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## Foreign Minister's Kartini Day Speech: Women a Bastion for Indonesian Diplomacy



## Improving Indonesian Diplomacy Through Technical Cooperation

## EDITOR'S NOTE

women, which currently stands at 35.10%. This data was presented by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia on the commemoration of Kartini Day with the employees of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in Palembang, Friday (21/4).

The next topic is about Indonesia's diplomacy in the form of capacity assistance to South Pacific countries. A range of capacity assistance to South Pacific nations, which are part of the Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG), was the Government of Indonesia's commitment to the Pacific Development Forum (PIDF) during a meeting in Suva, Fiji in 2014.

The amount of assistance given by Indonesia to South Pacific countries from 2014 to 2016 is approximately IDR 23.6 trillion in the form of technical assistances in agriculture, fisheries, disaster management, good governance, education, women's empowerment, etc. embodied through 130 capacity building programs.

Next is Indonesia's contribution to Palestine in the form of political support as well as various assistances that were provided. So far, Indonesia has provided training assistance to some 1,770 Palestinians through 154 capacity building programs in various fields, including direct assistance in the form of the construction of the Indonesia Cardiac Center (ICC), an Indonesian hospital, and humanitarian aid in the form of medical supplies.

In addition, technical assistance programs are also provided to African countries in the form of international training for agricultural development for citizens from African countries through the International Training on Agricultural for African Countries program.

12 participants from 11 African countries, including: Angola, Ethiopia, Gambia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Nigeria, Namibia, Tanzania, Sudan, and

Zimbabwe joined the program.

The next major topic we are presenting in this edition is about the implementation of public diplomacy, where Indonesia is one of the few countries that make the local public as the objective of public diplomacy because Indonesia believes that local public support is also essential. This edition illustrates Indonesia's numerous public diplomacy activities.

In conclusion to the series of topics that we will reviewing in this edition, several other topics that we are presenting include Meet and Greet with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia in the Women's Dialogue to commemorate Kartini Day, which discussed the values of women's empowerment, especially in the field of diplomacy.

The International training for agricultural development of African countries through the International Training on Agricultural for African Countries program; Appreciation of the UN Human Rights Council on the progress made by Indonesia in the field of human rights; The visit of the Foreign Minister to the United States of America; Launching of Indonesia-Philippines marine transportation service;

The opening of the Indonesian Art and Culture Scholarship Program (BSBI) 2017 entitled "Celebrating Diversity, Harnessing Harmony" by the Foreign Minister; Program on Kangen Indonesian President and First Lady with Indonesian Citizens in Hong Kong; KAA's 62nd Anniversary celebration at the Jakarta Palace and at KAA Museum Bandung; and the Review on the potentials of Bengkulu Province by young Indonesian diplomats, Batch 58 participants of the Foreign Service Staff School (Sesdilu).

Enjoy reading, may it be useful, and greetings diplomacy. []

## READER'S LETTER

Public diplomacy is a necessity in developing the politics of diplomacy that touches more on socio-cultural aspects. This is certainly to create an attitude of mutual trust and mutual understanding as a foundation for cooperation between one a country with other countries.

In this regard, the Government of Indonesia has established the "Melanesian Cultural Center" as one of the efforts of strengthening public diplomacy to the South Pacific countries integrated in the Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG).

I am very interested to know more about the activities and targets that the "Melanesian Cultural Center" wants to achieve. Through this letter, I hope that Diplomacy Tabloid can present articles about it. Thank you for your attention.

**Maya Kusuma W.**  
UPH University Student

The free and active foreign policy adopted by Indonesia aims to fight for national interests through relations or cooperation with various nations and countries in the world, one of which is with the island nations of the South Pacific.

Currently, Indonesia is continuing to improve the Look East Policy rule, since there is a strong cultural bond between Indonesia and the South Pacific countries. On the other hand, countries in the South Pacific also run a Look North Policy rule to get closer to countries in Asia, including Indonesia.

This is a vital asset that must be managed properly by the Government of Indonesia. We should be able to take advantage of this so that the bad stigma directed at Indonesia can be prevented and further improve the good image of Indonesia, both in the eyes of the South Pacific countries and in the world.

**Muhammad T. Suharto**  
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Purwokerto



# CONTENT

## HEADLINE

- 4 Kartini Day, Foreign Minister: Women Have Become a Banstion For Indonesia Diplomacy
- 5 Improving Indonesian Diplomacy through Technical Cooperation
- 6 Indonesia's Training of African Farmers

## FOCUS

- 8 Capacity Training for Palestine
- 9 Indonesia's Contribution to Palestine
- 10 The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Delegation of the UN Human Rights Council Praises Indonesia's Human Rights Progress
- 11 Meeting the US Vice-President, Foreign Minister Retno Underlines a Mutually Beneficial Partnership
- 12 The Launching of the Davao - Bitung Ro-Ro Vessel Route is a Historical Milestone for Indonesia and the Philippines
- 13 Indonesia's Diplomacy in Central and South Asia Region

## HIGHLIGHT

- 15 Opening of 2017 Indonesian Art and Culture Scholarship Program: "Celebrating Diversity, Harnessing Harmony"
- 16 President Advises Indonesian Citizens in Hong Kong to Remember Pancasila
- 17 Indonesian Public Diplomacy Born As a Result of the Information Technology Revolution
- 19 Public Diplomacy Is Not Propaganda

## LENS

- 20 Public Diplomacy Strategies Embraces Various Actors
- 21 Building a Democratic, Moderate, and Progressive Image of Indonesia through Public Diplomacy
- 22 Bhinneka Tunggal Ika Inspires the KAA's 62nd Anniversary
- 23 In Commemoration of KAA, One Hundred Foreign Students Gather at the KAA Museum
- 24 Young RI Diplomats Explore Regional Potential, Promote Economic Diplomacy

# Indonesia's Training of African Farmers

7  
FOCUS



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# Foreign Minister's Kartini Day Speech: Women a Bastion for Indonesian Diplomacy



35.10% of Indonesian diplomats are women. Women have become a bastion for Indonesian diplomacy.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Retno L.P., celebrated Kartini Day with officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in Palembang, Friday (21/4). Unity in Diversity colored the celebration. The employees of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs wore various regional attires from Sabang to Merauke.

Foreign Minister Retno met with the Heroines of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Women's Dialogue to

commemorate Kartini Day, discussing the empowerment of women's values, especially in the field of diplomacy.

"35.10% of Indonesian diplomats are women. Women have become a bastion for Indonesian diplomacy," she said in the event titled Kartini: Meet and Greet with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia.

Women, Continue Kartini's Intelligence

Foreign Minister Retno was inspired by one of Kartini's letters in 1902, which she recited some time ago. In the letter, Kartini aspires to study

in the Netherlands and upon returning to Indonesia, she wants to educate her people. However, these ideals were never achieved. Kartini never set foot in Holland.

"As a successor of Kartini, I am proud of the letter Kartini wrote. Incidentally, I had the chance to study in the Netherlands, assigned twice in the Netherlands as a diplomat," said Foreign Minister Retno.

Lastly, she continued, "I became the first female ambassador in the Netherlands."

According to Foreign

Minister Retno, Kartini's letters are still relevant in the contemporary context, the messages on taxation, diversity and the dangers of drugs, for example.

"This reflects the intelligence of Indonesian women," she concluded.

Foreign Minister Retno said on R.A. Kartini birthday, "Hopefully the spirit of progress and intelligence can be brought and forwarded by all Indonesian women to make Indonesia a better country." (Source: Dit.informed / Yozk, Foto: Rudi)

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35.10% OF INDONESIAN DIPLOMATS ARE WOMEN. WOMEN HAVE BECOME A BASTION FOR  
INDONESIAN DIPLOMACY.

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# Improving Indonesian Diplomacy through Technical Cooperation

In an effort to improve Public Diplomacy, Indonesia pursued various strategies including technical assistance. The aid is provided to several countries and regions including the South Pacific, Africa and Palestine. Providing capacity assistance to South Pacific countries is the GoI's commitment to the Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF) meeting in Suva, Fiji in 2014, as well as a follow-up to the RI-PNG Foreign Ministerial Meeting in Port Moresby in 2015.



The participants seemed enthusiastic to attend the Workshop On Fisheries in Suva (dok.kbri suva)

The Government of Indonesia has sent a scoping mission team to PNG and Solomon Islands in 2015 with the main agenda of discussing the implementation of Indonesia's capacity assistance to PNG and Solomon Islands in line with the needs of recipient countries.

The various capacity assistance given by Indonesia to South Pacific countries, such as Training on Women Empowerment for MSG Countries in the field of seafood and shellfish processing which was conducted by the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of Indonesia in cooperation with P2MKP Permata Sari in 2014.

The training is intended to improve the SME-based economy in South Pacific

countries.

Indonesia provided USD5 million worth of assistance, or equivalent to IDR 67 billion to Fiji to help build infrastructure damaged by Hurricane Winston. Indonesia also sent 1 company (100 personnel) of Zeni Indonesian army troops to assists in reconstruction.

Assistance given to the South Pacific countries included in the Melanesian Spearhead Group (Fiji, PNG, Solomon Island, and Vanuatu) from 2014 to 2016 has reached approximately IDR 23.6 trillion in the form of technical assistance in agriculture, fishery, disaster management, good governance, education, women empowerment and so on.

Previously, Indonesia also assisted in the development of

the Regional Police Academy of the Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG) amounting to USD 500 thousand in the period 2011-2013.

In December 2011, a Workshop on Fisheries was held in Fiji and attended by 25 participants, including

representatives from the Pacific Island Forum (PIF) countries. This is a training on floating net cage management.

In the same year, Indonesia also provided scholarships for fisheries business education held at the Waiheru Medium Business School (SUPM),

Ambon through the framework of the Scholarship Program on Fisheries and Marine Human Resource Development for MSG Members.

In November 2015, Indonesia through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Semarang Development Training Workshop and PT Triangle Motorindo, held an International Workshop in the field of technical automotive to 12 participants from Pacific countries, namely Fiji, PNG, Solomon Island, Nauru, and Palau as well as local participants from Papua.

Previously, in September 2015, Indonesia has launched a regional capacity building program, the Regional Capacity Building Initiative (RCBI) for countries in Asia Pacific.

Indonesia also provided opportunities for Asia Pacific

countries to learn about nuclear techniques from Indonesia. Indonesia's level of mastery in nuclear technology has gained recognition from the international community and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Since 2012, Indonesia has contributed to IAEA's technical cooperation program, which in 2014 won the Outstanding Achievement Award from IAEA and ILO for Indonesia's success in applying nuclear technology in the field of plant breeding (mutation breeding).

Since becoming a member of MSG until May 2015, Indonesia has conducted technical assistance in enhancing capacity building to MSG countries of as many as 130 programs with 583 participants.

Furthermore, in October 2016, the Local Training of TI Capacity Building on Government Official and ICT Capacity Building Program for Officials of Timor Leste Through the South-South and Triangular Cooperation was held in Cikarang, Jawa Barat together with South Korea through the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA).

In addition to providing bilateral capacity building assistance, Indonesia is also providing assistance within the South-South SEM (SSTC) framework aimed at demonstrating Indonesia's capacity as a nation and people in the eyes of the world; sharing knowledge and experience; encouraging and striving for other countries to develop simultaneously. []

# Indonesia Provides Entrepreneurship Training to Business Players in Fiji



The innovation and creativity of a product is very important in meeting the dynamic and rapidly changing market needs. In addition, packaging and product marketing techniques that is attractive and effective should always be the attention of entrepreneurs who want to succeed in the market. The entrepreneurship material was presented by a team of Indonesian entrepreneurs in Entrepreneurship Boot Camp: International Workshop on Entrepreneurship for Asia Pacific Phase III in Suva, Fiji on April 3 - 7, 2017.

The workshop was organized by the Directorate of Technical Cooperation, the Directorate General of Information and Public Diplomacy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia in cooperation with the

Ciputra Entrepreneurship Center supported by the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Suva, Fiji and Fiji Women's Ministry. The holding of the workshop is the last phase of the Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs entrepreneurship capacity building program for business participants in Fiji. There were about 19 participants who attended the workshop with 2 (two) entrepreneurial experts from Ciputra Entrepreneurship Center.

The workshop was officially opened by the Assistant Minister for Women, Children and Poverty, Honorable Mrs. Veena Bhatnagar, who welcomed and appreciated the Government of Indonesia for carrying out the workshop on an ongoing basis. While the Chief Economic Function of the Embassy of the Republic of

Indonesia in Suva, representing the Ambassador of Indonesia, conveyed positive support for the implementation of Workshop activities that would provide positive input for the development of business activities in Fiji.

This entrepreneurship capacity building program has been implemented continuously since 2 years ago. The event began with a first phase workshop in November 2015 and continued with a second phase workshop in March 2016, both held in Jakarta and participated in by participants from Fiji and Indonesia. The concept in the program is business incubation aimed at instilling a creative and innovative entrepreneurial spirit in developing a business.

The Workshop activities were also supplemented with direct coaching of expert teams

to a number of participant's place of business of (on-site mentoring) to provide input and solutions to business constraints. In addition, Ciputra Entrepreneurship Center experts will also have the opportunity to provide inspirational classes in Government Entrepreneurship Seminars, attended by approximately 30 participants from various ministries in Fiji (including the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Fisheries, Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism and Ministry of Education) as well as exploring the establishment of a MoU of entrepreneurship cooperation with the Fiji National University and the Fiji Ministry of Education's collaborative offer to develop an entrepreneurial curriculum for Fiji Government employees. []



# Indonesia's Training of African Farmers



The Directorate of Technical Cooperation, Directorate General of Information and Public Diplomacy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia, in cooperation with the Agricultural Training Center of the Ministry of Agriculture, provided international training of agricultural development for citizens of African countries which were packaged in the International Training on Agriculture for African Countries program. The event was attended by 12 participants

from 11 African countries, including: Angola, Ethiopia, Gambia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Nigeria, Namibia, Tanzania, Sudan, and Zimbabwe. The 45-day program was centered in Kuningan and Lembang, West Java from March 15 - May 3, 2017.

The training materials were provided in full by the Rural Self-Employment Training Center (P4S) of the Kuningan Farmers Way and the Extension Training Center of Agriculture (BP3) Lembang. Materials

The training materials were provided in full by the Rural Self-Employment Training Center (P4S) of the Kuningan Farmers Way and the Extension Training Center of Agriculture (BP3) Lembang.

provided include sowing seeds, growing rice, harvesting, rice technology processes, maize production, planting and care of coffee trees, cassava and sweet potato processing and hydroponic processes. Participants also had the opportunity to visit the factory "Quick Tractor" in Jogjakarta. The training activities were closed by the Director of Technical Cooperation (KST) on May 1, 2017.

Ambassador Niniek Kun Naryatie, Acting Director General of Information and Public Diplomacy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the opening date of March 15, 2017, among others stated that agricultural training for African countries provided by the Government of Indonesia through this capacity building program is Indonesia's commitment in implementing South-South Cooperation. []





# Capacity Training for Palestine



formats and more. So far, the Government of Indonesia has provided training for about 1,700 Palestinians through 154 capacity building programs in various fields, including training in tourism, agriculture, construction, training on world crime handling of police personnel.[]

The Government of Indonesia through the Directorate of Technical Cooperation, the Directorate General of Information and Public Diplomacy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia in 2017 has conducted capacity building training for Palestine. The training includes: International Training Workshop on Tourism and Antiquities for Palestinian and International Training on Archives for Palestinian.

Training on Tourism and Antiquities for Palestine was held on March 11-25, 2017, and officially opened on March 13, 2017, at the Conservation Center of Borobudur Temple, Central Java, followed by 11 participants from Palestine. This training aims to assist the Palestinians in developing tourism and managing the historic sites in the country. "Palestine is blessed with incredible historical cultural sites. Such training activities are essential to support the Palestinian tourism sector, especially in developing archaeological sites," said Indonesian Ambassador to Palestine and Jordan, Teguh

Wardoyo, at Borobudur Conservation Center in Magelang, Central Java.

Participants from Palestine obtained various training materials including history and cultural heritage of Indonesia; methodological and technical recovery; structural decline; tourism and archeology; photography and 3D Laser Scan; field trips and historic sites including the Yogyakarta Palace; preservation of cultural heritage; and others.

The training on Tourism and Antiquities for Palestine above was closed by the Director of Public Diplomacy, Al Busyra Basnur, on March 23, 2017.

The second capacity training for Palestine is the International Training on Archives for Palestinian, held on 16-22 April 2017, and attended by 12 participants from Palestine. The training was opened by the Head of the National Archives of the Republic of Indonesia on April 17, 2017.

In this training, the participants received lessons on setting up archiving





# Indonesia's Contribution to Palestine

INDONESIA HAS SUSTAINABLY PROVIDED CONTRIBUTION FOR THE UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORK AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEE (UNRWA). IN 2012, INDONESIA HAS INCREASED ITS ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION TO UNRWA FIVE TIMES.



The Directorate of Technical Cooperation initiates training activities in the field of Cyber Crime and Digital Forensic to improve the capability of Palestinian human resources, particularly the Palestinian Police. Doc.Kemenlu

Indonesia and South Africa hosted the New Asian-African Strategic Partnership Ministerial Conference on Capacity Building for Palestine (NAASP) in Jakarta on 14-15 July 2008.

The NAASP meeting resulted in a number of commitments from participating countries in the form of technical assistance, including training for 10,000 Palestinians.

Indonesia is committed to providing training for 1,000 Palestinians in the period 2008-2013.

Overall, until 2016, Indonesia has provided 154 training programs and modules for 1,774 Palestinians.

The Capacity Development Program provided is in the sectors:

1. SMEs (Small and Medium Enterprises), such as: Business

Incubator Training for SMEs; International Training Program in Microfinance for Asian-African Countries; Asian African Conference on Open Source; IT Workshop for SMEs; and International Training Workshop on Microfinance for Palestine;

2. Disaster Handling Management, in the form of: Education and Training in the field of Fire Rescue.

3.. Tourism, in the form of: International Training Workshop in Tourism and Antiquities for Palestine.

4. Education, Culture and Diplomatic Training, in the form of: Diplomatic Training Program for Palestinian Diplomats; Education and Training of Senior Diplomat; Introduction to Indonesian Language Education; Language Training for Junior Diplomats; English Education for High

Officials; Diplomatic Protocol Training; Superior scholarship; Junior Diplomatic Training; Indonesian Language Education for Tour Guides from Palestine; International Workshop on Diplomat Leadership for Asian and Pacific Countries; Diplomatic Education and Mid Career Training; Workshop and Moot Court on Migration Legal Issues; as well as Education and Training on Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Historical Sites.

5. Women's Empowerment, Reproduction and Health, in the form of: International Workshop on

Empowerment of Women in Economic Development; Training on Neo Natal and Integrated Child Health; Training on Vocational Rehabilitation for Persons with Disabilities; International Training Workshop on Women Empowerment in IT; Training on Local Government Assistance for the Mother and Child Program; Training on Medical First Responder; as well as Education and Training on Gender Mainstreaming for Officers of Women's Affairs.

6. Infrastructure, in the form of: Training on Project Cycle of Public Works; Training on Mechanical Engineering of Piping Drafting; and Training on Project Cycle for Palestinian Professionals.

7. Energy and Mineral Resources, in the form of: Education and Training on Mineral and Coal Resource Management.

8. Good Governance and Public Administration, in the form of: Democracy Training and Good Governance; Training on Conservation and Restoration Documents; Direct Visit to Indonesia for Increasing Cooperation on Capacity Building for Palestine; Training on Electronic Document Recording Management System; Training on Archive Management; as well as Training on Records Management and Recording.

9. Agriculture, in the form of: Training on Artificial Insemination for Dairy Cattle; International Training Program on Fruit and Vegetable Production; Training Program on Innovative Techniques of Vegetable Production for Palestinian Agriculture Officers.

10. Industry, in the form of: Capacity Building in Plate Welder; Capacity Development in the field of textile; and Capacity Building in the field of Ceramic.

11. Defense, in the form of: Capacity Building Program on Construction; and International Training on Construction.

12. Poverty Reduction, in the form of: TCTP on Capacity Building for Poverty Reduction.

Indonesia's Commitment to Palestine

Indonesia has committed in continuously supporting the Palestinians, both in the form of funding and capacity building programs, including within the framework of NAASP or other cooperation schemes such as the Cooperation among East Asia Countries for Palestinian Development (CEAPAD).

Within the CEAPAD framework, Indonesia's contribution is focused on capacity building programs in the sector; Infrastructure, ICT, Tourism, Light Industry and Agriculture. []

# The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Delegation of the UN Human Rights Council Praises Indonesia's Human Rights Progress



"We welcome the Indonesian human rights report, as well as the progress made by Indonesia in the field of human rights, in particular the ratification of international conventions on human rights. We encourage Indonesia to continue to improve its achievements in the field of human rights promotion and protection," said delegates of the Human Rights Council in the discussion of Indonesia's report under the UPR mechanism (3/5).

The Universal Periodic Review working group of the United Nations Human Rights Council has completed the deliberation of the Indonesian human rights report on Wednesday, May 3, 2017. The Indonesian Foreign Minister, Retno L.P. Marsudi, who leads the Indonesian delegation along with the Minister of Justice and Human Rights, Yasonna H. Laoly, affirmed, "After a 3.5 hour dialogue with delegates from 103 countries,

there was a strong message that the delegates appreciated the progress and efforts and overcoming challenges in the field of human rights promotion and protection, both at the national and regional levels and Indonesia's leadership at the regional and global levels".

It also shows the support and gives new encouragement for Indonesia, especially under the administration of President Joko Widodo, to keep track of progress and encourage innovative initiatives in the promotion and protection of human rights in the country.

"The number of recommendations Indonesia received in 2012 have been drafted into 13 clusters in our UPR Report, ranging from issues of ratification of the International Human Rights Convention to Indonesia's development policy, which also underscores the implementation of building Indonesia from the periphery,"

Foreign Minister Retno said.

"The Minister of Justice and Human Rights, other RI delegation members, and I have responded directly to the various issues raised by the delegates," said Foreign Minister Retno.

The RI delegation has also provided explanations for a number of thematic human rights clusters such as: anti-torture treatment, the abolition of discriminatory regulations, the guarantee of freedom of religion, the protection of Indonesian migrant workers, and the strengthening of democratic life and a culture of tolerance in a pluralistic Indonesian society. The RI delegation also added an explanation on Indonesia's legal policies regarding the death penalty and amendments to the Criminal Code, as well as the promotion and protection of the rights of children, women and persons with disabilities.

Indonesia also welcomes the participation of delegates

from 103 countries in the reporting which reflects the high attention and high appreciation of UN member states for Indonesia's efforts, commitments, and contributions in the field of human rights promotion and protection.

"Indonesia does encourage UN member states to participate in the discussion of the Indonesian human rights report under the UPR mechanism of the UN Human Rights Council in diplomatic gathering in Jakarta ahead of reporting", said Foreign Minister Retno.

This reporting mechanism will produce recommendations that will be followed up by Indonesia. This necessarily requires the cooperation and support of various Ministries and Institutions in the country as a national consensus in the field of human rights promotion and protection. []



# Meeting the US Vice-President, Foreign Minister Retno Underlines a Mutually Beneficial Partnership



In this regard, the Minister of Foreign Affairs stated that the values of pluralism and tolerance are soft power and the main capital in stemming radical ideology and terrorism. For Indonesia, efforts to promote tolerance and harmony and oppose radical terrorism ideology, which is against the value of diversity, plurality and identity of Indonesia, is part of national interest. "The values of pluralism and tolerance are the assets of the Indonesian nation that is highly admired by other nations, including the US. We should be proud and continue to maintain the noble value of the nation that upholds tolerance and pluralism," said RI's Foreign Minister.

Regarding developments in the region, the two leaders discussed the heated situation on the Korean Peninsula. The United States should continue to make a constructive contribution to maintain stability, and security in the region is of great importance following the current situation developing on the Korean Peninsula.

"No country will benefit if conflicts happen in our region. There is no other option for all countries except to refrain from taking the slightest provocation" the Minister of Foreign Affairs concluded.

The US is Indonesia's 4th largest trading partner. In 2016, the value of bilateral trade between RI and US was USD23.4 billion. The US is the sixth-ranked foreign investor in Indonesia with an investment value of USD1, 16 billion apportioned to over 540 projects. []

In a series of trips in the United States, Foreign Minister Retno Marsudi did a courtesy call with the Vice-President of the United States, Mike Pence in Washington DC (04/05)

The courtesy visit to Vice President Pence was conducted to follow-up results of the visit of Vice-President Pence to Jakarta last 20-21 of April. During the visit, one important thing that became a commitment on the follow-up meeting of President Jokowi and Vice-President Pence was to explore bilateral mechanisms in the field of mutual trade and investment for Indonesia and the United States.

"Indonesia is ready to expand and strengthen mutual cooperation with the United States in various fields," said Indonesia Minister of Foreign Affairs during a courtesy visit to US Vice-President, Mike Pence.

"Trade relations between Indonesia and the United States are complementary so that the

potential for the development of trade cooperation between the two countries is very wide open," said the Foreign Minister. For Indonesia, the United States is one of the largest market share for Indonesian export products with a value of USD 15.68 billion (11.94% market share) in 2016. At the same time, Indonesia, with 250 million people and an incessant growing middle class, is a huge market for American products.

In addition, the Foreign Minister also discussed the strategic cooperation of Indonesia-United States to overcome terrorism and radicalism through the soft power approach. With a population of over 223 million moderate, tolerant and democratic Muslims (87.18% of the total population of Indonesia), the world's largest, Indonesia has great credentials in leading global efforts against radical ideology. It should demystify global perceptions

linking terrorist acts with specific teachings and religions because they will not solve the problem and even have the potential to cause wider problems.

"Indonesia is a clear example that terrorism is unrelated to a particular religion. Islam in Indonesia provides a message of peace and tolerance and reflects Islam as a blessing to all people" said Foreign Minister Retno.

The discussion in this regard followed the statement of Vice-President Mike Pence during his visit to Indonesia last April, which expressed his admiration for the culture of tolerance and the face of moderate Islam in Indonesia. Vice-President Pence again praised Indonesia's diversity and tolerance when meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia and conveyed the admiration experienced in Jakarta to various parties in the United States.

# The launching of the Davao - Bitung Ro-Ro Vessel Route is a Historical Milestone for Indonesia and the Philippines



The launching of the Roll-on / Roll-Off or Ro-Ro sea transportation service between Davao - General Santos - Bitung is an important milestone in the history of relations between Indonesia and the Philippines. President Joko Widodo conveyed this in a speech at the inauguration of the Davao - General Santos - Bitung Ro-Ro Voyage route at Kudos Port, Davao, Philippines, Sunday (30/4).

"This route will reduce the travel time of transporting goods and people between the two regions, from five weeks to two and a half days," said President Jokowi.

In President Jokowi's view, the inauguration moment of the Ro-Ro voyage route is very appropriate because last year's trade value between the two countries increased by more than 30 percent compared to the year previous to it.

With the presence of the

Ro-Ro service between Davao - General Santos - Bitung, it is expected to provide new opportunities and businesses for people in both areas.

On this occasion, President Jokowi expressed his appreciation to Philippine President Rodrigo Roa Duterte for the inauguration of the Ro-Ro service.

"Our utmost gratitude to President Duterte for his tremendous commitment in realizing this voyage route," said the President.

President Jokowi also expressed appreciation to all parties, both from Indonesia and from the Philippines, who worked very hard to realize this route.

"Hopefully, this sea transportation service and delivery route become a symbol of friendship and partnership between our two nations," said the President.

The opening of the Davos -

Bitung route indicates that the two Presidents are paying close attention to areas far from the capital of each country. "I know that President Duterte is also very concerned with areas far from Manila, a rich capital city," said President .

President Jokowi explains that when he served as President two and a half years ago he did the same thing. "I decided to overcome the imbalance that occurred in Indonesia," he said.

During this time most of the development in Indonesia is concentrated in the island of Java. "Currently, most of our infrastructure development programs are focused on areas outside Indonesia. We call it building from the periphery of Indonesia," said President Jokowi.

According to President Jokowi, he and President Duterte believe and convinced that people living in the

outermost areas have the same intelligence, strength and expertise as those living in the capital.

"They only need one thing. One thing only! And that is giving them a chance," said President Jokowi.

At the beginning of his speech, President Jokowi expressed his gratitude being able to visit Davao, a city that has beauty.

Davao is not a foreign city to President Duterte because he has served as Mayor of Davao since 2013 until 2016 before being elected President of the Philippines.

"Like President Duterte, I was once mayor of a beautiful city like Davao. Therefore, I can imagine how much this city means to President Duterte. And, I can also imagine what President Duterte means for the Davao people," said President Jokowi.

After giving a speech, President Jokowi together with President Duterte sounded the gong that signified the inauguration of the Davao-Bitung Ro-Ro route.

Also present in the ceremony with President Joko Widodo and First Lady Iriana Joko Widodo were Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs Darmin Nasution, Cabinet Secretary Pramono Anung, Foreign Minister Retno Marsudi, Minister of Transportation Budi Karya Sumadi, and Indonesian Ambassador to the Philippines Johny Lumintang . []



# Indonesia's Diplomacy in Central and South Asia Region



Indonesia's diplomatic activities in various regions of the world are aimed at: Opening new cooperation opportunities, especially in the economic field to expand the market and traditional Indonesian and non-traditional trading partners; Establish partnership on specific issues of mutual interest between Indonesia and related countries, for example on issues of climate change, human rights, democracy, energy and others; Establish partnerships in multilateral forums especially among developing countries such as the OIC, G-77, FEALAC and NAM forums; and Establish mutual support for candidacies in various international organizations.

Indonesia directs its cooperation with Asia Pacific countries to foster Indonesia's wider role and presence in the region. Indonesia also wants to encourage economic cooperation, especially for the expansion of non-traditional markets, as well as increase technical cooperation in the

form of capacity building.

The South and Central Asian regions, which cover 15 countries (Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan) have significant meaning for Indonesian foreign policy. This area is home to about 1.7 billion people ranging from Maldives with a population of about 300,000 people to India with a population of  $\pm$  1.2 billion.

Indonesia already has diplomatic relations with all countries in the region. It conducted efforts to improve economic relations with countries in the region through various steps such as Joint Commission Meetings and Trade Negotiating Committee with partner countries.

## Afghanistan

The bilateral relations between Indonesia and Afghanistan are quite good.

Indonesia supports the Afghan Government's efforts to bring peace to Afghanistan. Indonesia has committed itself to helping Afghanistan become a safe, democratic and prosperous country. One concrete effort as a manifestation of that commitment is to provide technical cooperation assistance to Afghanistan through trainings and scholarships for government employees and members of the Afghan society.

The Government of Indonesia, both bilaterally and in cooperation with third parties, has provided technical assistance in the form of training / workshops in various fields, such as health, education, agriculture, SME development, democracy and others.

Within the framework of the UNAMA (United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan) mandate, as outlined in UN Security Council resolutions 1662 (2006) and 1746 (2007) and 1868 (2009), Indonesia has contributed to the process of national reconciliation and development in Afghanistan.

Indonesia has provided technical assistance to non-civil servants, particularly in the agricultural sector, as one of the critical areas under development in the Afghanistan National Development Strategy.

The agricultural sector is a priority program to unlock the potential of Afghanistan's economic growth centers, as well as to reduce the incentives of opium cultivation by farmers.

## Azerbaijan

RI's Representative in Baku, Azerbaijan was inaugurated on December 29, 2010. Previous diplomatic relations between RI and Azerbaijan were concurrent from the Indonesian Embassy in Tehran. With the opening of the diplomatic representative, bilateral relations between the two countries are expected to continuously increase.

## Bangladesh

The bilateral relations between Indonesia and Bangladesh are highlighted by high intensity of meetings. In addition to the Joint Commission meetings, Business Forum meetings are also held. The meetings resulted to the signing of Visa Free Approval for Diplomatic and Official Passport Holders.

In the economic field, the trade value of Indonesia-Bangladesh continues to increase significantly, with Indonesia as the 5th largest trading partner of Bangladesh at present.

## India

The Indonesia-India strategic partnership relationship was developed under the New Strategic Partnership between Indonesia and India agreement signed by both governments in 2005, and the Plan of Action of the New Strategic Partnership was agreed in 2007.

In 2010, cooperation in the handling of Trans-National

Organized Crime (TOC), especially drug trafficking between National Narcotics Agency (BNN) and Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) of India was explored. Both countries are determined to continue developing bilateral relations under the umbrella of a Strategic Partnership, particularly in areas that contribute directly to economic development and efforts to improve the welfare of the people of both countries.

### Iran

The bilateral relations between Indonesia and Iran tend to increase, which is apparent from visits made by both countries. The two countries made various efforts to fill bilateral relations, especially through cooperation in the fields of economy, trade and investment. In the field of trade cooperation, the two countries convened a Trade Negotiating Committee (TNC) meeting.

In the economic field, Iran deserves to be as a non-traditional market of Indonesian products and services, as trade between the two countries continues to show an increasing trend in recent years.

In addition, Iran's large oil and gas reserves have made Iran a potential country for Indonesia's energy and food security, which enables Iran to provide natural gas (relatively cheap) supplies to the fertilizer industry in Indonesia.

### Kazakhstan

The opening of diplomatic relations between Indonesia and Kazakhstan began on June 2, 1993. RI's representative in Astana, Kazakhstan inaugurated its opening on December 29, 2010. With the

opening of the diplomatic representative, bilateral relations continue to increase.

### Turkmenistan

The Embassy of Teheran handled diplomatic relations between RI and Turkmenistan, and the relationship between RI and Turkmenistan went well. Indonesia with Turkmenistan also cooperates in various international forums such as at the UN.

### Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan

Indonesia's bilateral cooperation with Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan is getting stronger and is now more focused on improving economic and trade relations, especially in the effort to increase direct trade with non-traditional markets, energy cooperation and attracting tourists to Indonesia, through: official visits, KKB meetings, TTI promotion, mutual visits of high officials, parliamentarians, businessmen, academics and the people of both countries as well as the protection of Indonesian citizens and BHI in the accreditation area.

With Uzbekistan, there is an agreement to increase economic and socio-cultural cooperation. Meanwhile, the focus of RI's development cooperation with Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan is in the field of energy and minerals.

Indonesia with Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan are also working together in various international forums such as the UN.

### Maldives

The Indonesian Embassy in Colombo, Sri Lanka conducted diplomatic relations between RI and Maldives. Indonesia-Maldives bilateral relationship

has been growing positively and potentially strengthened towards closer and mutually beneficial relations.

Maldives has been active in organizing the Bali Democracy Forum (BDF) since 2009. Indonesia's main export products to the Maldives are glassware, food, batik, handicrafts, perfumes, sports equipment, office supplies, and special carvings from several regions of Indonesia, such as Bali and Jepara.

Within the framework of the Technical Cooperation between Developing Countries (KTNB), the Government of Indonesia, in cooperation with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), has provided an opportunity for Maldives to send representatives on short-term trainings in various fields, in particular tourism and hospitality, in Indonesia.

As Indonesia's participation in the Maldives Donor Forum, Indonesia has also committed itself to assisting Maldives particularly in the development of capacity building.

### Nepal

The bilateral relations between Indonesia and Nepal have been well all along. Indonesia is one of the countries mandated by the UN Security Council to send military personnel to serve in the United Nation Mission in Nepal (UNMIN), in accordance to the 2006 peace agreement.

In the economic field, the bilateral trade volume of RI-Nepal has always increased and Indonesia always enjoys a surplus (according to FNCCI, Nepal). Nepal, with a population of 25 million people and as an import-based country, is very potential for the market

development of Indonesian export products.

### Pakistan

RI-Pakistan relations are very good. Indonesia and Pakistan have a lot of common grounds in regional and international issues.

In the field of politics and security, Indonesia and Pakistan have signed the Defense Cooperation Agreement (DCA) on 21 July 2010 in Jakarta by the Indonesian and Pakistan Defense Ministers.

In the economic field, the total volume of Indonesia-Pakistan trade continues to increase, and Indonesia has a surplus.

In the field of humanitarian assistance, when a flood disaster hit Pakistan, the Government of Indonesia donated US \$ 3 million in humanitarian donations in the form of medicines, food, blankets and generators, a check for US \$ 1.73 million and sending a medical team of 45 people and served in Pakistan for a month.

### Sri Lanka

The bilateral relationship between RI and Sri Lanka continues to grow positively. In various international issues, the two countries have an analogous view, among others, on the issue of dealing with terrorism, the protection of children's rights; on human rights; and people smuggling.

In the economic field, the relations between the two countries continued to increase despite experiencing a decline due to the global economic crisis. Nevertheless, Indonesia has maintained a surplus in the trade balance with Sri Lanka since 2004. []



# Opening of 2017 Indonesian Art and Culture Scholarship Program: “Celebrating Diversity, Harnessing Harmony”



RI's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Retno L.P Marsudi, officially opened the Indonesian Art and Culture Scholarship Program (BSBI) 2017 on Wednesday, May 10, 2017 at Gedung Pancasila, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of RI. The event was attended by a number of officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and related Ministries / Institutions, Ambassadors of friendly BSBI recipient countries, members of the House of Representatives, representatives of universities / universities, art galleries and cultural houses.

In her speech, Foreign Minister Retno warmly welcomed the arrival of the 2017 BSBI participants, “We are as happy to host you here, to embrace you as new members of our extended family ...”

This year's BSBI program takes the theme “Celebrating Diversity, Harnessing Harmony: in this case Foreign Minister Retno advised that harmony in diversity must always be maintained by each of us. “And you... the young generation, must adopt this culture of

harmony.. Youth today... leaders tomorrow”, said Foreign Minister Retno.

The opening of 2017 BSBI program was also enlivened by music and dance performances, a presentation from BSBI Indonesia alumni in collaboration with 2017 BSBI participants.

The Indonesian Cultural Arts Scholarship (BSBI) is an activity of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia that was implemented since 2003. In 2017, the program entered its 15th year. The purpose of this activity is to introduce the young generation of friendly countries with the various distinctive identity and personality of Indonesians, such as respect for diversity, kinship, politeness, tolerance, and openness.

BSBI participants are expected to become friends of Indonesia in the future. During the last 15 (fifteen) years, the activity has resulted in 718 graduates from 63 countries who became friends of Indonesia and also helped the promotion of Indonesia in their

countries of origin.

The series of the 2017 BSBI program started on May 8, 2017 and will be concluded with a colossal cultural show titled Indonesia Channel, a Stage Performance by Friends of Indonesia, on August 19, 2017 in Surabaya.

The 2017 BSBI program is participated by 60 youths from 47 countries, and the countries of priority of the 2017 BSBI participants are ASEAN member countries, ASEAN + 3, South West Pacific Dialogue (SwPD), Pacific Islands Forum (PIF), a number of European countries, Asia, Africa and the Interfaith Dialogue Country Partners. There are 6 new countries in 2017 BSBI namely, Kyrgyzstan, Belgium, Ukraine, Mexico, Argentina and Tajikistan. In addition, there are 4 young Indonesians from Papua, Central Sulawesi, Central Kalimantan and East Java.

The curriculum primarily teaches the Indonesian language, cultural art and religious harmony, social activities and local wisdom. In

that time span, the participants will have the opportunity to know and feel the atmosphere during Religious Days in Indonesia, such as Waisak Day, Ramadhan and Idul Fitri, and jubilation in the celebration the 72nd anniversary of RI.

For 3 (three) months, the BSBI participants will train in partner schools and universities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia, namely Studio Tydif, Surabaya; Sanggar Semarandana, Denpasar; Rumata Cultural House, Makassar; and Sanggar Musik dan Tari Sofiyani, and Veterans University of Yogyakarta for Special Program.

Noted creative activities and promotion for Indonesia of BSBI alumni in their countries of origin, among others are, becoming a dance instructor / choreographer, organizing a photo painting exhibition, gastronomic promotion, making friendly ties between Indonesia and their countries of origin, making songs and video clips for social media and others. []

# President Advices Indonesian Citizens in Hong Kong to Remember Pancasila

HONGKONG- Wearing a long-sleeved white shirt combined with black trousers, President Joko Widodo greeted some 5,400 Indonesian citizens attending the event titled 'Reunion with President RI and First Lady'. The event was held at the Asia World Expo Ground on Sunday, April 30, 2017.

Before delivering his speech, the President first circled the building to greet and shake hands with the Indonesian community in Hong Kong. However, not all sections were accessible as innumerable Indonesians filled the meeting hall.

Therefore, the President requested two persons from the sections he was not able to reach to come on stage, and then came Romlah from Jombang and Iin from Kediri.

The President asked Romlah, who got the first chance, "You have not forgotten Indonesia right?" Romlah asserted that he really loved Indonesia. The President also asked Romlah to recite Pancasila. After successfully answering, the President asked, "Will the bicycle prize be sent to Jombang or Hong Kong?"

"Jombang," replied Romlah. The President also asked Romlah to give his address in Jombang to the President's aide Colonel Mar Ili Dasili.

When it was Iin's turn, just like Romlah, the President also asked him to recite Pancasila. After successfully reciting Pancasila, the President again asked, "Will it be sent to Hong Kong or Kediri?"

"Kediri," Iin replied. The President also asked Iin to give his address in Kediri to the President's aide to send his bicycle.

After the two returned to their seats, the President advised Indonesians in Hong Kong that they should not forget Pancasila.

"Even if already in Hong Kong, do not forget Pancasila," said the President.

Indonesia, continued the President, is a very large country with 17,000 islands, 714 tribes, 1,100 different local languages, 34 provinces, 516 cities / regencies. A lot of leaders from other countries praise Indonesia's harmony that remains intact despite having diversities.

"Indonesia remains one in unity," the President said.

Therefore, President advised not to let friction happen that can fracture national unity.

"Although we are diverse, we are plural, we remain one Indonesia," the President asserted.

In addition to asking questions, the President also asked for inputs and complaints from the Indonesians residing in Hong Kong. Various inputs came in ranging from an appreciation of a hospital performance in Kulonprogo, complaints of Indramayu farmers who had to rent lands belonging to the government, to the high price of meat, sugar and eggs before Idul Fitri.

Ina, a resident from Pekalongan, voiced out another complaint. She told the President that Indonesian workers have difficulty returning to the country because they must hold a KTKLN (Foreign Worker Card).

However, Head of National Agency for Placement and Protection of Indonesian Workers (BNP2TKI), Nusron Wahid, said that KTKLN is no



longer required since 2015, and having a working visa and an employment contract is sufficient.

The President who listened directly to Nusron's answer insisted that he had ordered all his staff to no longer obstruct the service.

"Please immediately convey this, there are definitely obstructing elements. Simple things become difficult. It should not be like that. Just tell me who and where his office is. Let it all be clear, I do not want to hear this kind of things anymore," the President asserted.

The President also apologized for the obstructions that continue to take place, which burden the people.

"I apologize if such incidents are still happening. There are some that are still uncontrollable, we will continue to improve, we will mend it," said the President.

Regarding the high price of staple goods before Lebaran, the President explained that maintaining the balance is not easy. Such as the current harvest season, production is abundant. However, the

complaint to him is the low prices of rice and grain.

We have to manage this condition; we have to face for the benefit of society. Livestock breeders and farmers also benefit. However, believe me, the government has a strong desire for both get the same benefit," said the President.

In his speech, the President also explained the development that the government is currently doing, primarily in infrastructure, such as toll roads in Sumatera and State Cross Border Posts in the border areas.

Accompanying the President and First Lady Iriana Joko Widodo were Cabinet Secretary Pramono Anung, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Retno Marsudi, Trade Minister Enggartiaso Lukita, Minister of Education and Culture Muhadjir Effendy, Head of Creative Economy Body Triawan Munaf, Head of BKPM Thomas Lembong and Head of BNP2TKI Nusron Wahid.

In addition, the music group Slank also was present to entertain the President and the people of Indonesia in Hong Kong.[]



# Indonesian Public Diplomacy Born As a Result of the Information Technology Revolution



**AL BUSYRA BASNUR**  
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

The legal basis of RI's foreign policy (polugri) is the Preamble of the 1945 Constitution, paragraph 1 and 4, namely: "That freedom is in truth the right of all nations and, therefore, the occupation of the world must be abolished because it is incompatible with humanity and justice. "

Then establish an Indonesian State Government that protects the entire nation of Indonesia and the entire blood of Indonesia, and to promote general welfare, educate the nation, and participate in the implementation of world order, which is based on freedom, eternal peace, and social justice".

The foreign policy priorities promoted by the Indonesian government are: Protecting Indonesian Sovereignty, Protecting Indonesian Citizens and BHI Abroad, Improving Economic and Maritime Diplomacy, and Improving the Role of Indonesia in the Region and International world.

On the other hand, there is a modern reality; information revolution, increased role of non-governmental actors, and increased dependence between

domestic and international factors.

Related to this, Dean Edmund A. Gullion (1960) states; "... what is important today is the interaction of groups, peoples, and cultures beyond national borders, influencing the way groups and peoples in other countries think about foreign affairs, react to our policies, and affect the policies of their respective governments."

Meanwhile, the Indonesian Minister of Foreign Affairs for 2002-2009, Hassan Wirajuda said; "Public Diplomacy aims to find friends among the people of other countries who can contribute to the effort of building good relations with other countries".

The revolution of information technology gave birth to Indonesian public diplomacy, which rendered the state's attempt to limit information a waste. State efforts to create facts or cover up facts are not doable anymore. Therefore, in the era of globalization, it is necessary to have a new diplomacy model, namely diplomacy that emphasizes known facts but placed in certain contexts.

Indonesian public diplomacy was also born out of the necessity for the state to create a tradition

of formulation and implementation of foreign policy in a democratic order. This change in tradition is based on the fact that foreign policy is no longer only "owned" by a number of parties.

The birth of public diplomacy is increasingly possible because of the return of conventional functions of foreign policy as a means to advance common national interests. Therefore, foreign policy is no longer an expression of political interest or a mere tool of power.

Birth of public diplomacy is also possible with the opening of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the improving character of diplomats. This is also due to a higher level of education, with a more open character due to a more democratic national atmosphere.

In contrast to the policy of public diplomacy in many advanced countries which focus their public diplomacy more on influencing foreign audiences or other countries, Indonesian public diplomacy is conducted in both directions, inward and outward.

The implementation of various policies must be explained to domestic as well as to foreign audiences, and communicate the reality about Indonesia as a whole.

Public diplomacy needs to be done internally considering

the importance of the aspect of partnership between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with various circles of society. Furthermore, there are interests in building an adequately informative foreign policy constituent and in absorbing community aspirations.

The internal explication of foreign policy is also intended as a form of public accountability, which includes attempts to explain the government's position, build public support, and open wider public participation in the foreign policy program.

Public diplomacy assets owned by Indonesia are: Democracy; Religious Tolerance; High Cultural Values; Modernity People to People Contact; and Technical Cooperation.

Various public diplomacy activities undertaken by the Government, among others, are; Indonesian Arts and Culture Scholarship (BSBI), Outstanding Student to the World (OSTW), Diplomatic Tour, Bali Democracy Forum (BDF), Interfaith Dialogues, Global Inter-Media Dialogues, Ambassadors, e-Diplomacy, Updates From The Region (UFTR), Presidential Friends of Indonesia (PFoI), and Communication Forum of the Foreign Ministry and Local Government.

The Bali Democracy Forum was initiated by Indonesia





since 2008 and is held regularly every year in Bali. BDF is a dialogue forum and exchanges of experiences in the field of peace and democracy in the Asia Pacific region.

BDF also reflects the values of Indonesian-style democracy, namely: home-grown, upholding pluralism, and inclusive. The level of participation in BDF continues to increase yearly, starting from 28 participating countries in 2008 to 100 participating countries by 2016.

The Interfaith Dialogue and Intercultural Dialogue Program is a form of display of Indonesia's tolerance and harmony to the world, denoting that Indonesia is a multi-cultural country.

The contribution given by Indonesia is "harmony among civilizations", in accordance with the mandate of the 1945 Constitution.

This program involves various stakeholders, ranging from religious leaders, civil society, academia, media, to the younger generation.

Indonesia actively initiates and participates in various intercultural and interfaith dialogues, both at the bilateral, regional, and global /

multilateral levels. Until 2016, Indonesia had dialogues with 22 countries at the bilateral level, and 6 interfaith dialogues with 15 countries at the regional level (ASEAN + Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, PNG, and Timor Leste).

In the implementation of the dialogue held in Semarang in 2012, the document "Semarang Plan of Action" was produced which agreed to organize the Future Faith Leaders Scholarship.

Next is the Asia Pacific Inter Faith Youth Camp (APIFYC) in Surabaya; ASEM Interfaith Dialogue held in Bali-Indonesia, Larnaca-Cyprus, Nanjing-China, Den Haag-Holland, Seoul-South Korea, and Toledo-Manila; Asia Europe Youth Interfaith Dialogue in Bandung; APEC Intercultural and Faith Symposium in Yogyakarta; and Global Peace Forum Interfaith Youth Camp in Bali and Makassar.

At the global / multilateral level, there is The Non-Aligned Movement on Interfaith Dialogue and Cooperation in Manila and United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) held annually since 2008, and Indonesia is always actively participating each year.

UNAOC was held in Madrid (2008), Istanbul (2009), Rio de Janeiro (2010), Doha (2011), Vienna (2013), and Jakarta (2014).

The Indonesian Arts and Culture Scholarship Program (BSBI) began in 2003 in cooperation with five cultural centers in five cities in Indonesia, namely in Bandung, Solo, Surabaya, Makassar, Bali and Yogyakarta.

The program is implemented for about 3 months and concluded with an art and cultural presentation "Indonesia Channel", which showcases the artistic abilities of BSBI participants in music, dance, local wisdom (batik, weaving, leaf, painting, etc.) and Indonesian language.

Total participants / alumni up to 2016 were 718 people from 63 countries, such as SWP, Pacific Island, ASEAN, India, South Africa, USA, UK, Austria, and the Netherlands. The Indonesia Channel presentation, other than as an award for BSBI participants' hard work for studying Indonesian art and culture, is also aimed in inspiring young Indonesians to appreciate their own cultural arts.

Outstanding Students

for the World is a program dedicated to outstanding students throughout Indonesia with an approximate total of 20 participants every year. The program aims; to enable participants to understand RI's foreign policy and diplomacy at the bilateral and multilateral levels; to encourage young Indonesians to excel at the global level; to make it as a means of promotion and enhancement for Indonesia's image abroad; to increase understanding of international issues; to increase nationalism and love of NKRI.

Countries visited by OSTW participants were the United States (2011), Japan (2012), United Kingdom (2013), Canada (2014), South Korea (2015), Hong Kong (2016), and India (2017).

The aim of The Presidential Friends of Indonesia program, first implemented in 2008, is improving understanding and providing updates regarding Indonesian development to foreign public figures, especially Indonesianists or those interested in Indonesia and having influence in the country. []



# Public Diplomacy Is Not Propaganda



In general, the understanding of public diplomacy is an attempt to influence the international public (other countries) in order to achieve a country's national interest. This effort is usually done by establishing a communication network as a forum for foreign policy promotion. Coordinated by the government, the parties involved in this effort are non-state actors such as NGOs, mass media, community groups, political parties, parliaments, individuals (religious leaders, journalists, artists), and so on.

A lot of parties view public diplomacy as propaganda, nation-branding, or an exchange of art and culture. However, public diplomacy is essentially not limited to these things but includes broader and more substantive activities.

In the Indonesian context, public diplomacy is slightly different from that of many other countries, especially developed countries. Indonesia conducts public diplomacy not

only to the international public but also to the domestic public.

This practice is influenced by the fact that international politics is heavily influenced by the internal factors of a country, and on the other hand, the dynamics of domestic politics are also heavily influenced by various international issues. For this reason, there is a need for a mechanism that can bridge the dynamics of foreign countries for domestic development. Thus, the domestic public is expected to understand more and more international issues, especially issues that cross the country's borders (borderless) in an increasingly open international world.

The interesting part with public diplomacy's implementation is the dominant factors that influenced Indonesia in conducting comprehensive public diplomacy, including the WTC Tragedy on September 11, 2001. After the event, numerous negative perspectives on Islam emerged, which ultimately

blamed Islam for the event, and various views surfaced that identified Islam with violence.

As a country with the largest Muslim population in the world, Indonesia is very concerned with the development of negative stereotype issues. To prevent the occurrence of a clash of civilization caused by the lack of understanding of each other, it is necessary to hold various interfaith cooperation activities involving various stakeholders, both from outside and within the country. Thus, in the end, the public will understand where the exact position of religion and culture is in the various conflicts and terror that often blame religion as the cause.

Next is the growing view that democracy is the best system to achieve progress. In this context, Indonesia, considered one of the largest democracies in the world, also thinks the same. However, the democratic values that should be understood here are the values of democracy that grew from values that developed within the society of that country (home-grown democracy), not the values of democracy developed by other countries.

In this case, public diplomacy can be a tool to convey to the public additional understanding on democracy. In addition, it can also be a facility to share experiences with friendly countries on the practice of democracy.

With the implementation of public diplomacy practice, there is optimism that a

comprehensive understanding of various international issues will arise so that the public will be able to understand the foreign policy measures chosen by the government. The birth of a partnership between state / government and interested non-state actors in the future is the ideal goal of achievement.

The Indonesian Art and Culture Scholarship (BSBI) and Future Faith Leaders are the government's public diplomacy policy efforts in promoting cultural diversity and domestic religious life in countries in the Asia Pacific region.

The emergence of negative sentiments to religious life in Indonesia as well as other countries in the Asia Pacific region is due to rampant acts of violence and terrorism in recent times.

Research results showed that effort in implementing a policy of public diplomacy, in order to influence and create foreign public perception, will run more effectively when emphasized on three layers of public diplomacy, namely; public diplomacy through monologue efforts, followed by dialogue, and complemented by collaborative efforts.

Through the Future Faith Leaders scholarship, which is conducted as a public diplomacy effort, Indonesia is able to change the negative perception of the foreign public and then create a common perception in order to improve inter-faith understanding in the Asia Pacific region. [] (Source: scribd.com)

# Public Diplomacy Strategies Embraces Various Actors

Dean Edmund Gullion of Fletcher School of Law Diplomacy, Tufts University, USA, first used the term public diplomacy in 1965. By definition: "By public diplomacy we understand the means by which government, private groups and individuals influence the attitudes and opinions of other peoples and governmental organizations in the foreign policy decisions."

"Through public diplomacy, we understand the intentions of a country, interest groups, and individuals in behaving and arguing with someone or other countries that can influence foreign policy decisions of other countries".

According to the international relations term dictionary published by the US Department of Foreign Affairs in 1987; "Public diplomacy refers to government-sponsored programs intended to inform or influence public opinion in other countries; its chief instruments are publications, motion pictures, cultural exchange, radio and television."

"Public diplomacy refers to government-sponsored programs with the intention of informing or influencing public opinion in other countries through publications, films, cultural exchanges, radio and television as the main instruments".

The effectiveness of public diplomacy should be seen from two dimensions, which is how to analyze and understand the ways used in communicating what will be conveyed to the public at home and abroad.

Public diplomacy includes all activities undertaken by the state and non-state actors in contributing to the maintenance and promotion of soft power. The soft power of the state is

created through the activities of players and various organizations that influence the public, both artists, art and music galleries, community activists and non-governmental organizations, politicians, parties and political experts, writers and literacy associations, journalists and media groups, business people, companies and products, academics and universities, leaders and religious groups, and others.

Public diplomacy strategy does not only put the country in image development programs that are interesting locally but also globally. The interaction between government and various actors in the country is very important in public diplomacy.

The possibility of building an image from such interactions allows for a variety of activities, activities and programs that capture foreign public space. Together with the success of public diplomacy, there will be increased interaction between government and various non-state actors at home and abroad.

To improve the country's image, Indonesia conducts a public diplomacy strategy by way of, among others, empowering moderates, promoting people to people contact, disseminating information about foreign policy, embracing and influencing domestic and foreign public, and gathering suggestions and inputs for the implementation of foreign policy.

The strategy is in collaboration with community organizations such as Muhammadiyah, NU, religious organizations, various figures, academics and universities in Indonesia and abroad, NGOs, ASEAN + 3 countries, EU Member States and the Southwest

Pacific Dialogue Forum (SwPD), journalists and media both domestic and foreign, as well as various other interested actors.

Public diplomacy is nothing new, but in response to the changing and dynamic challenge of the world, the Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs established the Directorate of Public Diplomacy in 2002. With the creation of the Directorate of Public Diplomacy, there are facilities that can maintain and coordinate the implementation of public diplomacy consistently. In addition, the provision of funds, personnel, and material substance can be planned better and more guided.

The conception is an effort to adjust and respond to the challenges of world development, both in international relations, diplomacy, information technology, globalization, as well as actual issues. In addition, it is also to further optimize public diplomacy in order to achieve the goal of a moderate, democratic, and progressive Indonesia.

Public diplomacy takes advantage of what Indonesia already has in various forms of supportive activities. Namely, religious and cultural diversity packaged in the activities of Interfaith Dialogue, Global Inter-Media Dialogue, Indonesian Art and Culture Scholarship (BSBI), Darmasiswa Scholarship, and cultural performances of Indonesia both at home and abroad. In addition, foreign policy is also utilized through seminars, workshops, and discussions.

So is Indonesia's democratization. Indonesia's democracy process and experience became an asset in implementing the Bali Democracy Forum, Asia's first inter-governmental forum on

democracy.

Communication became a vital thing in disseminating its existence to the community, building a positive image in order to gain support, gaining public opinion to help policy formulation, and building network to support work effectiveness.

The communication process of public diplomacy, in the form of a discussion forum between the Minister of Foreign Affairs with public figures, is very useful and effective in communicating the direction and foreign policy, as well as gathering input and opinion that is developing in the community. Moreover, through this forum, it built foreign policy constituencies in various domestic public segments that have proven capable of encouraging public participation in supporting government diplomacy efforts.

In addition, to support public communication, various books, magazines and journals have also been published as a source of information for various circles of society. Such as "Access" and "Market Info" magazines that convey information about overseas market opportunities to businessmen. It also published "Overseas Journal" and "Pejambon 6" which aims to encourage discussion on various foreign policy issues among academics. There is also a "WTO Bulletin" that addresses the development of multilateral trading issues and "IDEAS" on ASEAN, as well as "Tabloid Diplomacy" which conveys information about public diplomacy activities to the general public, especially among the younger generation and students. []



# Building a Democratic, Moderate, and Progressive Image of Indonesia through Public Diplomacy

Public diplomacy is one of the results of modern diplomacy development which further emphasizes soft power diplomacy or more to efforts aimed at influencing the public in the country and abroad through information, culture, and education as its main instruments. In other words, public diplomacy is used to improve or build a good image.

Building a democratic, moderate, and progressive image of Indonesia through public diplomacy is not an easy and inexpensive one. The effort of public diplomacy in building the image of Indonesia by highlighting the uniqueness and the advantages possessed has attracted attention in the midst of intense competition among many countries in seizing the attention of the world.

Indonesia is a country different and unique compared to other countries, where various identities and traditional cultures co-exist to form a national identity without melting the traditional identity itself. Indonesia is the largest archipelagic country in the world with 17,508 islands, with over 500 tribes and 700 dialects used by over 240 million people in 33 provinces.

In international forums, Indonesia is currently known as the third largest democratic country after India and the United States, as well as the country with the largest Muslim population in the world.

Due to significant developments and changes

in the world, Indonesia is currently facing issues of: poverty reduction, educational improvement, terrorism prevention, democratic consolidation, implementation of economic and financial reforms, tackling corruption, climate change, and controlling the SARS outbreak.

The development of Indonesia's efforts to address these issues or solve the problems leads to an attempt to display a positive image to the public at home and abroad.

In addition to security issues, economic prosperity, and promotion of ideology, a positive image is also an issue of national interest because the national image of a nation will affect the attitude of other countries. A positive image is to shape public opinion for the achievement of broader national interests.

Public diplomacy is an appropriate means to seize public opinion through the promotion of the image of the country because public diplomacy emphasizes the use of soft power through information, culture and education. In this case, the process of image formation and perception becomes very important because "winning hearts and minds" becomes the essence and purpose of public diplomacy.

Due to international development and challenges, including globalization and democracy, Indonesia feels the need to further develop public diplomacy. In 2002,

the Ministry of Foreign Affairs established a Directorate of Public Diplomacy directed at presenting a moderate, democratic and progressive face of Indonesia, and building diplomatic constituencies by working together and engaging all foreign relations stakeholders.

Moderate Indonesia refers to a pluralistic and tolerant Indonesian society and, 86% of them are Muslim. Various expressions of traditional and contemporary cultural art can co-exist without fusing each other's identity. This shows that Indonesian society is an open society and can accept and respect differences, as shown in the national motto "Bhineka Tunggal Ika".

Reformation of democracy and the holding of direct and multi party elections in 2004 is a success of democratization in Indonesia. Democracy has also penetrated the lives of the people, where Indonesians always utilize peaceful settlement of conflicts.

The financial crisis that hit Asia in mid-1997 also resulted in economic, social and political instability in Indonesia. Indonesia deals with the challenges of the global financial crisis and the declining global economy by reforming the financial, tax and customs sectors, and supervising capital markets and investments. Indonesia's success in recovering and improving the economy quickly became a capital for imaging itself as a progressive nation.

Indonesia is also considered progressive in finding and creating new breakthroughs in solving domestic, regional and international problems. The Interfaith Dialogue activity initiated by the Directorate of Public Diplomacy has reflected Indonesia as a moderate, pluralist and tolerant nation, and a peaceful country and always puts forward dialogue and mediation in problem solving.

Next is the Indonesian Art and Culture Scholarship program (BSBI) aimed at introducing the richness of Indonesian art and culture to the international world, as well as the Global Intermedia Dialogue, which discusses the role of the media in developing sensitivity and tolerance among cultures and religions, as well as other activities.

To build and develop a communicative approach, the Directorate of Public Diplomacy also organizes People to People Contact through cultural exchanges, forums for young people, seminars, workshops, TV and radio programs, Indonesian Night programs, symposium and similar activities.

These programs aim to improve the image of Indonesia in order to influence the public at home and abroad so as to strengthen the relationship and understanding of Indonesia, which will later become the basis for the bilateral and multilateral cooperation with other countries.[]

# Bhinneka Tunggal Ika Inspires the KAA's 62nd Anniversary



The Asian-African Conference (KAA) enters its 62nd year since its first meeting on April 18-24, 1955. The KAA held in Bandung has achieved great success, both in unifying attitudes and formulating guidelines of cooperation among Asian-African nations, as well as in participating to help create world order and peace.

President Joko Widodo opened this event directly. Present at the Palace included the 5th President Megawati Soekarnoputri, Vice President Jusuf Kalla, Coordinating Minister for Political, Legal and Security Affairs Wiranto, Minister of Foreign Affairs Retno Marsudi, Minister of Transportation Budi K Sumadi, Chief of Staff of President Teten Masduki, Minister of Maritime and Fisheries Susi Pudjiastuti, and Vice Chairman DPR Fahri Hamzah. Ambassadors of Asian-African countries also attended this

anniversary.

In his speech, President Joko Widodo raised Indonesia's diversity through the motto of Bhinneka Tunggal Ika. Indonesia's nature is managing diversity, managing plurality, managing diversity.

Based on the Central Bureau of Statistics (BPS), President Joko Widodo said that Indonesia has 1,340 tribes, various races, and various religions. Nevertheless, Indonesia remains harmonious and peaceful. The notions of radicalism and terrorism will divide the unity of the nation and state, as well as disrupt the stability of world peace.

"Indonesia can still develop with good economic growth. And among the G-20 member countries, Indonesia's economic growth of 2016 in the second quarter



is ranked in the top three below China and India. Therefore, we, Indonesia has become a reference," said President Jokowi.

If Indonesia became one of the initiators of the Asia-Africa solidarity and inspiration of colonized countries for independence in 1955, the President continued, now Indonesia has become a reference in managing ethnic diversity, managing religious diversity, managing racial diversity, and managing diversity among groups.

In addition, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, it is ensured that Indonesian

diplomatic machinery and Indonesian foreign policy will consistently continue to voice world peace, in line with Indonesia's diplomatic focus in 2017 where Indonesia will ensure peace and stability in the region, prioritizing CoC negotiations.

Therefore, in honor of that diversity, President Jokowi invites all world leaders to continue to voice respect for plurality.

"I am also conveying this message directly to Asian and African leaders," said the President while expressing his hope that the spirit of Bhinneka Tunggal Ika will also be the spirit of Asia Africa.[] (Source: Setkab)





# In Commemoration of KAA, One Hundred Foreign Students Gather at the KAA Museum

International students attend the International Students Gathering which is held in the series of 62 KAA Anniversary at Museum KAA, Friday (21/4/2017). (Photo Source: KAA Museum Documentation)



The KAA Museum has many students from Asia Africa. Up to now, there are already 150 Asian African students. They joined the Sahabat Museum KAA (SMKAA). There are two communities of foreign students under the SMKAA, namely Young African Ambassadors in Asia (YAAA) and Asian Students Association in Indonesia (ASAI).

In the series of KAA's 62nd celebration, KAA Museum held an International Students Gathering (ISG) on Friday (21/4/2017) evening in order to foster good relationships between foreign students. About 100 students attended the event and they were not only Asians and Africans but also Americans, Australians,

and Europeans.

The Secretary of the Directorate General of Information and Public Diplomacy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Azis Nurwahyudi in his speech said, "The Government of Indonesia through the KNB scholarship has provided opportunities for potential students from developing countries to study at the best 16 universities in Indonesia."

Azis also reiterated that the golden opportunity is expected to have a positive impact on them later after returning home from Indonesia. In addition, during their stay in Indonesia, they can promote the culture of their respective countries. Understanding each other's

culture is the initial step to advance world peace in the wider scope.

The KAA Museum through the ISG intends to strengthen the relationship cooperation that has been well maintained so far not only with the foreign students, but also with the office of international affairs in various universities in the

city of Bandung. Furthermore, the KAA Museum in the future will continue to develop the enrichment of the KAA Conservation Value program with the international affairs office for foreign students in Bandung City.

The ISG event began with a contemporary Sundanese dance performed by a group of dancers from the Santika dance art. The dance was greatly received. The thrilling applause from foreign students who filled the KAA Museum Permanent Exhibition Room warmed the atmosphere of hospitality. Furthermore, the committee invited the foreign students in parlor games. There were many philosophical messages behind it. Among them is to foster sportsmanship and mutual cooperation.

In the ISG event, foreign students received a reflection of the KAA Values and a brief exposure of the spirit of Bandung delivered by KAA Museum educator Desmond S. Andrian. Meanwhile, the latest development on the Non-aligned Movement, as a follow-up to the ideals of KAA, was presented by Venezuelan Ambassador to Indonesia, Gladys Urbaneja. []

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Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Republic of Indonesia

## Young RI Diplomats Explore Regional Potential, Promote Economic Diplomacy



Four Young Indonesian Diplomats from Batch 58 of the Foreign Service Staff School (Sesdilu) conducted a review of the region potential of Bengkulu Province on 4-8 April 2017. These diplomats were received directly by the Governor of Bengkulu, Dr. Ridwan Mukti and Head of Bappeda, BKPM, Bengkulu Province Tourism Official, including the Head of the Liaison Office of Bengkulu in Jakarta at the Office of the Governor of Bengkulu (5/4).

Irma Riyani (Directorate of Law and Economic Agreement), Yvonne Mewengkang (Directorate of International Security and Disarmament), Maradona Runtukahu (Bureau

of Organization Planning), and Sahrul Murajjab (Directorate of Africa) made a direct visit to Bengkulu to enrich knowledge and increase the commitment of Indonesian diplomats in promoting regional potential abroad. This effort is in line with the mandate of the President of the Republic of Indonesia who requested the Indonesian diplomats to serve as "marketers" in improving Indonesia's economic diplomacy abroad.

"The visit of these young diplomats coincided with various agenda and plans of the Bengkulu Provincial Government to advance the region through a number of priority programs, in which the

role of the Foreign Ministry and RI Representatives abroad is huge. It is like a beloved shoot that arrived," said Bengkulu Governor in the meeting.

Governor Ridwan Mukti added that his side is strengthening Bengkulu's primary commodities such as palm, rubber, coffee and mining products, while addressing existing infrastructure challenges. Almost 50% of villages in Bengkulu Province are isolated due to limited access, electricity, and information.

In addition to addressing poverty, backwardness, and infrastructure barriers, the Bengkulu Governor also focuses its task on the transformation

of the bureaucracy with a vision of serving and corruption free. The Bengkulu provincial government expects that these efforts can support the Wonderful Visit Bengkulu 2020 program.

During their visit in Bengkulu, Sesdilu 58 participants will also meet with local SMEs and Bengkulu's primary commodity companies. In addition, the four diplomats will have dialogue with students at the University of Bengkulu on foreign policy of the Republic of Indonesia, as well as visit a number of local media in Bengkulu. []