

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations, or ASEAN, is a regional alliance comprising ten Southeast Asian nations. The promotion of economic and security cooperation among its member states is its principal goal. Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam are the ten nations that make up ASEAN. CFR.org, year 2023 (CFR.org, 2023). Five founding countries of ASEAN Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand created it in 1967 (Jamil Maidan Flores, 1997). The organization was formed with the aim of creating a common front against the spread of communism in the region. Over the years, ASEAN has expanded its membership and now includes all ten Southeast Asian countries. The ASEAN Charter, which was adopted in 2007, serves as the legally binding agreement among the member states. It outlines the principles, goals, and institutional framework of ASEAN. The charter emphasizes the promotion of peace, stability, and prosperity in the region through cooperation and dialogue (CFR.org, 2023).

Indonesia has actively helped to improve regional cooperation since it joined ASEAN in a number of areas, including the economics, politics, security, and social culture. As the largest member of ASEAN, Indonesia is crucial to achieving the joint aspirations and objectives of this regional group. Considering the economics, Indonesia It offers a great deal of potential to raise productivity and competitiveness in important sectors. Indonesia, a resource-rich nation, can take advantage of this potential to boost production and exports in the mining, fisheries, and agricultural industries. As a regional industrial powerhouse in ASEAN, Indonesia also boasts a rapidly expanding manufacturing industry. Additionally, Indonesia has a lot of room to grow in terms of technology and infrastructure, including networks for transportation, electricity, and telecommunications. As a result, the ASEAN region's economic integration may be sped up, and economic growth might be accelerated and made more sustainable. Indonesia plays a significant part in achieving peace and stability in the ASEAN area on the security front. Indonesia has the capacity to contribute more to efforts to address regional security issues like terrorism, drug

trafficking, and disputes over the South China Sea. Serving as a mediator to settle disputes amongst ASEAN members is one of Indonesia's major tasks.

The ASEAN Security Community, known as the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC), is still relevant and can be strengthened to improve regional stability in Southeast Asia. The APSC provides a framework for ASEAN countries to cooperate in dealing with these issues through dialogue, diplomacy, and security cooperation. This helps avoid armed conflicts that can undermine regional stability. Through a consensus and non-intervention approach, the APSC can facilitate dialogue and mediation to reach a mutually beneficial agreement. ASEAN countries are working together to encourage countries outside the region to adopt a policy of nuclear nonproliferation, as well as promote a nuclear weapons-free zone in Southeast Asia. One of the issues that is currently under debate by ASEAN member states within the process of negotiation is the maritime border with Singapore, Malaysia, and Vietnam. Currently, negotiations are also underway with East Timor and have managed to find a constructive joint solution to resolve the maritime border between countries. Many things can be used to create global peace. Today, however, it is seen that global peace and stability are very difficult to achieve. The ongoing Russo-Ukrainian conflict and rising U.S - China tensions forced Indonesia, Southeast Asian countries, and other southern hemisphere countries to choose between the American bloc, the Chinese bloc, or the Russian bloc. So, we're looking for some kind of breakthrough, so we don't get caught up in this kind of strategic competition. In addition, development of maritime navigation security protocols can also be undertaken to reduce naval maneuvers that can cause misunderstandings between countries (Iemhannas, 2023).

At the 2023 ASEAN Chairmanship to be held in Indonesia, the 2023 ASEAN Chairmanship raised the theme ASEAN Matters: Epicentrum of Growth. Indonesia is determined to direct ASEAN Cooperation in 2023 to continue and strengthen ASEAN's relevance in responding to regional and global challenges. Speaking about global challenges, Indonesian Foreign Minister Retno L.P Marsudi said that currently Indonesia's Foreign Policy is in the midst of global challenges and is faced with various complex and diverse issues, one of which is Regional Tensions felt by Indonesia in the Southeast Asian region which is vulnerable to regional tensions, Maritime security, climate change and environmental sustainability, humanitarian issues, and economic relations. Indonesia also faces challenges in strengthening economic ties with other countries.

As the chair of ASEAN in 2023, Indonesia plays a crucial role in leading the organization and shaping its agenda. The chairmanship provides an opportunity for Indonesia to demonstrate its leadership and contribute to the stability and prosperity of the region. President Joko Widodo has emphasized the importance of unity within ASEAN to make it a central player in promoting world peace and growth. Adam Malik went on to describe Indonesia's vision of a Southeast Asia developing into "a region which can stand on its own feet, strong enough to defend itself against any negative influence from outside the region." Such a vision, he stressed, was not wishful thinking, if the countries of the region effectively cooperated with each other, considering their combined natural resources and manpower. He referred to differences of outlook among the member countries, but those differences, he said, would be overcome through a maximum of goodwill and understanding, faith and realism. Hard work, patience and perseverance, he added, would also be necessary (Jamil Maidan Flores, 1997). However, ASEAN faces challenges such as a lack of strategic vision, diverging priorities among member states, and weak leadership.

Retno LP Marsudi as the Indonesian Foreign Minister has emphasized the importance of regional peace and stability in the cooperative relations of ASEAN member states and partner countries. Indonesia's foreign policy during its ASEAN chairmanship in 2023 plays a vital role in strengthening regional integration, addressing challenges, maintaining stability, promoting ASEAN's relevance, and managing external partnerships. It serves as a guiding framework for Indonesia's engagement with ASEAN member states and external actors to achieve common goals and advance the interests of the region.

In addition, it is not only the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that has an important role in the scope of ASEAN, but the Ministry of Defense also has an important role in this regard. Both parties have important roles in ASEAN, especially in the scope of regional peace. The Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Indonesia, currently led by Prabowo Subianto, has an important role in maintaining the country's defense. The Ministry of Defense is responsible for the country especially in the field of defense strategy and defense cooperation owned by ASEAN.

Both the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Defense have a role in strengthening regional cooperation within ASEAN. Both ministries strive to maintain stability, peace and security in the ASEAN region, as well as strengthen Indonesia's position in this regional forum. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is

responsible for designing and implementing Indonesia's foreign policies, including those related to ASEAN, while the Ministry of Defense is responsible for national defense policies that also involve cooperation with ASEAN countries. It also makes the role of both ministries instrumental in strengthening ASEAN's identity as a united, peaceful, and sovereign regional community amidst global geopolitical complexity. This involves public diplomacy efforts and strengthening ASEAN's image in the eyes of the international community.

Coordination between MoFA and MoD is essential to ensure that Indonesia's foreign policy and national defense policy are aligned. For example, in the context of diplomacy, MoFA may work to promote Indonesia's national interests in the international arena, while MoD is responsible for the implementation of security and defense policies that may pertain to such diplomacy. In addition, collaboration between the two is also important when it comes to the protection of Indonesia's national interests. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Defense should coordinate in situations where security interests and diplomacy come into contact, such as in handling cross-border conflicts or in supporting Indonesian citizens who are in crisis situations abroad.

Overall, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Defense have complementary roles in safeguarding Indonesia's national interests both at the regional and international levels. Good cooperation between the two is essential to achieve this goal.

1.2 Internship Purposes

The author's goal in completing this internship is to increase his level of competence and professionalism in the workplace. The Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Indonesia, however, is an organization of states that plays an important role in the administration of diplomatic relations between countries and serves as a recorder of ASEAN's development. The author is anxious to join the Directorate of Defense International Cooperation where the writer can gain theoretical and practical knowledge about relations and cooperation policies. Therefore, the author intends to complete an internship that is divided into two parts, namely:

Theoretical Purposes:

1. Apply the knowledge learned in International Relations.
2. Study political science in formulating foreign policy.

3. Analyze challenges that may occur in formulating policies.
4. Analyze issues that occur on international issues related to Foreign Policy and ASEAN from experts.

Practical Purposes:

1. Train the author in public speaking, leadership, and teamwork.
2. Encourage the author to contribute well to all activities in the Directorate of Defense International Cooperation.
3. Train self-creativity in certain events and be involved in all events in the Directorate of Defense International Cooperation.

1.3 Benefits of Internship

The internship program held by this University is expected to lead to positive outcomes and will have a good impact on all parties involved, such as students, agencies or companies, as well as internship organizers or universities. Here are some of the expected benefits of an internship at the Directorate of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Indonesia:

- a. For the International Relations program at Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta, as an academic institution that houses and provides an introduction to internship students, this will be one of the great opportunities to establish good relationships and cooperation for future academics.
- b. For the Directorate General of Defense Strategy of the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Indonesia, as a government institution, this internship program will be a reference to improve the success of the government's goal to improve national education by facilitating students in honing skills in working in accordance with the soft skills and hard skills that have been provided by the University.
- c. For interns, Firstly, this internship program will provide an excellent experience and opportunity for students to gain insight into how professionals work. Second, it provides students with the knowledge and experience they need to prepare themselves for the real-world workplace. Third, internship students can form networks and connections to gain the opportunity to conduct research in the field of International Relations using data, sources, and international events held by the relevant Ministry of Defense.