to an authoritarian regime involved in human rights violations.

In the context of Myanmar, several countries and international organizations have chosen to provide assistance through non-governmental channels and independent humanitarian organizations that can work directly with civil society and affected groups. This approach helps ensure that aid reaches those in need directly without passing through the military junta government.

Ultimately, the decision to provide aid to the military junta government in Myanmar is a complex consideration made by each country or institution based

on humanitarian principles, ethics, and political considerations deemed most appropriate within the context of the ongoing situation.

The impact of the disaster on the military junta government in Myanmar can involve several aspects:

1. **Decreased Legitimacy:** Natural disasters can expose weaknesses and failures in governance to respond to and protect the population. If the military junta government fails to provide adequate assistance or handle the disaster effectively, it can lead to a decrease in their legitimacy in the eyes of the people.
2. **Increased Dependence on External Aid:** The military junta government may struggle to respond to and address the disaster with their internal resources. This can result in an increased reliance on international aid and humanitarian organizations to provide assistance and support.
3. **Logistic and Access Challenges:** Disasters often damage infrastructure and hinder access to affected areas. In the context of the military junta government, logistical and access constraints can exacerbate the disaster response and affect the government's ability to reach remote or conflict-affected areas.
4. **Propaganda Opportunities:** The military junta government may exploit the disaster as an opportunity to enhance its propaganda and strengthen its control over narratives and information. They might manipulate disaster reports or use international aid to bolster their positive image domestically and internationally.
5. **Criticism of Disaster Response:** The military junta government's response to disasters is often criticized by the international community and human rights organizations. Their failure to provide adequate assistance, poor coordination, or misuse of aid can lead to a decline in their image and trust in the government.
6. **Increased Social and Political Tensions:** Disasters can exacerbate existing social and political tensions within a society. In the context of Myanmar, disasters can reinforce dissatisfaction and tensions against the military junta government and trigger further protests or instability.

It is important to remember that the military junta government's response to disasters can vary depending on their political interests and their capacity to respond. In some cases, the military junta government might exploit the disaster to strengthen their control, while in other cases, they might be unable to provide adequate assistance due to resource limitations and capacity constraints.

Indonesia and Myanmar are not part of a formal alliance framework. However, both countries have a long history of bilateral relations and are members of the same regional organization, ASEAN. Indonesia's provision of humanitarian assistance to Myanmar is a manifestation of ASEAN's Political-Security Community mandate to realize a peaceful and secure Southeast Asian region. It also reflects Indonesia's commitment to active foreign policy principles in addressing global issues, or in this research context, humanitarian crises experienced by the Rohingya ethnic group.

Indonesia and Myanmar share a similar regime form, although Myanmar is still in the process of refining its democratic transition. The regime change undertaken by Myanmar has become one of the factors that facilitated Indonesia's humanitarian assistance. With Myanmar becoming more open, it has facilitated the establishment of bilateral relations and dialogue between Indonesia and Myanmar to address the humanitarian crisis experienced by the Rohingya ethnic group. Indonesia has a higher level of development compared to Myanmar. This justifies the assumption that the lower development level of the recipient country will influence humanitarian aid provided by donor countries. With a higher level of development, it is evident that Indonesia has the capability to provide humanitarian assistance to Myanmar in addressing the humanitarian crisis experienced by the Rohingya.

Furthermore, in the foreign policy of the donor country toward the recipient country, Indonesia's government providing humanitarian aid to Myanmar is a form of response that Indonesia is actively playing a role in resolving this crisis. This comes after ASEAN, as a regional organization, was unable to persuade the Myanmar government to resolve the prolonged crisis experienced by the Rohingya ethnic group. This is considered a reinforcement of Indonesia's existence and political influence, particularly in the Southeast Asian region, and a response to the pressure exerted on ASEAN by the international community.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Indonesia's humanitarian diplomacy within ASEAN, particularly towards Myanmar, reflects the country's efforts to promote and protect human rights, peace, stability, and prosperity in the ASEAN region. Indonesia's humanitarian diplomacy focuses on three main pillars: enhancing awareness and appreciation of human rights, addressing natural disasters, and collaborating on post-disaster recovery. This humanitarian diplomacy is carried out while respecting Myanmar's sovereignty and maintaining a neutral stance on domestic political issues. This demonstrates Indonesia's commitment to maintaining regional security and stability through the cultivation of humanitarian solidarity. This stability will support ASEAN countries in achieving their respective domestic interests.

FURTHER STUDY

This research still has limitations, so it is necessary to carry out further research related to the topic Humanitarian Diplomacy in Providing Aid for Cyclone Mocha Disaster and its Impact on Security and Stability in order to perfect this research and increase readers' insight.

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
- Art, Robert dan Robert Jervis (eds.). (2007). *International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues*, 8th ed. New York: Pearson Education.
- Bantuan Kemanusiaan ASEAN Untuk Korban Siklon mocha Myanmar: Portal Kementerian Luar negeri Republik Indonesia. Bantuan Kemanusiaan Asean Untuk Korban Siklon Mocha Myanmar. Portal Kementerian Luar Negeri Republik Indonesia. (2023). <https://kemlu.go.id/portal/id/read/4749/berita/bantuan-kemanusiaan-asean-untuk-korban-siklon-mocha-myanmar>
- 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.
- Hammond, L. (2015). *The Routledge Companion to Humanitarian Action*, Chapter 7 Neutrality and Impartiality. New York: Routledge Handbook Online.
- 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>
- Pemerintah Indonesia tindak lanjuti pemberian bantuan perbaikan fasilitas Bandara Vanuatu Dan Bantuan Kemanusiaan Ke Negara Myanmar. Kementerian Koordinator Bidang Pembangunan Manusia dan Kebudayaan. (2023). <https://www.kemenkopmk.go.id/pemerintah-indonesia-tindak-lanjuti-pemberian-bantuan-perbaikan-fasilitas-bandara-vanuatu-dan>
- 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).
- 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).