

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

In this chapter the researcher will explain a brief introduction history about UNIFIL existence and role in the South Lebanon to maintain peace, after that the researcher will explain the Pandemic phenomenon in Lebanon from its first case, and how does it affect UNIFIL program to maintain peacekeeping in South Lebanon.

#### **1.1 Background**

The United Nations (UN) has been the prominent director to resolve armed conflict by doing peacekeeping operations. There is no agreed definition of it nor even agree on when the first peacekeeping operation was set up (Goulding, 1993). UN peacekeeping's basic meaning refers to an UN-led international activity involving military personnel's interposition in units between conflicting groups to stop the violence or prevent it. The groups to be kept apart would be state agents, paramilitaries, militia, guerrilla groups, or even mobs. What they all share is a desire to use violence against the other side as a way of conducting their conflict (Yilmaz, 2005). United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) is one of the UN peacekeeping missions that are considered successful in building peace in Lebanon. In the aftermath of the July/August 2006 crisis, the Council strengthened the Force and decided that it would monitor the end of hostilities in addition to its original warrant, support the Lebanese army in its deployment through Southern Lebanon and extend its aid to ensure humane humanitarian reach and voluntary and safe deployment of civilian populations (United Nations Peacekeeping, n.d.).

The Lebanese government lodged a strong protest to the UN Security Council on March 15, 1978, against the Israeli invasion, claiming that it had nothing to do with the Palestinian commando operation. The United Nations Security Council voted resolutions 425 (1978) and 426 (1978) on March 19, calling on Israel to end its armed operations and withdraw its forces from all Lebanese land forthwith. It also decided to set up the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon right now (UNIFIL). On March 23, 1978, the first UNIFIL troops arrived in the area. UNIFIL has been the largest UN force in the area and is still the largest UN force in the Middle East (Murphy, 2012). Unrealistic and different interpretations of UNIFIL's early mandate in 1978 were given. There were apparent shortcomings in certain aspects of the overall deployment schedule. It's success was therefore contingent on conditions outside his influence. The new mandate can be criticized in a similar way. In advising the Lebanese government on its activities, UNIFIL II has effectively sustained the delicate stability. However, key mandate aspects remain unfulfilled (Murphy, 2012).

The situation in the area of UNIFIL operation remained generally calm. The Lebanese army, gendarmerie, and police established checkpoints in the vacated area, controlling movement and maintaining law and order. The Lebanese army retrieved heavy weapons abandoned by IDF/DFP. UNIFIL patrolled the area and, together with the Lebanese authorities, provided humanitarian assistance by supplying water, medical treatment and food to needy families. UNIFIL also assisted former members of the de facto forces and their families who decided to return from Israel to Lebanon.

The Force monitored the line of withdrawal on a daily basis, by means of ground and air patrols. It examined possible violations from both sides of the line, as many of the areas could only be accessed from the Israeli side, owing to the presence of mines and unexploded ordnance on the Lebanese side. The Force's liaison arrangements provided a constant link with the Chief of Operations of the Israel Defense Forces and the Director of Lebanese General Security, as well as with the normal chain of command on each side. Any violations of the withdrawal line were immediately brought to the attention of the side concerned.

The fundamental values in question are matters relating to human rights, individual and communal identity, spiritual development, fulfilment of welfare, protection of survival, health, environment, including sustainable development processes around individuals or groups. Threats to contemporary national security in the era of globalization have taken on new forms, no longer even the military power and sophistication of weapons needed to fight them.

Since the COVID-19 outbreak, there are new rules in the camp for all of us to follow strictly. UNIFIL rigorously observing social distancing, even during break time or at lunch, which is now served in multiple shifts in order to reduce the number of diners, and seats are organised in a checkerboard pattern. In addition, sanitisers are provided to all offices, workstations and accommodations. These precautions are taken to minimize the possibility of infection. UNIFIL personnel wear masks when driving outside of our bases and passing through municipalities and villages. Masks help protect the local people and demonstrate that the UNIFIL Blue Helmets are fighting the same battle that they are, and helping take care of their health, as well. And also In August, the UN extended the peace mission's mandate by one year but reduced the force's troop capacity from 15,000 to 13,000. Lebanon has seen a spike in the number of confirmed coronavirus cases since an August 4 explosion ripped through the Beirut port, killing more than 190 people and ravaging swathes of the capital.

The concept of security has change into the non-military thing, Since the covid-19 emersion the concept of threat and security has change into the health issue, The lack of treatment and the tight protocol have been a serious issue during the peacekeeping in Lebanon, They have to deal with the dispute issue and time keep the health protocol at the same time, This surely create more problem and gap in applying the peacekeeping by make sure the to keep away the danger, and threat. As for the current condition does not support to act like it was, they have to be extra cautious in order to make the South Lebanon safe from virus, and safe from conflict also. The Covid-19 Protocol also may worsen the mobility of the UNIFIL soldier by preventing them doing their activity such as patrol in flexible way, sine Covid-19 exist they have to be quarantine first before going to the field.

In a letter addressed to the Secretary-General on 11 July, the Permanent Representative of Lebanon conveyed his government's request that the Security Council extend the mandate of UNIFIL for a further interim period of six months, that is until 31 January 2001. In his 20 July report, the Secretary-General recommended that the Council accede to this request, on the understanding that the Force would be enabled to deploy and function fully throughout its area of operation, and that the Lebanese authorities would strengthen their own presence in the area by deploying additional troops and internal security forces. The UNIFIL deployment must be closely coordinated with that of the Lebanese forces.

There was a "good chance", the Secretary-General said, to achieve in the coming months the objectives of Security Council resolution 425 (1978) and for UNIFIL to complete the tasks originally assigned to it. He said he would report to the Security Council by the end of October on the latest developments. The Secretary-General also called for increased foreign aid to Lebanon, noting that the reintegration of the southern area would impose a heavy burden on Lebanon and that the clearance of landmines and unexploded ordnance would be a "vast task" requiring international assistance. "I should like to encourage Member States to cooperate with the Government of Lebanon and the United Nations agencies and programs in support of the reconstruction and development of the area, not only for its own sake but as an important contribution to stability in this potentially still volatile part of the world."

On 24 July, further to his report of 20 July, the Secretary-General informed the Security Council that the Israeli authorities had removed all violations of the line of withdrawal. On the same day, in a meeting with the Secretary-General's Special Envoy, Lebanese President Emile Lahoud and Prime Minister Selim el-Hoss gave their consent to the full deployment of UNIFIL. The Force's deployment was scheduled to take place on 26 July and was to be immediately followed by the deployment to the formerly Israeli-controlled area of the composite Lebanese unit, comprising army and internal security personnel.

On 27 July, the Security Council decided to extend the mandate of UNIFIL until 31 January 2001. Unanimously adopting resolution 1310(2001), the Council called on the Government of Lebanon to ensure the return of its effective authority and presence in the south, and, in particular, to proceed with a significant deployment of the Lebanese armed forces as soon as possible. It also reaffirmed that the expected redeployment of UNIFIL should be conducted in coordination with the Government of Lebanon and the Lebanese armed forces and re-emphasized its terms of reference and general guidelines as stated in the report of the Secretary-General of 19 March 1978, approved by resolution 426 (1978).

Welcoming the statement of the Secretary-General that as of 24 July the Government of Israel had removed all violations of the withdrawal line, the Council called on the parties to respect that line, to exercise utmost restraint and to cooperate fully with the United Nations and with UNIFIL. Reiterating its strong support for the territorial integrity, sovereignty and political independence of Lebanon within its internationally recognized boundaries, the Council stressed the importance of, and the need to achieve, a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East, based on all its relevant resolutions.

On 16 June, the Secretary-General reported to the Security Council that Israel had withdrawn its forces from Lebanon in accordance with resolution 425 (1978) and met the requirements defined in his report of 22 May 2000 -- namely, Israel had completed the withdrawal in conformity with the line identified by the United Nations, DFF/SLA had been dismantled, and all detainees held at Al-Khiam prison had been freed. The Secretary-General said that the Government of Lebanon had moved quickly to re-establish its effective authority in the area through the deployment of its security forces and had informed the United Nations that it would send a composite force composed of army and internal security personnel to be based in Marjayoun. It also stated that it would consider deploying its armed forces throughout southern Lebanon following confirmation by the Secretary-General of Israel's withdrawal.

The Secretary-General noted that the deployment of the armed forces was an essential element of the return of the effective authority of the Government in the area. This deployment should be conducted in coordination with UNIFIL's redeployment in its area of operations. On 18 June, the Security Council welcomed the Secretary-General's report and endorsed the work done by the United Nations. The Council, inter alia, called on all parties concerned to cooperate with the United Nations and to exercise the utmost restraint. It also noted that the United Nations could not assume law and order functions that were properly the responsibility of the Lebanese Government. The Council welcomed the Government's first steps in that regard and called on it to proceed with the deployment of its armed forces into the Lebanese territory vacated by Israel as soon as possible, with the assistance of UNIFIL.

The Secretary-General further reported to the Security Council on 22 January 2001. In the report, he gave an overview of the situation in the mission's area of operations, made suggestions for reconfiguring the Force and recommended further extending its mandate for a period of six months. According to the report, the situation in UNIFIL's area of operation remained generally stable, although there were numerous minor violations of the Blue Line. Such violations were largely the result of Israeli construction work on a technical fence along the line, of crossings by Lebanese shepherds and sometimes crossings by vehicles in places where the Israeli fence was some distance from the line. There were, however, occasional incidents at certain sensitive locations and five serious breaches of the line.

The overall security situation in UNIFIL's area of operation remained good, and had further improved since October, the report stated. Residents who were away during the Israeli occupation continued to return. In addition, former members of the former de facto forces and their families (about 1,600 in all) returned to Lebanon. Speaking of the reconfiguration of the United Nations presence in south Lebanon, the Secretary-General stated that of the three parts of its mandate, UNIFIL had essentially completed two. It confirmed the withdrawal of Israeli forces and assisted, to the extent it could, the Lebanese authorities as they returned to the area vacated by Israel. UNIFIL continued to function in close cooperation with those authorities and no longer exercised any control over the area of operation. The Lebanese Government, however, still did not deploy its personnel down to the Blue Line.

UNIFIL focused on the remaining part of its mandate: the restoration of international peace and security, the report continued. Pending a comprehensive peace, UNIFIL sought at least to maintain the ceasefire along the Blue Line, through patrols and observation from fixed positions and close contact with the parties, with a view to correcting violations and preventing the escalation of incidents. The Secretary-General believed that the need for the United Nations to perform such functions would continue to exist in the foreseeable future. These functions, the Secretary-General wrote, were those of an observer mission. However, in view of the conditions in the region, he stated that he would be reluctant to entrust the task to unarmed observers alone, and would recommend instead a combination of armed infantry and unarmed observers. He suggested two infantry battalions, a group of UNTSO observers and support. In view of the

tense situation in the region, a prudent approach is appropriate, the Secretary-General stated. Should the Security Council opt for the suggested configuration, it might consider proceeding in stages. A possible first stage might be to return UNIFIL to the strength it had before the augmentation last year, that is, to about 4,500 all ranks.

He then noted that Lebanon requested that the Council extend the mandate of UNIFIL for a further period of six months. In the light of the conditions prevailing in the area, the Secretary-General supported the extension and recommended that the Council extend UNIFIL's mandate until 31 July 2001. On 30 January 2001, the Security Council, by its resolution 1337 (2001), decided to extend UNIFIL for a further period of six months. It also decided to return the authorized military strength of the Force UNIFIL to its previous operational level (4,500 all ranks) by 31 July 2001. The Council endorsed the general approach for reconfiguration of UNIFIL and requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Council a detailed report by 30 April 2001 on UNIFIL reconfiguration plans and on the tasks that could be carried out by UNTSO.

By other terms of the resolution, the Council called on the Government of Lebanon to ensure the return of its effective authority and presence in the south, and in particular to increase the rate of the deployment of its armed forces. It encouraged the Government of Lebanon to ensure a calm environment throughout the south, including through the control of all checkpoints. The Council condemned all acts of violence, expressed concern about the serious breaches and violations of the withdrawal line and urged the parties to put an end to them, and urged respect for the safety of UNIFIL personnel. The Council also reiterated its strong support for the territorial integrity, sovereignty and political independence of Lebanon within its internationally recognized boundaries.

Further Secretary-General's report on UNIFIL was dated 18 January 2006, in which he recommended to extend the Force's mandate for a further six months, until 31 July 2006. Describing the political and security environment as still fragile, the Secretary-General pointed particularly to the November 2005 Hizbollah attack, which had led to a heavy exchange of fire with IDF. He also warned that the rocket firing incidents by unidentified armed elements of August and December had significant potential for military escalation. Persistent Israeli air incursions into Lebanese airspace also disrupted the fragile calm.

“The serious breaches of the ceasefire underlined yet again the urgent need for the Government of Lebanon to act and extend its full authority throughout the south down to the Blue Line”, the Secretary-General said. He was encouraged by Lebanon's commitment to hold perpetrators of the attacks responsible to avoid their recurrence, and he welcomed new steps for coordination between the Government and UNIFIL, however, he stressed that “more needs to be done”. The Secretary-General welcomed the Lebanese Government's decision to co-locate the Army Liaison Office with UNIFIL headquarters in Naqoura, to appoint liaison officers with the UNIFIL field battalions and to work closer with the Force in the field. He was pleased to note the appointment of the new Government Coordinator with UNIFIL. Planning for the deployment of additional forces in the south should start without delay, he said.

In that regard, he encouraged the Lebanese Government to take up the Force Commander's proposal to establish a joint planning cell composed of members of the Lebanese Armed Forces and UNIFIL. The activities and presence of the Joint Security Force could also be enhanced on the ground, even within the limits of its authorized strength of 1,000 troops. Additionally, closer coordination between UNIFIL and the Joint Security Force patrols in the south would contribute to enhancing the role and activities of the Lebanese Armed Forces in the area. The implications of an increased presence of the Lebanese Armed Forces in the south for UNIFIL structure and force strength would be regularly assessed.

By its resolution 1655 of 31 January 2006, the Security Council extended the mandate of UNIFIL until 31 July 2006 and called again on the Government of Lebanon to fully extend and exercise its sole and effective authority throughout the south. By that resolution, the Council condemned all acts of violence, including the serious incidents across the Blue Line initiated from the Lebanese side that had resulted in deaths and injuries on both sides.

The Council expressed great concern about the serious breaches and the sea, land and air violations of the withdrawal line. It urged the parties to put an end to those violations, to refrain from any act of provocation that could further escalate the tension and to abide scrupulously by their obligation to respect the safety of UNIFIL and other United Nations personnel, including by avoiding any course of action which endangered United Nations staff. Also, by the resolution, the Council welcomed the Government's recent establishment of a Lebanese Armed Forces liaison office at UNIFIL headquarters, and acknowledged the firm intention of the Lebanese Government to preserve security and, to that end, to reinforce the presence of its Armed Forces in the southern region and to coordinate their activities with UNIFIL.

Nevertheless, the Council urged the Government to do more to assert its authority in the south, to exert control and monopoly over the use of force and to maintain law and order on its entire territory. It also urged the Government to prevent attacks from Lebanon across the Blue Line, including through deploying additional numbers of Lebanese Armed Forces and Internal Security Forces and taking up UNIFIL's proposals to enhance coordination and to establish a Joint Planning Cell. The Council expressed its intention to keep UNIFIL's mandate and structures under regular review, taking into account the prevailing situation on the ground, the activities actually performed by the Force in its area of operation, its contribution towards the remaining task of restoring international peace and security, the views of the Lebanese Government and the measures it had taken to fully extend its authority in the South, as well as the implications those measures might have, in order to adjust the force to its mission.

Amid UNIFIL's success in building security in Lebanon, Lebanon is now facing a new security threat, namely the outbreak of COVID-19. According to the Center for Systems Science and Engineering report, Lebanon managed to contain the pandemic in its first phase after reporting from 15 March 2020 to 12 July 2020 between 0 and 100 cases daily. Following the explosion at the port of Beirut on 4 August 2020, cases have skyrocketed in Lebanon, with more than 1,000 cases reported mostly since mid-September, with a new record 2,817 cases of COVID-19 as of 6 December 2020 in a single day. According to the latest data on 24th April 2021 there have been 518,104 cases with more than 7,000 death records.

The first documented case of infection with the novel coronavirus 2019 (COVID19) in Lebanon was on February 21, 2020. Since then, various areas of life in the country have been severely or partially affected. The Lebanese people, caught up in a popular uprising against corruption and political mismanagement, faced another formidable enemy. Covid 19 impacts the safety of the Lebanese occupation and interferes with the UNIFIL peace mission. Over a million lives have been lost, the world economy would probably cost billions of dollars and insecurity and instability was caused by COVID-19. The United Nations Peacekeeping Operations (PKOs) now serving in 13 active war zones are also being requested. The pandemic has reduced funding and heightened conflict and gender-based violence worldwide. As women are currently at increased risk of violence, UN peacekeeping plays a vital role in reducing the damage. In order for new issues to be addressed, peacekeeping operations must develop an inclusive and groundbreaking approach beyond masculinized concepts of peace and war. The Indonesian battalion joined the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) to limit joint activities with local citizens to reduce the risk of contracting COVID-19, the disease caused by the new coronavirus SARS-CoV 2. Many activities of the battalion were canceled, for example, such as the joint training agenda, all CIMIC activities (civil-military cooperation also temporarily stop, because we adhere to social restrictions to prevent the pandemic's appearance (Mawangi, 2020).

## **1.2 Research Question**

According to the background explain above, the author takes the research question below which will be further discussed in the next chapter:

How does UNIFIL cope up with the pandemic situation while peacekeeping work need to be done?

### 1.3 Theoretical Framework

Peacekeeping is a technique developed by the United Nations to help monitor and resolve armed conflicts. There are Five principles can be summarized in the established principles of peacekeeping. Initially, UN operations were PKOs. The United Nations made the United Nations PKO acceptable to members who would not have accepted foreign troops elsewhere. Secondly, with time PKOs could only be established with the consent of the conflicting parties involved. It was also learned that only the support and cooperation of those parties could be successful. Third, the peacekeepers must be impartial between the parties has been established. They did not advance one party's interests against the other. The fourth principle concerns the soldiers needed for the United Nations PKOs. The United Nations Charter provided the Member States with the Security Council to enter into binding agreements under which they would commit to supply them with their troops. The fifth principle was the use of force. More than half of the PKOs had only been unarmed military observers before 1988. However, if operations were armed, it was an established principle that they should only use force to a minimum and that fire should typically be opened only in self-defence (Hutabarat, 2014).

United Nations peacekeeping operations aim to support countries divided by conflict and create conditions for lasting peace. Peacekeeping has proven to be one of the United Nations' most effective tools to help host countries survive difficult times from conflict to peace. Peacekeeping has great power.

In accordance with the topic According to Buzan "Security is taken to be about the pursuit of freedom from threat and the ability of states and societies to maintain their independent identity and their functional integrity against forces of change, which they see as hostile. The bottom line of security is survival, but it also reasonably includes a substantial range of concerns about the conditions of existence. Quite where this range of concerns ceases to merit the urgency of the "security" label (which identifies threats as significant enough to warrant emergency action and exceptional measures including the use of force) and becomes part of everyday uncertainties of life is one of the difficulties of the concept".

According to securitization theory, national security policies do not come naturally and are carefully decided by politicians and decision makers. According to security theory, political issues are structured as extreme security issues that need to be addressed urgently when labeled as "danger," "threatening," "threatening," or "warning". As a result, it has become a social and institutional power to push this issue "beyond politics." Therefore, security issues need to be clarified as issues by not only "being there" but also by securitizing actors. Buzan (1984) view the perspective of security as part of an arm race, the security view of the arms race avoids the contrasting simplicity of the view of power and peace, but as a result, it loses the simple political appeal available to others. perspective. The security perspective accepts both the permanence of the arms race and the permanence of the contradiction between the effects of the military forces that create order and the effects of military forces that create disorder.

Modern states are based on the idea of sovereignty, which is the exclusive right of the state to claim over territorial rights and its population. The use of military might, and force is essential in order to control the territory, and so it is a necessary part of traditional literature. Security studies involves understanding how security is created and maintained. In traditionalist literature, the state is the most important referent, but not the only one. Ruling elites are the most important securitising agents as they are in a position to control the political rise of people in the political hierarch (Buzan, 1984).

The new form of security threat that is being faced by the world today, no longer requires the strength of the armed forces to deal with it, because the enemy it faces is an invisible virus. Entering 2020 until now, the world community is faced with a serious threat of Covid-19 attack. Globalization has a role in the spread of the virus as a result of the ease of mobility of citizens between countries, so countries in the world must take a stance by taking social actions to closing access to enter countries in an effort to minimize the spread of the virus. Covid-19 is a new disease caused by the corona virus, and there is no cure or vaccine yet. Covid-19 is not only life threatening, it has also resulted in the weakening of social and economic conditions in countries but in almost the entire world, so that countries become interdependent on international cooperation in their efforts to deal with it.

## **1.4 Hypothesis**

UNIFIL redefine the problems by overcomes the issue of Covid-19 by following the protocol given by the WHO, UNIFIL limiting their peacekeeping activity in order to keep out the virus from spreading out.

## **1.5 Methodology**

This study uses a qualitative approach by utilizing primary and secondary data. The researcher found primary data from official documents from the UN and the Lebanese government as well as our interview with a member of the Indonesian peacekeeping force in Lebanon. Meanwhile, the researcher found secondary data from several journals. The researcher will validate both types of data using data triangulation techniques. The researcher will narrate valid data in a description about How UNIFIL conduct their duties at Pandemic. The participants of this research were 3 UNIFIL Soldiers. To take part in this research, they were required to meet two criteria: (1) UNFIL Soldier (2) Currently or finished their duties from Lebanon. To recruit the participants, the researcher contacted some prospective participants from the Indonesian Military who participated in the UN Peacekeeping program in Lebanon. Following the participant's contact with the researcher, the purpose, scope, and the required time commitment were informed.

In this paper, the researcher used interviews as primary data and Academic Journal as secondary data. After that, a semi-structured interview was conducted with a teleconferencing app to make the interview more flexible. The interviews lasted for approximately up to 40 minutes. Thematic identification and coding were used to analyze the data. This thematic data analysis should identify the frequency, specificity, and emotionality of the participants' responses. By default, every interview was recorded and done by the teleconference app. Each interview protocol was read several times, and the first analytical notes were made. Particular attention was paid to common or overlapping issues.

## **1.6 Research Scope**

The scope of this research is needed for the researcher to limit the analysis. Therefore, the writer makes a limitation in this thesis proposal regarding the scope of area which take in Lebanon. This research wants to unveil the UNIFIL role in supporting the peacekeeping program made by the United Nation in the South Lebanon region. The program run by the UN itself aim to keep the peace between the Israel-Lebanon area keep out from arms conflict. This study aims to determine how UNIFIL carried out the adaptation in carrying out its peace mission during the Covid-19 pandemic. This research is vital to consider the mandate given to UNIFIL and the emergence of a new security threat in Lebanon with Covid-19. This study's findings will provide lessons learned for other UN peacekeeping missions in carrying out their peace missions in the Covid-19 era.

## **1.7 Aims of Research**

This study aims to determine how UNIFIL carried out the adaptation in carrying out its peace mission during the Covid-19 pandemic. This research is vital to consider the mandate given to UNIFIL and the emergence of a new security threat in Lebanon with Covid-19. This study's findings will provide lessons learned for other UN peacekeeping missions in carrying out their peace missions in the Covid-19 era.

## **1.8 Systematic Writing**

The structure of this thesis will consist of three chapters which will be described through the following systematics:

Chapter I: In this chapter, the background and formulation of the problems that will be the theme of the research is presented. In addition, in this section the researcher will also explain the framework of thought in the form of theories or concepts used as a reference in conducting descriptive analysis. Furthermore, this chapter will also present the main research methodologies that have contributed to the writing. Finally, this chapter will explain the research scope used by researchers to find out the limitations of the research.

Chapter II: In this chapter, the researcher elaborates further related to the background of the problem which will be divided into several parts. Furthermore, this chapter will present some data with the aim of convincing the reader that the written statement is indeed true. This chapter will also explain the relationship between actors and the case studies used.

Chapter III: This chapter contains the answers to the questions that have been asked in the research questions. In addition, the researcher will also explain the overall results of the description analysis and contain the results of the hypothesis testing that has been carried out.