

## Defense Diplomacy Strategy in Handling Transnational Crimes at the Sea Borders of Indonesia – Malaysia – Filipina



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**ABSTRACT:** Transnational crimes, especially terrorism, were committed by the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) on the Indonesian – Malaysian Sea border considered by Indonesia as a threat that can disrupt the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Indonesia. Because transnational crimes occur on the borders of three countries, they cannot be handled independently. Therefore, Indonesia together with Malaysia and the Philippines carry out defense diplomacy in the form of a Trilateral Cooperative Agreement (TCA) to deal with transnational crimes in the border area. The purpose of this study is to analyze Indonesia's defense strategy in handling transnational crimes at Indonesia's maritime borders. – Malaysia - Philippines and analyzes Indonesia's defense diplomacy in handling transnational crimes at the Indonesia - Malaysia - Philippines sea border. This study uses a qualitative phenomenological method. Data collection was conducted by interview and literature study (Trilateral Cooperative Agreement TCA) is a response in dealing with transnational crimes in the Sulu-Sulawesi Sea region. With its various series of activities, this collaboration plays an important role in efforts to maintain regional security and stability. The Indonesian Defense Diplomacy Strategy in the TCA aims to increase mutual trust and defense capabilities in terms of coordination, communication and joint exercises. Therefore, the defense diplomacy strategy in this research can be said to have fulfilled two main characters of defense diplomacy, namely; defense diplomacy to build mutual trust and defense diplomacy to build defense capability. Besides being able to reduce the number of transnational crimes at the sea borders of Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines.

**KEYWORDS:** Transnational Crime, Trilateral Cooperative Agreement, Defense Diplomacy Strategy, Abu Sayyaf Group

### INTRODUCTION

The continuous development of globalization has forced a country to continuously improve its national security and defense in securing its territorial sovereignty and national interests from various forms of existing threats. One of the most crucial developments in the current era of globalization is marked by advances in science and technology so that it affects the level of transnational-crime. Transnational crime is a form of crime that poses a serious threat to global security and prosperity given its nature which involves various countries. Transnational crime today has become a serious threat to global security and prosperity.

One form of transnational terrorism crime that occurred on the border of the Indonesian, Malaysian and Philippine Seas (Sulu-Sulawesi Sea) was carried out by the Abu Sayyaf (ASG) group. The ASG emerged in 1989 as a split from the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF). ASG is a separatist group consisting of militias based around the southern Philippines, including Jolo, Basilan and Mindanao. The ASG group often carries out bombings, killings, kidnappings and extortion in an effort to establish an Islamic state in the west of Mindanao and the Sulu Archipelago. ASG's area of operation in the Sulu Sea is very strategic considering that these waters are a large marine area in the southwest of the Philippines that has access to the South China Sea and is located between the Sabah Peninsula and the Visayas and Mindanao regions. The phenomenon of crimes committed by the Abu Sayyaf group in the sea waters of Sulu-Sulawesi has made the countries of Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines as Litoral States in the Sulu-Sulawesi Sea area and also as countries that are often affected in several cases of piracy and kidnapping to initiate comprehensive cooperation as a response and also preventive action against these crimes. This cooperation was agreed after several meetings to discuss the framework of cooperation and points of agreement in carrying out security in the Sulu-Sulawesi Sea. The three countries have held a series of high-level meetings and issued a joint statement on security in the Sulu-Sulawesi Sea in an agreement called the Trilateral Co-operative Arrangement (TCA). (Mahmud, 2020).

In the process of securing the Sulu-Sulawesi Sea area, it appears that this phenomenon can be studied through defense diplomacy as a strategy to neutralize existing cross-border problems that threaten the region. The concept of defense diplomacy is one of the country's options to improve relations between countries, increase military capabilities - both personnel and defense equipment, as well as an option to eradicate lurking threats. With the existence of defense diplomacy in the choice of state ammunition, especially countries that are scouted and affected by the existence of dangerous groups or entities around their territory. In defense diplomacy, according to Cottey and Foster (2004), there are several points regarding the use of military apparatus along with its infrastructure

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for defense diplomacy purposes. One of the activities that can be carried out is defense cooperation agreements – both between countries and across countries. Defense diplomacy can be a door for security cooperation in a region, not least regarding regional security due to nontraditional threats, for example, such as trilateral security cooperation in the Sulu-Sulawesi Sea – the method used is to use the instruments of officers and third-level security officials. countries to build cooperation.

The strategies implemented by the three countries can be seen through the lens of defense diplomacy, so the aspect that will be focused on is of course security cooperation, especially that carried out by Indonesia against Malaysia and the Philippines, as well as security cooperation that takes place simultaneously. Executed simultaneously is certainly encouraged because all security activities carried out by the three countries in the Sulu-Sulawesi Sea area are carried out simultaneously under the Trilateral Cooperative Arrangement. However, more emphasis will be placed on the strategic aspect from the Indonesian side. Therefore, researchers are interested in researching and focusing research on defense diplomacy strategies for handling transnational crimes at the Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippinesea border. This research is limited to the handling of transnational terrorism crimes in the maritime border area of Indonesia - Malaysia - the Philippines.

### THEORY AND CONCEPT

#### Defense Theory

Development of the strategic environment demands a continuous study of the phenomena that occur, especially those related to security and defense threats. It takes a special branch of science to study and discuss defense (defense).

According to Syarifudin Tippe (2012), argues that defense science has brought useful implications and has become a branch of science. As a branch of science, defense science has aspects of ontology, epistemology, and axiology. Meanwhile, according to Supriyatno (2014) defines Defense science as the management of the utilization of elements of national power and resources owned both during conditions of peace, war and after war in the face of threats to the sovereignty and integrity of the state and the safety of the nation. If examined more deeply, defense science also has a role in the international world. The interaction that occurs between countries positions defense science to continue to contribute to the realization of an international security that also benefits a country's defense position.

#### Strategy Theory

Theory The theory of strategy is fully explained by Harry R. Yarger in his book "Strategic Theory for the 21st Century: The Little Book on Big Strategy". In his book, he explains the definition of strategy as a careful calculation related to objectives, concepts, and tools in a certain size by taking into account the existing risks so as to achieve strategic goals is also an art to develop national strength and integrate it with the strategic environment to achieve goals. national. The concept will provide guidelines for the state in maximizing its national interest while minimizing threats.

Another theory about strategy is the strategy theory presented by Arthur F. Lykke Jr (2001), about military strategy (*military strategy*). Conceptually, the theory compiled by Arthur F. Lykke Jr. is almost the same as Liddle Hart, namely dividing strategy into *ends*, *ways*, and *means*. However, the military style is thick in the preparation of this theory. According to Arthur F. Lykke Jr., that in general the purpose of Military Purpose is to reduce the threat of aggression, protect the lines of communication, defend the country, seize the invaded area, and defeat the enemy. Military strategy concept in this case is defined as a way or method to achieve a goal. This can be realized through activities in the form of *forward defense*, *forward deployment*, *strategic reserves*, *show of force*, *collective security* and *security assistance*. The selection of *the military strategic concept* must consider *military objectives* and *military resources*. Meanwhile, related to military resources, talk about the "*meansa* strategy. This is in the form of availability such as nuclear power, advanced weapon systems, defense and attack forces, and other equipment to support the achievement of goals (Lykke Jr, 2001).

#### Transnational Crime Concept

Transnational crime is a juridical term regarding the science of crime, which was created by the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice in terms of identifying certain criminal phenomena that cross international borders, violate the laws of some countries, or have an impact on other countries.

According to Cherif Bassiouni (2013), said that *transnational crime or transnational crime* is a crime that has an impact on more than one country, a crime that involves or has an impact on citizens of more than one country, the facilities and infrastructure and the methods used exceed the boundaries. -the territorial boundaries of a country. So, the term transnational crime is intended to indicate the existence of crimes that are actually national (within national boundaries), but in some cases are related to the interests of other countries. So, it appears that there are two or more countries that have an interest in or are related to the crime.

According to *the United Nations Convention on Transnational Organized Crime* in 2000, a crime can be called transnational if it:

1. Committed in more than one country,
2. The Preparation, planning, direction and supervision are carried out in another country,

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3. Involves *an organized criminal group* where the crime is committed in more than one country, and serious impact on other countries.

### Defense Diplomacy Concept

Defense diplomacy as a concept was put forward by Andrew Cottey and Forster (2004) in their book "*Reshaping Defense Diplomacy*" as follows:

*"The concept of defense diplomacy encapsulates the idea that armed forces and related defense infrastructures have the potential to contribute to international security. not only by deterring and if necessary fighting wars, but also by helping to promote a more cooperative and stable international environment".*

Furthermore, Cottey and Forster see that *Military Corporation and Military Assistance* are the main components in defense diplomacy. Basically, defense diplomacy cannot be separated from military and defense activities which are key actors in diplomacy. Meanwhile, according to Muthanna (2011), the purpose of defense diplomacy is to support the achievement of national interests in defense policies both at home and abroad. In the context of cooperation at global and regional levels, defense diplomacy provides a platform for continued cooperation, builds *trust*, conflict management, introduces a transparent culture in the defense sector, builds common goals, changes the mindset of other countries and as a way to open cooperation in other fields.

### International Cooperation Concept

International cooperation is a form of condition of the international community which is mutually dependent on one another. We need a forum that can accommodate an activity of interaction between countries in cooperating in order to fulfill national needs. This international cooperation also aims to meet the needs of each country and is determined by the common interests of the countries involved in a cooperation (Perwita, 2005). Therefore, it is necessary to have regional cooperation to overcome these problems by forming a *border patrol*. Southeast Asia has focused more attention on transnational crime, which is increasingly out of control at this time. This is evidenced by the establishment of the *ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime* (AMMTC) program which is part of the pillars of the ASEAN Security Community.

One of the goals of defense cooperation is to increase the country's defense capabilities through various things, including efforts to build mutual trust between nations, increase defense capacity, and the defense industry. Defense cooperation is also directed at increasing involvement in world maintenance missions under the auspices of the United Nations and other international institutions, as part of the implementation of the state goals outlined in the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, namely participating in maintaining world order and peace.

## RESEARCH METHOD

This journal uses a descriptive-qualitative method. Sources of data obtained consist of primary and secondary sources obtained in the form of narrative data, descriptions and not numbers. The primary data in this study are the results of interviews with related institutions such as the Ministry of Defense, TNI Headquarters and Headquarters. While secondary data is data obtained indirectly from the source where this is taken from additional data that can help researchers such as books, articles in magazines or newspapers, and internet sites. These data are data related to the handling of transnational crimes at the sea borders of Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines.

## DISCUSS

### Analysis Of Defense Strategies In Handling Transnational Crimes At The Indonesian – Malaysia – Philippines Sea Border

Strategy according to the definition of Arthur F. Lykke Jr (2001) is the art of allocating and using (*ways*) military means (*means*) to realize the final goals (*ends*) of the national defense system. Transnational crimes according to M. Cherif Bassiouni (2013), are actions that have an impact on more than one country, actions that involve or have an impact on citizens of more than one country, and the infrastructure and methods used exceed the territorial boundaries of a country. Transnational crime is closely related to the boundaries of a country. National borders are basically an imaginary line that separates one country from another, both physically and non-physically.

National borders play an important role in maintaining national and regional stability which function more deeply to minimize threats from both domestic and foreign. If a transnational crime occurs that is carried out beyond national borders, of course this crime is a threat to national stability. As transnational crimes increase, the ability of the state to control its borders decreases. In addition, this transnational crime can also cause conflict within a region. Thus, it is important for every country to provide defense against national borders so that forms of transnational crime do not penetrate national borders.

#### A. Objectives (Ends)

Based on the situation in the Sulu-Sulawesi Sea, Indonesia's sovereignty and the security of its people are threatened by the existence of the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG). The presence of ASG in the Sulu Sea can be categorized as a transnational crime. Transnational crimes that occur at sea borders but have significant consequences affecting other countries. Like the crimes that occurred in the Philippines, this crime will affect other countries, such as Indonesia as one of the victims of piracy and kidnapping

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by armed groups based in the waters of the Southern Philippines. This is a strong reason for the Indonesian government to protect its national interests, especially in the Sulu-Sulawesi Sea.

The purpose of Indonesia's defense strategy in handling transnational crimes at the Sulu-Sulawesi-sea border is to achieve the national interest. National interests in this case are interests in the fields of sovereignty, economy and security. Furthermore, in general, Indonesia's goal in handling transnational crimes in the Sulu-Sulawesi Sea is to establish trilateral cooperation with Malaysia and the Philippines to deal with transnational crimes, especially terrorism, piracy and kidnapping by asking for ransom in the waters of the Sulu-Sulawesi Sea through the establishment of the *Trilateral Cooperative Agreement*. TCA) to increase mutual trust (*confidence building measure*), *defense capability* and maintain regional security stability. This is in line with the General Policy of National Defense (Jakumhaneg) for 2020-2024 and the Decree of the Minister of Defense Number Kep/487/M/V/2020 concerning the National Defense Policy (Jakhaneg).

### B. Ways (ENDS)

The success of a strategy is not only determined by the goals (ends) and means (means), it is also determined by the ways / methods (ways). According to Yarger (2006), ways / methods (ways) to achieve goals serves as a way to apply national power and provides a role for sources of power to act like what, when, why, and how. So that it can be a guide for the implementation of a strategy. The application of the elements of ways that is done well can increase the possibility of achieving goals (ends). One of the efforts to tackle terrorism attacks at sea in the ASEAN region is to increase regional cooperation. ASEAN is an intra-regional cooperation forum in the Southeast Asia region. ASEAN has a common interest to cooperate in fighting transnational crimes, especially terrorism. Because terrorism is a transnational crime, cooperation between ASEAN members is needed to tackle terrorism crimes at sea (Ani Yuniarti, 2008).

According to Whelan (2012), Coordinated Patrol is considered a suitable model for developing relations between countries related to common maritime security goals. This model can maximize the availability of resources owned by each littoral state. This cooperation is divided into three categories, namely maritime patrols, air patrols, and the exchange of intelligence information. This cooperation also builds an information network that facilitates communication and exchange of information between countries. element ways are the establishment of the Maritime Command Center (MCC). namely MCC Tarakan Indonesia, MCC Tawao Malaysia and MCC Bungao Philippines which are centers of information and intelligence sharing which are important factors in supporting the implementation of the Indomalphi Trilateral Maritime Patrol. The establishment of MCC in the three countries is expected to be able to reduce and minimize incidents that may occur in the territorial waters and become a joint concern of the three countries (Ramadhan, 2018).

The Maritime Command Center (MCC) will function as a monitoring and analysis center that sends signals to marine patrols to take action. It can be assumed that this coordinated patrol model relies heavily on information centers. Of course, this model has the risk that the information received is overlapping or delayed. However, this model is able to strengthen the sensitivity of the actors involved regarding the situation and conditions that occurred at that time (Ho et al, 2013). is also operated Corridor (Attamimi, 2020), the Transit Corridor is one of the efforts to prevent crime in the Sulu Sea by going through several routes that have been proposed by Malaysia and the Philippines in the process of establishing the MCC. The Transit Corridor that was created surrounds the Sulu archipelago which is assumed to be a base for groups who will commit crimes at sea to formulate plans and strategies. The Transit Corridor, which is one of these efforts, was formed with the aim of being an alternative for ships that want to pass through areas that are considered red zones. Not only as an alternative route, but also providing assistance in the form of maritime assistance for ships that want to pass and continue their journey through the Sulu Sea, Sulawesi.

Other ways are carrying out Port Visits. Port Visit is an activity of visiting ships to other countries where activities in the form of warship exercises are also carried out in a scenario that has been jointly planned. In activities both at home and abroad, several agendas are carried out such as courtesy calls, holding seminars, and discussions on how to improve cooperation so that it is more effective and efficient in carrying out patrols (Chaer, 2021). Until the beginning of 2020, 5 Port Visits have been carried out where this activity was first held on 13 to 15 November 2017 in the Philippines, Port Visit was held on 4-6 April 2018 in Tarakan, Port Visit was held on 4 to 6 September 2018 in Sandakan, Port Visit was held on 28-30 November 2018 in Zamboanga, and Port Visit was held on 25-27 February 2019 in Tarakan. This activity is carried out regularly with a schedule that has been mutually agreed upon in this activity (Ministry of Defense, 2021).

Indonesia's strategic move to establish cooperation in the Trilateral Cooperative Arrangement is a real step in achieving ways in maintaining the security of the sea, land and air areas sub-cooperation Trilateral Maritime Patrol greatly contributes to the achievement of Indonesia's strategic goals, namely increasing maritime security in accordance with the World Maritime Axis (PMD) policy and also serves as a bridge in creating confidence building measures (CBM) and eliminating security dilemmas and can cause a deterrent for groups-terrorist groups in the ASEAN region.

### C. Ways (ENDS)

Strategy in the military sector is aimed at using existing resources to achieve national goals or interests. In another sense, strategy indicates that strategy is intended to distribute or apply resources (*means*) to achieve the ultimate goal, namely the national interest.

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The meanings of the strategy show that the organization of owned resources is a crucial aspect in order to achieve national goals or interests. This requires careful planning in determining how to achieve this. The National Defense Strategy book issued by the Government of Indonesia in 2015 contains defense facilities or resources. In the 2015 National Defense Strategy, it is stated that national defense resources are transformed into elements of national strength consisting of elements of military and non-military defense forces. The elements of the military defense force consist of the main component (TNI), the reserve component, and the supporting component. Meanwhile, the elements of non-military defense force consist of the main elements (ministry/institutions) and other elements of the nation's strength as supporters of the main elements.

According to Joseph Nye (2004), developments in the current era of globalization, security cooperation is very important to adopt a soft approach (*soft power*) for the success of cooperation in the security sector. Joseph Nye's soft approach that emphasizes creating a *positive image* and upholding universal values such as world peace. In addition to having a *hard power*, Indonesia also has *soft power* a nonmilitary. These modalities include experience in tackling terrorism, organizational maturity, institutional structure, and diplomatic skills. The modality in the form of *soft power* is an advantage for Indonesia in conducting defense diplomacy at TCA. The modalities that Indonesia has in the field of counter-terrorism can be seen as a competitive advantage. The TNI-Polri synergy in tackling terrorism has caught and exposed many terrorist groups operating in Indonesia. This indicates that efforts to combat terrorism in Indonesia are carried out comprehensively.

But on the other hand, *means* still need a defense budget to increase the number of defense equipment and bases. The number of existing defense equipment and bases is not comparable to the vast waters of the Sulu - Sulawesi Sea that must be secured. In addition, it is also necessary to create a legal umbrella for regulations derived from Law number 34 of 2004 concerning the TNI, where one of the tasks of the TNI OMSP is to carry out border area security.

### INDONESIAN DEFENSE DIPLOMACY IN HANDLING TRANSNATIONAL CRIMES AT THE INDONESIA – MALAYSIA – PHILIPPINES SEA BORDER

Diplomacy can be understood as the implementation of a country's foreign policy. In this context, defense diplomacy is defined as diplomacy carried out by the TNI in the context of supporting foreign policy or implementing state/defense policy and political decisions and supporting various international problems. Defense diplomacy of Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines has built a sense of trust to succeed. TCA cooperation. Trust-building measures have been implemented through a series of meetings and discussions by the three countries. This is intended to discuss, anticipate, and equalize perceptions of the urgency of security in the Sulu-Sulawesi Sea. So that the uncertainty between the tri-border area can be minimized. In addition, this trust is also built to open a more stable relationship.

#### A. Confidence Building Measure (CBM)

Implementation of defense diplomacy in the CBM aspect is the importance of building trust and transparency between countries in dealing with various security threats, both traditional and non-traditional. After World War II, security cooperation occurred when countries were faced with threats that were transnational (cross-border) and involved non-state actors and limited state authority in dealing with these security threats. So that countries tend to cooperate with other countries that face similar security threats (Hough, 2004). Seeing how Indonesia together with Malaysia and the Philippines carry out defense diplomacy activities such as regular meetings of the Ministry of Defense civil apparatus, military officers, joint military exercises, joint patrols, to the exchange of information (intelligence), it is evident that the defense diplomacy strategy used by Indonesia, Malaysia and The Philippines in fighting cross-state crimes of terrorism in the Sulu-Sulawesi Sea is a bilateral approach first, to build trilateral cooperation.

In addition, it can also be seen that Indonesia and Malaysia and the Philippines chose to use the amity, this was strengthened through talks by representatives of officials from the three countries who said that this cooperation was carried out to eradicate terrorism in the Sulu-Sulawesi Sea area and prioritize aspects of building confidence between countries. between state institutions, and serves to strengthen friendly relations between the three countries. This is due to the fact that Indonesia once had conflicts of interest with the other two countries, the worst of which was with Malaysia during the confrontation. The implementation of defense diplomacy in the aspect of confidence building measure (CBM) according to Andrew and Cottey (2004) is faced with handling transnational crimes on the Sulu Sea border, Sulawesi, as follows:

1. Bilateral and multilateral meetings of military and defense officials. Official civilian between to tackle maritime terrorism activities that are currently peaking in the SuluSulawesi Sea area. preparation, planning, direction and supervision are carried out in another country, involves *an organized criminal group* where the crime is committed in more than one country.
2. Appointment of Defense Attaches Abroad. Of course, in all meetings conducted by the three countries involved the appointment of a defense attaché to the location of the Trilateral Cooperative Arrangement which was attended by the three countries, especially the Ministers of Defense from the three countries. However, in the case of training, it will be replaced with a defense attaches at a certain level which of course does play a role in the realm of the exercise. From here we can see that the strategy used by Indonesia, as well as Malaysia and the Philippines, is defense diplomacy. The front guard from Indonesia in tackling this problem is the defense agency, especially the military and other defense institutions such as the Ministry of Defense or the Ministry of Political, Legal and Security Affairs.

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3. Meetings and Exchanges between Military Personnel and Warship Visits. For military personnel meetings occur when the implementation of joint exercises and patrols is in progress. For a ship visit, occurring during a joint exercise in the maritime area, warships from the three countries visited Tawi-Tawi, Philippines, in November 2017, marking the inaugural Trilateral Port Visit and Maritime Training Activity. Then on April 4, Malaysia and the Philippines sent their warships to Tarakan, Indonesia to conduct their next exercise. This exercise continues to run regularly until now.

**B. Defense Capability** According to Blagojevic and Subotić (2018), in their journal entitled *Defense Diplomacy in Strategic Context of Asymmetric Threat to National Security*, defense diplomacy in the context of countering terrorism, states that carry out defense diplomacy (sending state) must understand what is the political impetus for a country that destination (receiving state). In the case of the Sulu-Sulawesi Sea, the three countries, namely Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines, are both sending and receiving states at the same time. This is because the three of them move simultaneously in carrying out security efforts and all three also feel the loss from the existence of terrorist groups operating in the tri-border area. Security in the Sulu – Sulawesi Sea is crucial for shipping and trade activities that pass through it. The increasing number of crimes at sea poses a threat to passing ships, especially ships carrying high-value cargo. Security instability in the Sulu Sea has led to cooperative steps between Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines which are directly adjacent to the SuluSulawesi Sea (Ariani, 2018).

Following is the implementation of defense diplomacy aspects of defense capability carried out in handling transnational crimes in the Sulu Sea, Sulawesi through the Trilateral Cooperative Arrangement (TCA) forum according to Andrew and Cottey (2004):

1. Joint Military Exercise. As intended, take place in the maritime and land domains. In the maritime domain, joint military exercises are known as Trilateral Port Visit and Maritime Training Activity; and in the land realm it is known as the Indomalphi Middle Land Exercise. The Trilateral Port Visit and Maritime Training Activity has so far been carried out seven times, the last exercise taking place on November 26, 2019 in Zamboanga. Meanwhile, for the Indomalphi Middle Land Exercise, this exercise was only carried out once on 29 July to 8 August 2019 in Tarakan, Indonesia. These two exercises will continue to be carried out regularly by the two countries to improve personnel capabilities and also to strengthen friendly relations between the three countries.
2. Deployment of Training Team. For exercises in the maritime domain, under the Trilateral Port Visit and Maritime Training Activity, of course this is an activity to support the Trilateral Maritime Patrol, so that it becomes an activity that can be implemented and the results can be felt directly. The idea of defense diplomacy is the use of state defense institutions in a non-coercive context to fulfill its interests, but in the case of non-traditional threats, the state will use violence to fight this, unlike when faced with traditional threats, namely the state. This has also been seen from the bilateral cooperation between Indonesia and Malaysia and the Philippines. However, of course the state will stick to the non-coercive idea, act in the corridor of friendship and build better relations with various activities.
3. Training of Military Personnel or Civil Officers of Other State Defense Institutions. In November 2017, there was an inaugural exercise in the maritime domain, namely the Trilateral Port Visit and Maritime Training Activity, which was attended by the three countries in Tawi-Tawi, the Philippines, then on April 4, 2018 in Tarakan Indonesia. This training serves to improve the capabilities of Indonesian, Malaysian and Filipino military personnel. Efforts to secure maritime areas within the tri-border area are indeed not easy. It's a long process with often deadlocks on the concept of cooperation that you want to build. Therefore, to improve security and stability at the border, Indonesia continues to carry out coordinated patrols with Malaysia and the Philippines in the SulawesiSulu waters.

### **RELATIONS BETWEEN DEFENSE STRATEGY AND INDONESIAN DEFENSE DIPLOMACY AT THE TRILATERAL COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENT (TCA) FORUM**

The national defense strategy is a guideline for the Indonesian government, in this case the Ministry of Defense, to carry out its diplomatic strategy in the Trilateral Cooperative Arrangement (TCA) forum. Defense diplomacy is one part of the national defense strategy applied by Indonesia in order to achieve national interests. In the national defense strategy, defense diplomacy is included in the elements of ways which function as a way or method to achieve goals. The success of the implementation of Indonesia's defense strategy and diplomacy can be seen through Indonesia's participation and activeness in conducting defense diplomacy so as to obtain results that are in accordance with national interests, in this case countering terrorism.

### **CONCLUSIONS**

#### **INDONESIA'S DEFENSE STRATEGY IN HANDLING TRANSNATIONAL CRIMES AT THE INDONESIA-MALAYSIA-PHILIPPINES SEA BORDER**

Indonesia's defense strategy in handling transnational crimes at the sea borders of Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines is carried out through joint defense cooperation with Malaysia and the Philippines in the Trilateral Cooperative Arrangement forum with Sumdahan facilities with the aim of creating security in the Sulu-sea area from transnational crimes so that Indonesia's national interests are achieved.

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Indonesia's defense diplomacy in handling transnational crimes at the sea borders of Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines is through the establishment of a Trilateral Cooperative Arrangement with Malaysia and the Philippines in order to build mutual trust and defense capabilities to jointly eradicate transnational crimes at the Sulu-sea border so as to create security in the region.

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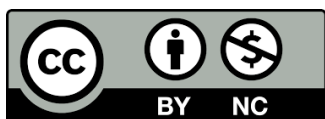
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