INDONESIA'S INTEREST TO STRENGTHEN MARITIME COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED STATES UNDER JOKO WIDODO ADMINISTRATION

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**Abstract** 

Indonesia is an archipelagic country. In Joko Widodo's administration, Jokowi

has a vision to make Indonesia a Global Maritime Fulcrum. To support the Global

Maritime Fulcrum, Indonesia must be able to improve Indonesia's maritime situation

first, then the Global Maritime Fulcrum can be realized. Creating maritime security,

protecting the oceans, and promoting sustainable development are efforts to realize

Indonesia as the Global Maritime Fulcrum. In creating maritime security and

achieving Indonesia's interests. Indonesia cooperates with the United States which is

marked by the signing of the MoU in the maritime field by the two countries. The

purpose of this study is to find out and describe what national interests of Indonesia

are in conducting bilateral cooperation with the United States in the maritime field.

The research method used in this study is a description that aims to describe how the

vision of Indonesia as the Global Maritime Fulcrum.

Keywords: Global Maritime Fulcrum, Indonesia, United States, National Interest,

Bilateral Cooperation

# **Background**

Indonesia is the largest maritime nation in the world. According to the Geopasial information agency, Indonesia is a maritime country with an area of 6,315,222 km2 of waters with 99,093 km2 coastline and 13,466 islands that are named and coordinated. Based on the external structure of the space, Indonesia's has strategic position where Indonesia flanked by Hindia and Pasific ocean and Asia and Australia continents. With the large of sea Indonesia that holds diverse natural resources, energy, biological and animal, this is a tremendous wealth for the nation of Indonesia. (Pentingnya Informasi Geospasial untuk Menata Laut Indonesia., 2015)

Sea Legal Expert Hasjim Djalal said maritime countries are a country capable of utilizing the sea, although the country may not have many seas, but has the ability of technology, science, equipment to manage and utilize the sea, both space and natural wealth and its strategic location (Muhamad, 2014). In Indonesia, more than 50% of world trade through Indonesia sea. According Indonesian marine council, Indonesia's marine wealth reach 171 billion US dollars every year or 2.046 trillion every year. Even according Indonesian director of maritime institute (IMI) Indonesia's marine potential reach six-fold state budget (APBN) around 7.200 trillion. (Witjaksono, 2017)

In this case, good management of marine natural resources is important for the future of a nation. Therefore, as a maritime country, Indonesia has ratified international sea law (UNCLOS 1982) which is stated in law number 17 of 1985. In

this case, Indonesia has the right and obligations to protect and maintain every island that exists. Until now there were 168 who ratified UNCLOS as the legal basis for the sea in the country. (Kurnia, 2008)

The variety of potential natural and marine natural resources the territory of Indonesia which is 2/3 is in the form of sea, is challenges and opportunities for Indonesia. In the era of Joko Widodo-Jusuf Kalla administration, they have committed in their administration to focus take care of the Indonesian sea with aims restore Indonesia's maritime glory as the global maritime fulcrum (GMF). Global maritime fulcrum (GMF) is one of the visions Joko Widodo administrations. (Murniningtyas, 2015)

In 2014 East Asia Summit speech, the President conveyed 5 (five) pillars of Global maritime fulcrum (GMF) Development which include building a maritime culture; maintain and manage marine resources; infrastructure and maritime connectivity development; strengthen maritime diplomacy and building maritime defense forces (Tjoneng, 2015). The Maritime Program launched by President Joko Widodo is one of the "Nawa Cita" programs, which means bringing back the country to protect all nations and provide security to all citizens, through free and active foreign policy, trustworthy national security and building an integrated Tri Matra State defense based on national interests and strengthening identity as a maritime country. (Wedhaswary, 2014)

On October 24, 2015 Indonesia and United States signing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The Following are the fields of maritime sector cooperation

between Indonesia and the United States: Maritime security, maritime economy, Conservation and Fisheries Management, Maritime Safety and Navigation, Marine Science and Technology and Marine Resources. While on march 28 – 29, 2018. Indonesia and the United States continued to strengthen bilateral cooperation especially in maritime field, sea and maritime law. Both of the countries signing a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between the Republic of Indonesia Marine Security Agency (Bakamla RI) and the United States Coast Guard. (Iswanto, 2018)

## **Theoretical Framework**

## 1. Theory of International Cooperation

According to Kalevi Jaakko Holsti, International Cooperation can be defined as follows The view that two or more interests, values, or goals meet and can produce something, promoted or fulfilled by all parties at once; The views or expectations of a country that policies decided by other countries will help the country to achieve its interests and values; Approval or certain problems between two or more countries in order to utilize equality of interests or conflicts of interest; Official or unofficial rules regarding future transactions made to carry out the agreement; Transactions between countries to fulfill their agreements (Holsti, 1988).

International Cooperation consists of three parts, namely Bilateral Cooperation: Agreement made by two countries only and is a Treaty Contract; Regional Cooperation: Agreements made by several countries in one area, are limited to Law-Making Treaty and Contract Treaty; Multilateral Cooperation: Agreements

made by the state without being restricted by a particular region, are international in nature with a Law-Making Treaty (James E. Dougzgrherty & Robert L. Pfaltzgraff, 1997).

## 2. Concept of National Interest

National interests themselves according to Jack C. Plano and Roy Olton defined as follows: (Jack C. Plano and Roy Olton , 1996)

"The fundamental objective and ultimate determinant that guides the decision makers of a state in making foreign policy. The national interest of a state is typical a highly generalized conception of these element that constitute to the state most vital needs. There includes self-preservation, independence, territorial integrity, military security, and economic well-being"

National interests are a general and typical concept. Although the national interests that a country wants to achieve differ in its implementation, it generally revolves around five general categories called Jack C. Plano and Roy Olton as:

- Self-preservation is defined as the right of a country to maintain the existence
  of its country. self-preservations can also be interpreted as an effort of a State
  to maintain its identity and national identity.
- 2. Independent is defined as independence, the freedom of a country to determine its own fate by not being bound or colonized by other countries.
- 3. Military security where it is important for the stability and existence of a country. This is because there is a tendency that a country that has a strong quantity and quality of weapons will have a greater beginning position and power which can affect its position in relations between countries.

- 4. Territorial integrity can be interpreted as a regional integrity. Territorial integrity is a form of sovereignty of a State. Where sovereignty is as a form of existence and the highest recognition of the existence of a State in the arena of international politics.
- Economic well-being is defined as an effort to realize economic prosperity
  where economic prosperity is one of the pillars supporting the stability of a
  country.

## Methodology

## 1. Type of Research

The type of research in this thesis is qualitative research. According to Bogdan and Taylor defines qualitative research as research that produces descriptive data in the form of written words or verbally from people and observable behavior (Moleong, 2002). In qualitative research, it is important to emphasize the importance of a researcher to be able to understand the meaning of human behavior, the social context of interaction and the social phenomena that occur. (Creswell, 2009)

# 2. Method of collecting data

Method of Collecting Data conducted for this research are Library Research: This research was conducted by obtaining references from various books, journals, reports and related material with research objectives. (Zed, 2004); Field Research: This research was carried out by obtaining information directly from officials and authorities in the company to provide information regarding the purpose of the study.

(Bailey, 1982); Questionnaire: The questionnaire is a structured question that is filled in by the respondent or the informant alone or by the interviewer himself by reading the question and recording the answer given (Churchill, 2005).

## 3. Method of analysis data

The research of this undergraduate thesis uses analysis technique by gaining data as much as possible and classifying the data which is coherent with this topic. Later, the data are systematically presented based on the relation between one and another sub topic.

#### **CHAPTER IV**

The cooperation that has been carried out by Indonesia and the United States is an Indonesian effort to realize the vision of Joko Widodo president, who wants to make Indonesia the Global Maritime Fulcrum. in addition to cooperating with United States, which needs to be considered in realizing Indonesia as the Global Maritime Fulcrum, it is to improve the maritime problems that occur in Indonesia, then Indonesia can become the Global Maritime Fulcrum. However, before Indonesia realize vision as Global Maritime Fulcrum, Indonesia must solve domestic maritime problems first. The things that can be done is by increasing maritime security, protecting the ocean area, and promoting sustainable development in the marine sector.

A. Indonesia wants to improve maritime security, protect the oceans, and promote sustainable development in the marine sector.

# a. Improve Maritime Security

As a maritime country Indonesia has many disadvantages such as the Marine Police. Marine police are very important because without the Sea Police declaration, other countries can easily claim and disturb the Indonesian sea, especially countries that are directly adjacent to Indonesia. Marine police here consist of marine law, maritime security, and international trade. In fact, Indonesia has many laws that regulate marine and coastal resource management issues, but in reality, there is still a high degree of non-compliance to follow these regulations. This is reflected in the widespread practice of catching prohibited biota in almost all coastal areas in Indonesia, even in very remote areas (Witjaksono, Reborn Maritim Dunia, 2017).

Besides Ocean Police Indonesia also requires a Costs Guard. Indonesia as a maritime country that has the second longest coastline in the world must have a Coast Guard. In the future the Coast Guard in Indonesia will be held by the Marine Security Agency (Bakamla). The Maritime Security Agency (Bakamla) has the duty to carry out security and safety patrols in the territorial waters of Indonesia and Indonesia's jurisdiction. Therefore, Indonesia continues to strengthen bilateral cooperation with the United States, especially in the maritime, marine and maritime law by signing a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between the Republic of Indonesia Marine Security Agency (Bakamla RI) and the United States Coast Guard (Djuarno, 2018).

#### b. Protect the Oceans Boundaries.

Through minister Susi Pudjiastuti as the head of the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, the Fishing Illegal, Unreported, Unregulated (IUU) eradication program is full of controversy. Although it has been regulated in Law No. 45 of 2009, but the implementation of the law of the existing law has not been strictly implemented. For that the final choice that must be taken is to sink the ship after first confiscating evidence in the form of ships and their catches and evacuating the crew on board. As of February 22, 2016, there were 151 foreign-flagged vessels that were sunk since October 2014. Strengthening marine and fisheries policies was also supported by the establishment of Task Force 115 through Presidential Regulation 115 of 2015 concerning the Illegal Fishing Eradication Task Force (Pregiwati, 2018).

## c. Promote Sustainable Development

Through the concept of development in Indonesia centric, namely to see that the islands and regions are located at the position of the tip of Indonesia no longer as the outer islands or regions. But as a leading region or island. This perception views the foremost region as a gateway to the Indonesian economy that faces directly to other countries, leaving behind the old stigma of concentrating the economy on Java alone regardless of the growth potential of other islands. For this reason, supporting concepts are needed to realize Indonesia's centric development. One of them is using the Sea Toll policy.

## B. Indonesia has a vision to become Global Maritime Fulcrum (GMF)

Global Maritime Fulcrum is one of the mainstay 'weapons' used by the pair Joko Widodo (Jokowi) and Jusuf Kalla (JK) during the 2014 presidential election contest. Initially the idea of Global Maritime Fulcrum was expressed by two academics behind Jokowi-JK's winning team in 2014 then. It was Rizal Sukma, CSIS director and defense observer Andi Widjajanto who introduced the maritime idea. of course, this vision and doctrine is included in one of the main programs at Nawacita (Sukma 2014).

Indonesia's Marine Vision is to realize Indonesia as a Global Maritime Fulcrum, which is to become an advanced, sovereign, independent, strong maritime country and able to make a positive contribution to regional and world security and peace in accordance with national interests. Indonesian Maritime Policy is prepared by referring to the Indonesian Development Vision as stipulated in Law Number 17 of 2007 concerning the National Long-Term Development Plan 2005-2025 and Law Number 32 Year 2014 concerning Marine Affairs (Kebijakan Kelautan Indonesia, 2017).

In order to realize the Indonesian Maritime vision it is necessary to set targets as the mission of Indonesia's Maritime Policy, namely: optimal management of marine resources and sustainable; the establishment of a reliable quality of human resources, science and technology; the establishment of strong marine defense and security; implementation of enforcement of sovereignty, law and safety at sea;

implementation of good marine governance; the realization of the welfare of coastal communities and small islands that are evenly distributed; the realization of increased economic growth and a competitive marine industry; the establishment of reliable marine infrastructure; and Completion of rules regarding marine spatial planning (Kebijakan Kelautan Indonesia, 2017).

According to experts on international relations and maritime "the revival of Indonesia as an archipelago," "new hopes for a national maritime revival," and "calls for Indonesian Unity" are the main objectives to be achieved from PMD (Laksmana 2014; Antara News 2014; Tempo 2014). the ideals of the Jokowi government are explained further at the 9th East Asia Summit in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. According to him PMD consists of five pillars including (RMOL 2015): Maritime Culture, Maritime Economy, Maritime Connectivity, Maritime Diplomacy and Maritime Security.

# C. Indonesia's Advantages and Disadvantages in Establishing Relations between Maritime Cooperation and the United States

Indonesia has advantages and disadvantages in establishing cooperative relations and not establishing maritime cooperation with the United States. The interest to become a global maritime axis does not run smoothly if the government does not conduct diplomacy or maritime cooperation that can expand Indonesia's network in the maritime area. As an Indonesian maritime cooperation partner, United

States is considered capable of providing a positive impact on Indonesia's paralyzed maritime conditions. In addition, United States also supports Indonesia to become the world's maritime axis (Putra, 2014). The support of the United States government in the maritime collaboration is realized in the form of programs that are almost similar to the Indonesian maritime axis policy. Among them are maritime security, maritime economy, marine resources and fisheries conservation, safety and maritime navigation, marine science and technology. In this case, between the interests and rational actions of President Joko Widodo in establishing maritime cooperation relations with America can go straight (Ramdhani, 2015).

Collaboration between Indonesian government institutions and the United States government in creating technology and developing maritime areas is considered to provide many benefits for the course of world maritime axis policies. Like the United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Meteorology, Climatology and Geophysics Agency (BMKG), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Indonesian Society and Fisheries Foundation and collaboration between the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (KKP) with USAID.

From some of the benefits that Indonesia gained from the collaboration, Indonesia also has a loss for maritime cooperation with the United States. United States as a maritime country with its various capabilities and technological advances does not ratify the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) as

an international marine law. As a maritime cooperation partner, of course Indonesia wants United States to ratify the convention so that there is no conflict of interest regarding maritime issues. Because the United States is a country with a large influence in the region. By ratifying UNCLOS, the United States can demonstrate its commitment to maritime security. In addition, the clarity of United States commitment to sea issues can also be accounted for (Samosir, 2016).

## **CONCLUSION**

With the large of sea Indonesia that holds diverse natural resources, energy, biological and animal, this is a tremendous wealth for the nation of Indonesia. The variety of potential natural and marine natural resources the territory of Indonesia which is 2/3 is in the form of sea, is challenges and opportunities for Indonesia. In the era of Joko Widodo-Jusuf Kalla administration, they have a vision restore Indonesia's maritime glory as the global maritime fulcrum (GMF). To support that vision, President Joko Widodo opened wide opportunities for cooperation and investment in various fields in Indonesia, in this case especially the maritime sector. On 2015 the president of Jokowi visited to the United States to enhance and deepen the relationship between Indonesia and the United States in the maritime field.

With the result Indonesia and United States signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on October 24, 2015. The Following are the fields of maritime sector cooperation between Indonesia and the United States: Maritime security, maritime economy, Conservation and Fisheries Management, Maritime Safety and

Navigation, Marine Science and Technology and Marine Resources. While on march 28 – 29, 2018. Indonesia and the United States continued to strengthen bilateral cooperation especially in maritime field, sea and maritime law. Both of the countries signing a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between the Republic of Indonesia Marine Security Agency (Bakamla RI) and the United States Coast Guard.

However, before Indonesia stepped in to realize Indonesia as the world's maritime axis. the first thing to consider is to improve the Indonesian maritime situation first, such as improving maritime security, protecting the oceans boundaries and Promote Sustainable Development. After that Indonesia's Vision as a Global Maritime Fulcrum, which is to become an advanced, sovereign, independent, strong maritime country and able to make a positive contribution to regional and world security and peace in accordance with national interests can realize. Indonesian Maritime Policy is prepared by referring to the Indonesian Development Vision as stipulated in Law Number 17 of 2007 concerning the National Long-Term Development Plan 2005-2025 and Law Number 32 Year 2014 concerning Marine Affairs. Joko Widodo explant Global maritime Fulcrum consists of five pillars covering: maritime culture, maritime economy, maritime security, diplomacy maritime and maritime connectivity.

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