

Indonesia's Foreign Policy in Facing Terrorism

Muhammad Budiana

Faculty of Social Science and Political Science, Pasundan University, Bandung, Indonesia

ABSTRACT

The foreign policy of a nation is typically a reflection of its domestic situations and developments. Although worldwide events can affect the implementation of foreign policy, they can influence the government's determination of the priorities to be maintained and the objectives to be attained. Terrorism is not a new concern, but its significance in Indonesia's foreign policy is growing. Indonesia's participation in the battle against terrorism is not only to meet its commitments as a member of the international community to combat terrorism collectively, but also to further its national interests. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to examine Indonesia's foreign policy towards terrorist attacks. This study employs a qualitative, descriptive methodology. The results of the study indicate that Indonesia's foreign policy for this subject prioritizes bilateral, regional, and multilateral cooperation with other nations. This is evidenced by the increased bilateral collaboration between Indonesia, the United States, and Australia on international terrorist concerns, the ASEAN police cooperation through the ASEAN Chiefs of National Police conference, and Indonesia's participation in the Counter Terrorism Committee.

Keywords: Policy, Foreign Policy, Terrorism.

1 Introduction

The bombing of the World Trade Center (WTC) in the United States on September 11, 2001, had an impact on changing the orientation of the United States' foreign policy. The strength of the United States in the economic, political, and military fields is great, has an impact on changing the attitudes of other countries in the world in their domestic policies (Triwahyuni, 2013). The influence of the United States is undeniable, we can see this from the reactions of almost all countries in the world who are also in the same position as the United States, namely "fighting terrorism", and Indonesia is no exception (Hasyaimi, 2015).

The events of September 11, 2001, as described above, have also had an effect on changes in the worldwide political constellation, most notably the prevalence of hegemonic tendencies held by the United States. This tragedy has become a global issue as a direct result of the policies that have been put into place to combat terrorism and are collectively referred to as the Global War on Terrorism (Harlis et al, 2015). During its execution, the United States will require assistance and cooperation from the international community in the battle against terrorism (Nastiti et al, 2017).

After the incident, a number of international and regional meetings made the issue of terrorism one of the main issues that must be discussed. Such great attention and commitment to the issue of terrorism is something that is natural considering the terrorist acts that have occurred have disturbed the international community, especially the location of the terrorist acts itself is unpredictable and the victims are mostly civilians who have nothing to do with the interests of terrorist groups (Ebi Hara, 2011).

As a form of criminal activity, terrorism has evolved into a transnational phenomenon. It is no longer accepted that crimes that take place in a country fall solely under the jurisdiction of that country; rather, it is possible to assert that such crimes also fall under the jurisdiction of other countries (Simanjuntak & Utomo, 2016). According to Romli Atmasasmita (2016), in its development, then it can lead to jurisdictional conflicts, which can disrupt international relations between countries that have an interest in handling dangerous criminal cases that cross territorial borders. In other words, if it continues to develop in this way, it will likely lead to jurisdictional conflicts.

Terrorism is an international crime that employs a type of transnational crime that poses a significant risk to international order and peace. Terrorist acts have also been committed in Indonesia, resulting in the deaths of innocent individuals there. These victims include inhabitants of Indonesia as well as people from other countries. The suicide bombing that took place on October 12, 2002 in Legian, Kuta, Bali claimed the lives of roughly 184 people and injured hundreds more from a variety of countries, including Australia, the United States of America, Germany, England, and others. Other actions involving bombs also took place in Indonesia, such as at the Atrium Senen Shopping Mall in

Jakarta, the bombing at the Jakarta Stock Exchange Building, the bombing at the Mc Donald Makassar fast food restaurant, the bombing at the JW Mariot Hotel in Jakarta, the bombing at the Philippine Embassy. and near the Australian Embassy, as well as several incidents of bombings in conflict areas such as Poso, Aceh, and Maluku, all of which caused fear and unease for residents (Junaid, 2013).

The development of the issue of terrorism at the international and domestic levels eventually became the starting point for changing the orientation of Indonesia's anti-terrorism policy. This new commitment to counter terrorism can be seen in the domestic and international scope (Haryono, 2010). In the domestic sphere, Indonesia's commitment is reflected at the legal-formal, institutional and practical levels. Juridically, Indonesia issued a number of laws and regulations related to the handling of terrorism, besides that the government also built a new institution designed as an anti-terrorist unit (Meinaky & Fakhlur, 2022). One of them is the Special Detachment 88 or known as Densus 88 in 2004 and the National Counterterrorism Agency which was formed in 2010.

Meanwhile, at the international level, Indonesia's commitment to counter terrorism is manifested in a foreign policy that continues to use various bilateral, regional and global efforts to overcome this threat. Bilaterally, Indonesia collaborates with various countries, including the US and Australia (Hardfiana et al, 2021). In the meanwhile, Indonesia views ASEAN as an integral component of regional cooperation against terrorism. It is claimed that terrorism in Indonesia has a worldwide network, including in various ASEAN nations (Elisabeth, 2016).

Indonesia's foreign policy is founded on a number of strategic pillars, as exemplified by its anti-terrorism efforts. First, national and regional efforts must align with global efforts; second, the battle against terrorism must be focused at its roots; third, in order to achieve long-term efforts, the employment of soft power is crucial; and fourth, attempts to combat terrorism must adhere to democratic ideals (Indrawati & Nugroho, 2018).

Based on this, the reference for Indonesia's foreign policy policy is the behavior or actions of Indonesia that have an external impact or influence other actors in the external environment. In this regard, there are basic concepts related to foreign policy that need to be understood in order to analyze foreign policy. One of these concepts is the national interest which according to Miroslav Nincicada several criteria to fulfill, namely the interest must be vital so that its achievement becomes the main priority of the government and society. In addition, these interests must be related to the international environment, where the achievement of national interests must transcend the particularistic interests of individuals, groups, or government institutions so that they become a concern for the community as a whole (Lindawaty, 2018). According to Anwar (2003), there are two views of the national interest, namely the first view refers to an "objective" approach to see the national interest as something that can be clearly defined using objective criteria so that the formulation of a country's national interest will tend to be constant from time to time. On the other hand, the "subjective" approach sees the national interest as something that is always changing according to the subjective preferences of decision makers. Through this understanding, it will generate the perception that the national interest may change.

Based on the description above, it can be seen that terrorism is still a threat that needs to be watched out for. The movement and spread of terrorism in Indonesia cannot be separated from the regional and international context, therefore the author draws a formulation of the problem, namely How is Indonesia's foreign policy policy in dealing with international terrorism.

2 Method

This article employs descriptive qualitative methods to provide an overview of a particular community or group of individuals, a description of a symptom or the link between two or more symptoms, or a description of a symptom or relationship between two or more symptoms (Sugiyono, 2011). Researchers utilize secondary data types, namely data derived from library materials. Thus, the author's method of data collecting is to do a literature review. In this article, the source triangulation approach is utilized to test the veracity of the data and the validity of the data collected. According to Moleong, triangulation is a strategy for determining the authenticity of data that employs something other than the data for validation or comparison reasons. Denzin differentiates four types of triangulation as a strategy for validating data that employs sources, techniques, researchers, and theory.

3 Results And Discussion

Foreign Policy

The policy of foreign policy is the actualization of the foreign policy of a country in which there is a national interest as an accumulation of diversity in the interests of the community. Foreign policy issued by a country is intended to achieve the welfare of the people of that country. Indonesia as an entity in formulating its foreign policy based on changes that occur in the international and domestic world. In his book Miriam Budiarjo (2003) defines foreign policy as "Policy is a collection taken by an actor or group in an effort to have a goal, that policy has the power to implement it". Means that foreign policy has a purpose in its implementation.

The concept of foreign policy itself can be seen from several expert opinions, one of which is Mappa Nasrun (1993) who provides the concept of foreign policy, namely: "The foreign policy of a country is essentially a reflection of the situation and developments in its country, as well as the state of affairs in the country. and the development of the international political system can be a factor that determines the behavior of foreign policy. Thus, foreign policy is basically influenced by internal and external factors.

Based on the concept above, in setting limits on foreign policy, one must first know the internal conditions of the country before issuing a foreign policy. As part of foreign policy, foreign policy policy when viewed from a process perspective will be closely related to domestic politics which includes a policy-making process involving all elements of the state but more specifically to the judiciary as policy makers and the executive body. the state as the government and implementer of the policy which at any time can also act as a policy maker if given the authority by the country's constitution (Syahwalan, 2019).

The foreign policy of a country shows the general basis by which the government reacts to the international environment. Therefore, foreign policy can also be interpreted as a strategy or action plan formed by the decision makers of a country in dealing with other countries or other international relations actors (Situmorang, 2015).

From the two concepts above, it can be concluded that foreign policy is a reaction to changes in the international environment in the form of strategies and plans formulated by the policy makers of a country. In the process of making a country's foreign policy depends on the domestic political system in that country. But in general in a country, the implementation of foreign policy involves all officials and administrative bodies in a government that directly or indirectly participate in preparing the making and implementation of various decisions relating to foreign policy.

Terrorism

In recent years, the phrase terror has become commonplace. According to the Oxford School Dictionary and Thesaurus, terror is the attempt by an individual or organization to induce extreme fear. Terrorists are individuals who use violence to instill terror, typically for political reasons. Terrorism is the use of violence to instill terror in order to accomplish a goal.

While the definition of terrorism is a form of violence that is planned, politically motivated, aimed on unarmed targets by splinter groups or underground operatives, and typically aims to influence the larger community, there are other forms of violence that have these characteristics (Handoko, 2019). The United States Department of State's Division of Study and Research offers the broader society with an understanding of terrorism as a high-level act of violence committed by an individual or international group in the service of religious ideology (Setiadi, 2019).

Abdul Muis Naharong (2013) explains the features of terrorism in light of the definitions provided by a number of terrorist specialists. The following features apply: Initially, violence is perpetrated for different political, religious, and ideological reasons and purposes. Among these factors, scholars who study terrorism most usually mention political motives. These motivations distinguish this sort of violence from others. Violence committed for financial gain is not terrorism, despite the fact that it causes fear. A second characteristic of terrorism is the use of violence or threats of harm. In addition, violence that is premeditated might be classified as an act of terrorism. In other words, terrorism is neither a random act nor a criminal crime that occurred unexpectedly.

Third, for violence to be considered terrorism, it must effect a target or audience other than the direct target (victim). Consequently, the direct target or victim of a violent act is not the primary aim. Fourth, terrorism involves non-state actors or individuals who perpetrate acts of violence against noncombatants (civilians and noncombatant military), i.e., noncombatants. Fifth, persons who commit acts of terrorism are very rational, not irrational or insane. Moreover, terrorist acts are not carried out randomly or arbitrarily; rather, the terrorists select their targets.

Fundamentally, terrorism is a delicate issue due to the fact that it results in the occurrence of innocent civilian casualties. As a societal phenomena, terrorism has evolved alongside the advancement of human civilization. Along with the sophistication of modern technology, the strategies used to perpetrate violence and fear are also becoming increasingly complex. The globalization movement and the culture of (modern) civilization have become a breeding ground for terrorism. Networks and terrorist actions are able to achieve their objectives more easily due to the ease with which they may instill fear through the use of advanced technology and the proliferation of information through the mass media.

This terrorist act of movement has grown in size due to the influence of the mass media, especially television. Mass media is a powerful tool for the spread of acts of terror. In its long history, there is still disagreement about the boundaries of a terrorist movement. The problem is, terror reactions are very subjective. The reaction of each individual or group and even the government will be different. However, there are several forms of terror that are known and widely practiced, including criminal terror and political terror. Criminal terror is usually only for personal gain or self-enrichment. Criminal terrorists usually use blackmail and intimidation. They use words that can cause fear or psychic terror. Meanwhile, another characteristic of political terror is that political terror does not choose victims. Political terrorists are always ready to kill civilians, men, women, adults and children

Indonesia's Foreign Policy in Dealing with Acts of Terrorism

In the wake of 9/11 and the bombings in Indonesia, especially the 2002 Bali Bombings, the Indonesian government began to take terrorism and the securitization of its threats more seriously. Terrorist attacks within the country are on the rise, proving the threat posed by terrorists is very real and poses a serious threat to national security. The catastrophe turned out to affect many facets of American society. It endangers domestic political and economic security, and has an impact on Indonesia's international standing. Terrorism has cast a shadow on Indonesia's reputation overseas, contributing to stereotypes that the country is dangerous and has been called a "terrorist nest." Several nations, like the United States, Australia, and Japan, reflect the consequences of this prevalent perception in their policy toward their nationals who would visit Indonesia by issuing travel warnings and travel advisories.

The Indonesian government is working to combat terrorism on its own soil by bolstering formal legal, institutional, and practical measures. Indonesia has formally and legally tried to enhance national rules by passing new legislation and ratifying 7 of the 16 international treaties linked to terrorism. Detachment 88 and the National Counterterrorism Agency are two institutions in Indonesia dedicated to combating terrorist (BNPT). Indonesia has also taken concrete measures to combat terrorism, including the use of efficient law enforcement tactics to target terrorists operating within the country. They were taken into custody, tried in court, and put in jail.

With the synergistic combination of various international and domestic efforts, Indonesia's foreign policy on terrorism is expected to be effective so as to achieve the national interest, namely the restoration of Indonesia's international image and credibility. The better image and credibility of Indonesia in turn is expected to provide benefits for the wider economic and political interests of Indonesia.

Indonesia's cooperation with other countries in eradicating terrorism is seen as very important. The transboundary and even global characteristics of the current issue of terrorism remind that solutions can only be pursued through international cooperation. In this context, Indonesia has bilaterally carried out counterterrorism cooperation with many countries and one of them is with the US and Australia. In Indonesia's perspective, bilateral cooperation, especially with the US and Australia, is seen as an important instrument in diplomacy to achieve the fulfillment of the objectives of national political and economic interests. Meanwhile, the US and Australia also view the importance of their bilateral cooperation with Indonesia in the fight against terrorism. This is related, among other things, to the fact that acts of terrorism currently involve a global network through cells that are suspected to also operate in Indonesia.

The policy of the war against terrorism, which targets not only terrorists but also countries that facilitate these actions, has put pressure on the Megawati and SBY governments. However, the two administrations appear to have taken different responses to the US. During Megawati's leadership period, the response to the US has encouraged Indonesia to take a strategic hedging-oriented foreign policy, namely Indonesia supports the US in the war against terrorism, but Indonesia's support continues to consider national interests that oppose the unilateral actions of major powers in dealing with global terrorism. This support still provides space for Indonesia to be autonomous in taking tactical-strategic steps against terrorism, including in determining its stance on US terrorism policies. This condition looks different when SBY is in power where his foreign policy always seems to show a consistent commitment to support US policy.

The Indonesian government sees regional collaboration through ASEAN as a vital aspect of efforts to tackle terrorism. Because of the global nature of terrorism, experts believe that the terrorist threat in Indonesia is connected

to larger worldwide networks, including those in other ASEAN member states like Thailand, the Philippines, and Malaysia.

The fact that distinct conversations on terrorism have begun in a number of ASEAN venues demonstrates the theoretical issue's significance for ASEAN. In addition, in November 2001, ASEAN released a Joint Declaration on the subject. Meanwhile, the ASEAN Chiefs of National Police forum is among the regional efforts made by the Indonesian government to combat terrorism. Building on its existing pattern of collaboration, ASEAN is expanding counterterrorism cooperation with dialogue partner countries like the United States, Australia, China, and Russia in an effort to further bolster its efforts to combat terrorism. To this end, the National Police participate in a variety of ASEAN forums, including the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and the ASEAN Maritime and Maritime Transport Cooperation (ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime). As well as inter-ASEAN cooperation, member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) also work together to combat terrorism within the region. This includes collaborations between ASEAN members like Indonesia and Thailand and the Philippines and Indonesia.

Within the scope of multilateral cooperation, Indonesia's foreign policy in countering terrorism cannot be separated from the dynamics that occurred as a result of the adoption of Resolution 1269 (1999) and Resolution 1373 (2001) which moved many countries to become signatories. The resolution also encourages Indonesia to increase its national capability in dealing with terrorism. However, the increase in capability, apart from being driven by the UN Security Council resolution, was also driven by the terrorism events that have spread in Indonesia since 2002.

Indonesia continues to support the steps of the United Nations and plays an active role in various forms of cooperation with international institutions, especially in the context of preventing, suppressing, and eradicating terrorism. One form of this support includes Indonesia's membership in the Counter Terrorism Committee (CTC) which was formed based on UN Security Council Resolution No. 1373 of 2001. In order to follow up on commitments and fulfill obligations as part of the CTC, the Indonesian government annually has prepare and submit a Written Report to the committee regarding the developments achieved and being carried out in countering terrorism.

4 Conclusion

Indonesia has made many efforts in dealing with terrorism. These efforts are carried out internally and externally. Efforts to counter terrorism within the internal scope use the hard power method and the soft power method. Internal countermeasures are carried out by enforcing the law, establishing the BNPT, involving the TNI and Polri. Meanwhile, because terrorism is a form of crime that threatens security and order not only in Indonesia but also in the world, bilateral and multilateral cooperation is needed. The form of bilateral cooperation is a cooperative relationship between Indonesia and the United States and Indonesia and Australia, while in the regional scope there is cooperation with ASEAN countries such as Thailand, the Philippines and Malaysia through issuing decrees and establishing cooperation through the ASEAN Chiefs of National Police forum. Lastly, in multilateral cooperation, is through the UN forum by supporting UN Security Council resolutions on terrorism and participating in the Counter Terrorism Committee (CTC).

References

1. Anwar, D. F. (2003). Kebijakan Australia Terhadap Integritas Teritorial Indonesia: Antara Persepsi dan Realita dan Usulan Penyelesaiannya. *Kebijakan Australia terhadap integritas teritorial Indonesia*, 121.
2. Budiardjo, M. (2003). *Dasar-dasar ilmu politik*. Gramedia pustaka utama.
3. Eby Hara, A. (2011). Pengantar analisis politik luar negeri: Dari realisme sampai konstruktivisme.
4. Elisabeth, A. (Ed.). (2016). *Grand Design: Kebijakan Luar Negeri Indonesia (2015-2025)*. Yayasan Pustaka Obor Indonesia.
5. Handoko, A. (2019). Analisis Kejahatan Terorisme Berkedok Agama. *Salam: Jurnal Sosial Dan Budaya Syar'I*, 6(2), 156.
6. Hardiana, I. M. Y., Sushanti, S., & Fasisaka, I. (2021). Elisabeth, A. (Ed.). (2016). *Grand Design: Kebijakan Luar Negeri Indonesia (2015-2025)*. Yayasan Pustaka Obor Indonesia.
7. Harlis, S. A., Azhari, A. F., & Hidayat, S. (2015). *Perang Global Terhadap Terorisme Sebuah Tinjauan Benturan Ideologi Barat dan Islam Pasca Perang Dingin* (Doctoral dissertation, Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta).

8. Haryono, E. (2010). Kebijakan Anti-Terrorisme Indonesia: Dilema Demokrasi dan Represi. *Jurnal Ilmu Sosial dan Ilmu Politik*, 14(2), 229-246.
9. Hasyaimi, M. A. (2015). Kebijakan Luar Negeri Amerika Serikat Untuk Menciptakan Stabilitas Hegemoni pada Era Pasca Perang Dingin. *Global and Policy Journal of International Relations*, 3(02).
10. Indrawati, M. A., & Nugroho, A. Y. (2018). Diplomasi Maritim Indonesia dalam Kerangka Politik Luar Negeri Bebas Aktif. *Prosiding Vennas AIHIII*, 9, 71.
11. Junaid, H. (2013). Pergerakan kelompok terorisme dalam perspektif barat dan islam. *Sulesana: Jurnal Wawasan Keislaman*, 8(2), 118-135.
12. Lindawaty, D. S. (2018). Upaya Penanggulangan Terorisme ISIS di Indonesia. *Jurnal Politika Dinamika Masalah Politik Dalam Negeri dan Hubungan Internasional*, 7(1).
13. Meinaky, R., & Fakhlur, F. (2022). Kewenangan Detasemen Khusus 88 Anti Teror Dalam Menangani Aksi Tindak Pidana Terorisme Dalam Perspektif Hak Asasi Manusia. *Jurnal Ilmiah Publika*, 10(2), 229-240.
14. Moleong, L. J. (2007). *Metodologi Penelitian Kualitatif*. Bandung: Remaja Rosdakarya.
15. Naharong, A. M. (2013). Terorisme atas Nama Agama. *Refleksi*, 13(5), 593-622.
16. Nasrun, M. (1993). *Indonesia dan komunikasi politik*. Diterbitkan atas kerja sama Asosiasi Ilmu Politik Indonesia (AIPPI) dengan Penerbit PT Gramedia Pustaka Utama.
17. Nastiti, N. N., Djemat, Y. O., & Dwiprigitaningtias, I. (2017). Tantangan Implementasi Kerjasama Anti-Terrorisme Antara Indonesia dan Australia Tahun 2007-2016. *Jurnal Dinamika Global*, 2(02), 68-112.
18. Romli Atmasasmita, S. H. (2016). *Hukum kejahatan bisnis: Teori & praktik di era globalisasi*. Prenada Media.
19. Setiadi, O. (2019). Gerakan Islam Politik: Problem Ideologi Radikal, Global Jihad, dan Terorisme Keagamaan: Ideologi radikal, Global Jihad, Terorisme Keagamaan dan Islam Politik. *Politea: Jurnal Politik Islam*, 2(1), 1-28.
20. Simanjuntak, S. Y., & Utomo, T. C. (2016). 13. Analisis Kerja Sama Bilateral Indonesia Dengan Australia Dalam Penanggulangan Terorisme Sebagai Kejahatan Transnasional Terorganisir (2002-2015). *Journal of International Relations*, 2(3), 117-127.
21. Situmorang, M. (2015). Orientasi kebijakan politik luar negeri Indonesia di bawah pemerintahan Jokowi-JK. *Jurnal Ilmiah Hubungan Internasional*, 11(1).
22. Sugiyono, P. (2011). Metodologi penelitian kuantitatif kualitatif dan R&D. *Alfabeta, Bandung*.
23. Syahwalan, M. (2019). Kebijakan Politik Keuangan Terhadap Pembangunan Negara dalam Sistem Ketatanegaraan Islam. *Al Imarah: Jurnal Pemerintahan Dan Politik Islam*, 4(1), 12-25.
24. Triwahyuni, D. (2013). Perubahan Kebijakan Keamanan Amerika Serikat Pasca 11 September 2001 Untuk Kawasan Asia Tenggara. *JIPSI-Jurnal Ilmu Politik dan Komunikasi UNIKOM*, 1.