

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains the background of the problem, the research question, the theoretical framework, the hypothesis, the research methods, and the systematics of writing.

### **A. Background**

NPC is one of Indonesian NGOs that established specifically to help humanitarian problems in Palestine due to conflict. The initiative of establishment NPC was spearheaded by a senior humanitarian activist from Maluku named Abdullah Onim. He has been participating and contribute as a humanitarian senior activist in Palestine since 2007 and it almost twelve years. His contribution and experience led him to establish an official organization that able to concern deliver assistance from Indonesia with trustfully, transparently and professionally work for Palestinians. Because of his great contribution to Palestine, he received many supports, trust, and achievement from National and also international through this organization. It was officially recognized on March 2018 by Indonesian government as Indonesia's hand, ears, and eyes to deliver love from Indonesia and also report any conditions that happened in Palestine.

The worst condition that faced by Palestinians since the ideology of Zionist (1984) was emerged in Europe, so it one of the root of the conflict between Israel and Palestine. The Israel-Palestine conflict is one of the longest international conflicts that lasted nearly a century and was become the center of attention and concern many international actors such as scientists, institutions, international government, and non-government organization. These conflicts are still going on today and took various attacks by Israel at the focal point of the conflict, namely the Gaza Strip, the West Bank of Palestine and in some areas that were supposed to be public areas (civil) such as hospitals, schools, and public places. This has an impact on the welfare and security crisis in Palestine. Many of Palestinians families consist

of women, boys, girls, children, and elderly are forcefully displaced by the Israeli army and then put on the trial before the Israeli military court. Often those who are imprisoned get physical and sexual violence such as rape, harassment or even killed.

Other than force detention and displacement, security issues also have an impact on the children condition in Palestine. They experience a very deep mental trauma due to attacks, violence and harassment that occur. Since Palestinian children were born, they have been greeted with the sound of thumping bombs, pressure and it has very loud attacks. Many of them lost their parents and became orphans were forced to work and had to live in conflict areas with a very poor environment. The data from UN mentioned these children are at high risk of becoming child laborers and participating in life-threatening activities, thereby increasing demands on overwhelmed protection services in Gaza. Children are also involved in more dangerous work such as collecting gravel, spraying pesticides and in construction/demolition work (UNOCHA oPt, 2019).

According to Ahmad Abu Ayesh An-Najjar as Director of International Relations-Palestinian Ministry of Education- said, students in Palestine did not escape attacks carried out by the Israeli military. Children in Palestine also faced educational problems as an impact of frequent military aggression that impact to the school buildings, universities and educational institutions in Palestine were mostly destroyed and blocked. They had to go to school through fences and several Israeli checkpoints (Tim Pikiran Rakyat, 2019). The United Nations (UN OCHA) reports that at least since the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year, precisely on August 2018, there has been an increase in incidents that have disrupted the education process in the Gaza strip and West Bank. Palestinians students suffer from coercion at many area and inspection operation in schools (UNOCHA oPt, 2019). The data concludes that Palestinian students are live in poor condition.

Palestinians also suffer from health problems and health care access that is very difficult and limited. Meanwhile, emerging diseases plagued the health of the Palestinians in the

camps area. When the war took place, the victims were very high but hospitals, medicine, and medical personnel were very limited to do evacuate the victims. Researchers from the American University of Beirut surveyed Palestinians who live in refugee camps. They found that 31 percent of the more than 300 people interviewed suffered from chronic illness. Nearly half of the respondents live in leaking roofs, a condition that could threaten health (VAO Indonesia, 2012). Those health problem occurred because Israel destroyed and blocked several hospital in Palestine.

Economy is one of big problems that are very closely related to poverty have a major impact on fulfilling the standard needs of the Palestinian people, such as food, the employment, home appliances, sanitation, clean water, logistic, public service, and environment. These economy and financial problems are caused by Israeli government's actions which hinder and prohibited access to increase economic in Palestine. According to data submitted by political news media, mentioned that the activity of Palestinian imports is still below 40 percent and for exports very limited, especially for agricultural aspect (Mata Mata Politik, 2019).

Social conditions and the environment caused war creates the situation to be more difficult. Israeli aggression and Palestinian militia response that occurs almost every time and it always causes many victims and prolonged misery for the Palestinians. According to data compiled by the online news media that related to the facts about the Palestine condition. As follows (Mata Mata Politik, 2019):

1. The Gaza Strip is still under Israeli blockade either by land, air, and sea. Where it is violation on human rights that is contrary to international law. It condition limit the humanitarian assistance coming from other countries and also impedes the process of economic export and import.
2. Palestinian who lives in the center of the conflict are unable to fulfill their needs of live because of the quality of infrastructure and vital services were getting worse. Israeli attacks is lack of respect and ignore the international

humanitarian law which continues affecting to civilian casualties, especially during escalations in armed clashes.

3. Thousands of Palestinians, many of them are children who live under risk by dipping goods and isolating from tunnels on the Egyptian border every day.

According to Palestine's population, the data from the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in the occupied Palestinian territory (UNOCHA o PT) noted that from 2008 to 2019 the number of victims injured were 3.6906 consisting of 46.832 men, 7.299 women, 1.791 girls and 18.185 boys (under 18 age) and 36.906 were not identified, while for fatalities number are 5,512 consist of 3710 men, 560 women. Girls 244 and 987 boys (under 18 age). Whereas the poor security, socio, and economic situation in Gaza have negative impact especially on the rights and psychology of Palestinians women and children. (OCHA oPt, 2019)

It can be concluded, the problems that facing by Palestine include of poverty, education, economy, security, health, hunger, environment and etc. All of the oppression are the violence of human rights. They are not treated like humans beings should be by Israel. Whereas humanitarian international law mentioned even in the conflict conditions humans should maintain human rights in accordance with the Human Right International in Army Conflict (HRIAC) report on its discussion of humanitarian law in conflict areas that there is a set of rules limiting the impact of armed conflict to protect who are no longer participating in the hostilities, civilians and restricts. The United Nations of Human Right's means and methods of warfare (United Nations Human Right, 2011). International humanitarian law must be applied fairly by all parties in every armed conflict, regardless of whether the cause of the conflict can be justified or not. But in reality, the conditions in Palestine has the violation humanitarian law, seeing the tense political conditions of the two countries now makes many parties pessimistic can be able to stop this conflict. Israel's continued military aggression into Gaza Strip in recent times has attracted the attention and sympathy of many parties. Not only from among Muslim community but almost the entire world community. A number of

countries sympathize with sending the assistance such as of political, moral, material, weapons and humanitarian aid. Concern and sympathy from the world community regarding to the condition of Palestine who becomes victims of Israeli militant aggression expressed in various way such as solidarity, ranging from international security actions, condemnation and rejection of Israeli actions to sending humanitarian aid in various forms, such as medical personnel, food, and medicine (Ginting, 2013)

Indonesia has a very close relation with Palestine who always involve to create Palestinian peace. Indonesia is actively involving in global politics as mandated by the constitution (UUD 1945) to support world peace (Wulansari, 2015). In practice, Indonesia is active in carry out foreign policy to support Palestine as independent state. Indonesia actor consists of government, NGOs, Indonesian society and the media shared a message of peace to support Palestine independent. The role of Indonesia in the General Assembly of the United Nations (United Nations), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs took a stance encouraging the peaceful settlement of the Palestine-Israeli conflict.

Indonesia also actively participates in giving humanitarian assistance to Palestine and established bilateral relations both with Palestine and Israel as a form of approach to bring peace. This one of international political communication is useful facilitating Indonesian organizations, especially non-governmental organizations, to get access to send humanitarian assistance for Palestine's victims (Wulansari, 2015).

In this case, non-state actors especially Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) from large community donations have an important role in helping refugees in the form of material assistance, education, food, clothing and helping provide health services. The role of NGO actors in advocating humanitarian issue according to Dr. H Abdurrahman Mohammad Fachir it's very important and useful to improve standard of Palestinians live and seeing the extent of the role of Indonesian NGOs in dealing with the humanitarian crisis in Palestine (Rahmani, 2016). This research will examine how the role of Indonesian

NGOs in helping the humanitarian crisis in Palestine, specifically the role of Nusantara Palestina Center or abbreviated as (NPC) in advocating humanitarian issue in Palestine.

This organization creates Palestine's fraternal relations with Indonesia have become closer through trans-national advocacy on humanitarian issue which for almost a dozen years believed by Indonesian as a facilitating and mediator institution in providing humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people. This thesis aimed to examine the advocacy process conducted by Nusantara Palestine Center foundation in helping the humanitarian Issue in Palestine through humanitarian assistance programs to overcome the problem and create a better place for Palestinians.

## **B. Research Question**

Based on the problem statement above, it is hoped that this research can answer the questions: *How does the roles of "Nusantara Palestina Center" in advocating Palestinians on humanitarian Issues and how does the impact for Palestinians to what they have done?*

## **C. Theoretical Framework: Transnational Advocacy Networks**

In this research, the author will use one of the concepts of Transnational Advocacy Network (TANs) which is popular by (Keck & Sikkink, 1998). The ideas of the transnational advocacy networks is form by various characteristics, strategies, patterns, processes and create something different to achieve goals in the domestic and international sphere. The essence of this concept is an idea of "advocacy" that formed due to the values, norms, and principles to seek out a problem such as human rights, humanitarian issues, the environment or other social problems caused by the domestic interest. By that condition, a complex boundaries between state's relation with other state or its own national to exchange the basic information and create strength international system, then able to support and reach the national sovereignty. It schemas can be used to the non-state actors are involving in the resolution to solve the problem. The non-state actors request the international support with owned networks.

According to above explication, Kick & Sikkink concluded that the core of this theory is in the relations process on information exchange to build the networks which has ability of non-traditional international actors mobilize the information. Those condition strategically to help new issue and categories, so can persuade, pressure, and gain more powerful organization.

So the pattern of relationships that occur between countries is called "transnational" while the process is due to "network". According to Keck & Sikkink It {network,} is a form of organizational communication which is strength consisting of voluntary, reciprocal, and has horizontal patterns of communication and exchange of characteristics. By that, we can clearly understand that the terminology related to keck & Sikkink about Transnational Advocacy Network including those actors who working internationally in an issue that has a bond together by sharing values, a common discourse, and dense exchange of information and service. Keck & Sikkink mentioned there were seven actors such as international and domestic NGOs, research and advocacy organizations; local social movements; foundations; the media; churches, trade unions, consumer organizations, intellectuals; parts of regional and international intergovernmental organizations; and parts of the executive and/or parliamentary branches of government (Keck & Sikkink, 1998, p. 91).Not all actors will be taken the role in each advocacy network. However that International or domestic NGOs play a central role on initiating actions and pressuring powerful actors to taken the positions through introduce new ideas, provide the information, and lobby for policy change.

According to Keck & Sikkink, the emerging of TANs may occur for several reasons; as follow: (1) Ineffectively establishing communication between domestic groups and the government in resolving an issue;(2) They believe that establishment the network can exert influence through campaigns and actively promoting the issue to achieve the goals;(3) International events (Communication& interaction) will create communication and interaction that can shape and strengthen networks.

The model of the boomerang pattern is aimed to explain how the TANs process is work and emerged when it is ineffective or inadequate between the domestic group and their government in addressing the problem or resolving a conflict. Given this situation, Keck & Sikkink believes that there is a "boomerang" pattern that can explain the advocacy process that creates. The government should be the main guarantor the rights of citizens. When a violation happens and domestic groups are unable or do not have the capacity to overcome the problem. Meanwhile, the central government also cannot do much effort to overcome the problem. So they try to seek out from international support and helping to overcome the violation and conflict.

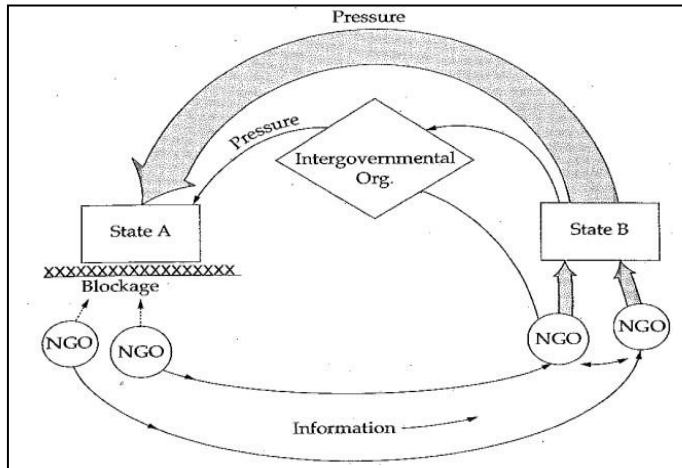
So, What is called "boomerang" as a TANs characteristic is possible when domestic groups and activists are blocked and while the government is under intervention other states. In this case, the condition of Palestine under Israel Occupied. And both domestic groups, activist and their government are unable to overcome conflicts. That conflict has an impact on humanitarian conditions of Palestine. So, they ask for international help. The pattern of the Boomerang Model can be seen in figure 1.1 (Keck & Sikkink, 1998, p. 93).From the boomerang pattern model, the Advocacy process done by TANs can be explained as follows:

1. State Z blocked the State X and its NGOs that want to advocate certain issues.
2. State X and its NGOs establish the relation and actively create networks with State Y and its NGOs.
3. The NGOs Of State Y whose members of the Network cooperate with each other and also the government of State Y and encourage their own state to the concert with the issue and if relevant fourth party organizations
4. The fourth party relevant State Y and the NGOs will pressure State Z.

In doing their work, NGOs and activists manage this issue on the agenda before they build and activate the networks. In defining an issue, activists and NGOs will frame it in broader scope. For example, advocating the rights of refugees/victims of the war on human rights issues. Furthermore, NGOs will begin

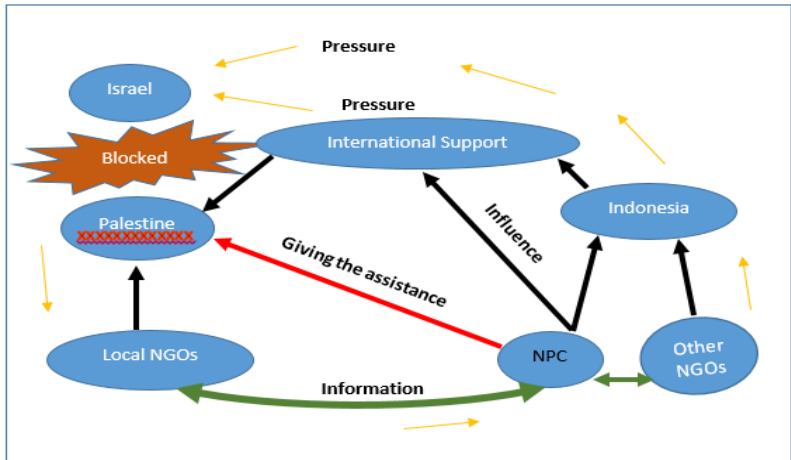


to build and activate networks with NGOs and activists in other powerful countries by sharing the same values, idea, and principles. The important thing in forming a network is the exchange of information between them and ensuring the advocacy process going well.



**Figure 1.1 The Model of Boomerang Pattern**

This thesis, the author examines the advocacy process of Humanitarian Issue in Palestine by NGO in Indonesia, specifically Nusantara Palestine Center foundations. The implementation of boomerang pattern model is presented in figure 1.2



**Figure 1. 2 The model of Nusantara Palestine Center Foundation Advocacy for humanitarian Issue in Palestine**

The advocacy process of Nusantara Palestine Center Foundation on humanitarian issue in Palestine can be describe as follows:

1. Palestine, under Israeli intervention and blocked which has limited government access in dealing with humanitarian problems, especially victims of war. Then, NGOs and activists in Palestine difficult to advocate because of the access limited and it makes unable to overcome the problem of humanity.
2. Then Palestinian activists and NGOs seek out support and share the information about the Palestine condition with their networks (activists and NGOs) in Indonesia.
3. NPC and other NGOs in Indonesia whose care about humanitarian issues in Palestine will work together. Then they will influence the Indonesian government to conduct diplomacy and negotiation both with Israel and Palestine, assisted with international support through the United Nation, INGOs and UNICEF. So, Indonesia influences them to care about humanitarian issues in Palestine in open the gate to send humanitarian aid to Palestinians.

4. When Indonesia's government has received support from the International and negotiated with Israel and Palestine. So, they gave the key and official protection for NPC to overcome the problem and provide humanitarian assistance as an Indonesian mediator and facilitator for Palestine.

With this process, NPC can reach the mission and objectives in helping humanitarian issues which include Health, Education, Financial supply, Logistics, Food, clean water, public service, and Infrastructure in Palestine. The role of the NPC as an Indonesian facilitator and mediator in providing assistance is very influential and plays an important role in the welfare of the Palestinian people. As mentioned by Keck & Sikkink that every advocacy that implements is success determined by how much the impact of the changes done by these NGOs. In this case, the NCP has created a huge and different impact for the Palestinian people through many programs that have been implemented so far. NPC works with the government, NGOs, activists and the Indonesian community continue and commit to helping Palestine with support, physical aid, financial and political assistance to provide a better life for Palestinians.

NPC had important role in giving humanitarian assistance for Palestinian medical aid, healthcare access, logistical, financial assistance, education, provides psychological therapy and also cooperating with other NGOs. These programs has central influence to give a better life for Palestinians.

#### **D. Hypothesis**

The advocacy by Nusantara Palestine Center Foundation for humanitarian Issue in Palestine is through the process as follows:

1. NPC established the networks domestic and transnationally with domestic group, activist and government in Palestine and other state to share and exchange the information about the humanitarian condition in Palestine.
2. In working Process NPC cooperated with Government, NGOs, activist and citizen in Indonesia to continue in helping humanitarian issue in Palestine through donor financial support, logistic, and guaranteed protection access.

3. NPC had an important role in rebuild Palestine condition by creating the network that lead to successful work. It had very good impact and influence to humanitarian condition especially for Palestinians women and children in giving the humanitarian assistance through many programs.

## **E. Scope Objective**

The author focused on the process of advocacy conducted by NPC with their activism in helping humanitarian crisis on Palestine trough establishing the transnational advocacy network with other NGOs and Indonesian government to commit in helping humanitarian crisis in Palestine particularly from 2008-2019 . In 2008, the pioneer of NPC begun his journey to visit Gaza, Palestine for the first time. In 2019 the research about NPC as the subject conducted after two years of establishment the NPC.

## **F. Research Objective**

1. Describing the exigency of humanitarian crisis in Palestine caused by conflict which creates this issue is highly important to be advocate by the NGOs and other international actors, especially conducted by NPC.
2. Describing the process of advocacy conducting by NPC as Indonesian NGOs through establishing the Trans-national Advocacy Network to decrease the humanitarian problem and giving the assistance for Palestinians.
3. Describing the strategy of NCP in giving the advocacy through it programs that gave a good influence and impact to Palestinians on humanitarian Issue.

## **G. Methodology**

### **1. Type of Research**

The type of research in this study is qualitative research. It is research descriptive which is aimed at explaining the advocacy process of Nusantara Palestine Center as the non-governmental organization on handle humanitarian issue in Palestine.

## 2. Type of Data

The data sources used are primary and secondary data. The material primary data collected from the first-hand source gathered by the researcher himself such as book, official government and institution report, official website, and interview with some expert that related with this study. And for secondary data collected from second-hand source it means the data collected by someone else earlier not official from discover or author.

## 3. Data Collecting Methods

In this research, the author collected the material primary data from the book, official government report about humanitarian and human right study, and Interview report with some expert related with Nusantara Palestine Center or who understand about the humanitarian Issue in Palestine. And for Secondary data collected from the journals, research paper, websites/e-news, and documents related to the role of Nusantara Palestine Center Foundations in advocating humanitarian Issue in Palestine. So, in the end, we can draw conclusions from the existing problems by explaining the data with qualitative method.

## H. Writing System

**Chapter I :** In this chapter the author write an introduction that contains of the background of problem, research question, theoretical framework, hypothesis, research methods, and writing system.

**Chapter II :** In this chapter, describes more about the humanitarian right in the army conflict specifically for Palestine and Israel conflict based on several report of UN related with humanitarian law. In addition, the author will link it humanitarian law violation by Israel with dynamic of humanitarian condition in Palestine cause an impact of conflict from several important aspects such as politic, economic, social, education and health care.

**Chapter III :** In this chapter, explains more about the profile of NPC and how can establish NPC itself including the history,

**vision** and mission, and strategy in concern with humanitarian issue of Palestine. In addition, the author describes the result of this study which explains the advocacy process conducted by NPC through actor of trans-national networks who involves in the advocacy process on humanitarian crisis in Palestine. In addition explains the impact or influence of NPC's activity in changing the humanitarian crisis condition on Palestine.

**Chapter IV:**In this chapter, the author closes the thesis by concluding the whole chapters explained in previous chapters