

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background

After the cold war ended in 1990s, the focus of international relations studies is no longer about the traditional security issues such as politic, economic, war and military matters. The focus of international relations studies has evolved and emerging the non-traditional security issues. Non-traditional issues such as disarmed conflict, food insecurity, poverty, health, environment, human trafficking, terrorism, natural disasters, neglected people, refugees, internally displaced people, and so on. Nowadays become a tendency for states in the world to grow and increase more awareness to overcome this non-traditional issues (Beri, 2007). Therefore the focuses of international relations studies is no longer talking only about national security, integrity, sovereignty, and independence of states, but also concern on human security matters. This perspective has emerged since the threat of military decreased toward the sovereignty of the states but in the same time the threat increased to the human existence on other aspects such as poverty, health, natural disasters, environmental degradation, terrorism, and so on (RSIS, 2015).

Followed by the annual Human Development Report of United Nations Development Programme in 1994, the awareness toward human security issues increased by focusing more on the dimensions of human security, namely: economic security, food security, health security, environmental security, personal security, community security, and political security (UNDP, 1994).

Ever since then, the issues forced the governments in the world as the decision maker to pay more attention to the human security issues. However, apart from the desire of states to include the concept of human security as a policy, until now there is no agreement about how the human security must be understood and how the concept could be applied on the practical politics.

Human security as an important part of human life should be a purpose of development. Deficiency of human security will affect the economic growth and also possibly affect the development. Asia as one of the world's largest continent which contain most of the world populations potentially has a lot of problems on human security issues. Some of human security issues that emerged in Asia such as in economic security, where the global financial crisis and European sovereign debt crisis hit Asia's exports badly. Around 2007-2008 the rise of global food prices also threat the food security in Asia region. Asia region also have to face the health insecurity problems, even though they has a better protection to fight against unhealthy lifestyle, but over the past decade the region being the origin of infectious diseases like SARS and avian flu. Those are some of so many human security matters that appear in Asia region nowadays (JICA, 2006; CHS, 2003).

The existence of human security issues has brought its own risk for international relations. The needs to reach human security issues reinforces the needs to pay attention on non-states actors. Therefore, the expansion of human security studies encourage non-states actors to be involved in the field of human security. Pearlman and Cunningham in 2011 define non-states actors as

an organized political actor that not directly connected to the state but pursue aims that affect vital state interests. It means that non-states actors is an actor that has a power and able to influence at regional, national or even in the international level but they do not belong to any countries or states. One of non-states actors is non-governmental organizations. Nowadays, non-governmental organizations often participate in the global system lobby to influence international organizations. Non-governmental organizations are mostly a private international actors, and their members are not states, but volunteers from people of two or more states who have the same interest and ideas and influence the policies from state governments (Stratton, 2008). In today's world, non-governmental organizations act as the agent that also propose a solutions for so many human security matters. It happens because a lot of states are unable to do it.

The example of non-governmental organizations that concern on human security issues is Humanitarian Affairs. Humanitarian Affairs has two bases. The first one is Humanitarian Affairs United Kingdom which is in London, and the second is Humanitarian Affairs Asia which is in Bangkok, Thailand. As explained on the title, this undergraduate thesis will only focus on Humanitarian Affairs Asia. Founded in May, 1st 2008, Humanitarian Affairs Asia is a member of some association such as, the United Nations Global Compact; the World Association of Non-Governmental Organizations; World Alliance for Citizens Participation and the International Association for Volunteer Effort. Humanitarian Affairs Asia is non-profit organizations that

focus on initiates and support humanitarian relief efforts and development among Asia and Pacific region. The organizations also empower and motivate youth as the next generation leaders to increase their awareness toward human security issues and participate on humanitarian relief program (Idealist, 2008; HAA, 2008). Regarding to this background, the research aims to analyze the contribution of Humanitarian Affairs Asia to the human security issues in Asia Region.

B. Research Question

From the phenomena that has been explained on the background, the research question which this undergraduate thesis would like to explain is: “How does the strategy of Humanitarian Affairs Asia on mainstreaming human security issues in Asia?”

C. Theoretical Framework

In writing a thesis, theoretical framework is the most important fundamental part. Theoretical framework is like a foundation of a construction. A construction will look sturdy if the foundation is strong. As well as in writing an undergraduate thesis, without a theoretical framework, it will not smoothly run and writer will find difficulties because he or she does not have a standard in measurements. Sugiyono in his book states that, theoretical framework should be upheld in order to have a solid foundation research, and not just a trial and error (Sugiyono, 2010).

In this undergraduate thesis, the writer uses concept as the theoretical framework to analyze the issue. Concept is the most important symbol in language. Mochtar Mas'oe'd in his book states that concept is an abstraction that represent an object, character of the object, or certain phenomena. It means that, concept forms a word that symbolize an idea or phenomena, not the phenomena itself (Mas'oe'd, 1990).

Aligned with the title, there are two concepts that will be used in analyzing this undergraduate thesis, the first is the concept of global civil society by Helmut Anheier, Marlies Glasius, and Mary Kaldor, and the second is the concept of transnational advocacy network by Margaret E. Keck and Kathryn Sikkink. This theoretical framework is expected to describe and explain how the contribution of Humanitarian Affairs Asia on human security issues in Asia.

1. The Concept of Global Civil Society

Helmut Anheier, Marlies Glasius, and Mary Kaldor in their books "Introducing Global Civil Society" defines global civil society is the sphere of ideas, values, institutions, organizations, networks, and individuals located between the family, the state, and the market and operating beyond the confines of national societies, politics, and economies. Global civil society has to be conceptualized, with all its ambiguities and blurred images, as the sphere of cross border relations and collective activities outside of the international reach of states and markets (Anheier, Glasius, and Kaldor, 2001).

Humanitarian Affairs Asia is a non-governmental organization that adopt the concept of global civil society. The idea of global civil society used as their fundamental conception in building and developing the organizations. The organization involve young generation of future leaders in their activities as an actor of global civil society that aware on human security issues to concern more and take action on human security issues. The organizations also build a network not only with other non-governmental organizations, but also with actors in international society such as governments, companies, and so on. in order to achieve their goals and gain fund also support. This is a basic principal of the concept of global civil society. Thus, this conception later will explain the emergence of Humanitarian Affairs Asia and the involvement of global civil society in their activities on human security issues through this organization on Chapter three later.

2. The Concept of Transnational Advocacy Network

The Oxford Online dictionary describes transnational as “extending or operating across national boundaries”. Advocacy as “public support for recommendation of a particular cause or policy”. And network as “a group or system of interconnected people or things”. Margaret E. Keck and Kathryn Sikkink describe transnational advocacy network as an interactions that structured in networks. Networks of activists distinguishable largely by the centrality of principled ideas or values in motivating their formation. Transnational advocacy networks supports the process of integration, by

building new links among actors in civil societies, states and international organizations, multiplying the chance of dialogue and exchange (Keck and Sikkink, 1999).

“A transnational advocacy network includes those actors working internationally on an issue, who are bound together by shared values, a common discourse, and dense exchanges of information and services” (Mitchell, 1973).

There are several major actors in transnational advocacy networks such as non-governmental organizations, local social movements, foundations, media, intellectuals, regional and international intergovernmental organizations, governments, and so on. But, not all these will be present in each advocacy network. It depends on the focuses or the issues. Transnational advocacy networks seek influence in many of the same ways that other political groups or social movements do, but because they are not powerful in the traditional sense of the word, they must use the power of their information, ideas and strategies to alter the information and value context within which states make policies. Although much of what networks do might be considered persuasion, the term is insufficiently precise to be of much theoretical use. Transnational advocacy networks developed more strategies that networks use to seek an influence and support, there are:

- a. *Information politics*, or the ability to move politically usable information quickly and credibly to where it will have the most impact;

- b. *Symbolic politics*, or the ability to call upon symbols, actions or stories that make sense of a situation or claim for an audience that is frequently far away;
- c. *Leverage politics*, or the ability to call upon powerful actors to affect a situation where weaker members of a network are unlikely to have influence; and
- d. *Accountability politics*, or the effort to oblige more powerful actors to act on vaguer policies or principles they formally endorsed.

Humanitarian Affairs Asia as a form of transnational advocacy network is constituted based on networks of activists of mostly young generation that principally came up with the ideas and values especially on human security issues in motivating their formation. They support the process of integration, by building links among actors so they can promote their concern and goals to persuade the policy decision maker and take a direct action. Humanitarian Affairs Asia in promoting their interests on human security issues, they use four strategies of transnational advocacy networks which are information politics, symbolic politics, leverage politics, and accountability politics. Thus, these strategies will further explain how the mainstreaming process of Humanitarian Affairs Asia on mainstreaming human security issues in Asia. Based on the concept above, this undergraduate thesis will conduct the analysis of Humanitarian Affairs Asia contribution in mainstreaming human security issues in Asia using the framework described by Margaret E. Keck

and Kathryn Sikkink related to transnational advocacy networks on chapter four.

D. Hypothesis

Based on the correlation of background and the theoretical framework that has been explained above, the writer came up with several hypothesis that in mainstreaming the human security issues in Asia, Humanitarian Affairs Asia:

1. Involving other organization and institutions, international actors, and also young leaders all over the world as a form of global civil society in their activity that concern on human security, humanity, and humanitarian aid or relief matters. Thus, this hypothesis later on will be proven in the discussion of chapter three.
2. Humanitarian Affairs Asia use several strategies. The strategy are information politics, symbolic politics, leverage politics, and accountability politics. This hypothesis will be proven in chapter four.

E. Research Purposes

In writing this undergraduate thesis, there are several purposes that could be asserted:

1. Describing further the definition of human security issues, especially human security issues that emerge in Asian region.
2. Exploring the emergence of Humanitarian Affairs Asia and the involvement of global civil society toward human security issues.

3. Analyzing the strategy of Humanitarian Affairs Asia on mainstreaming human security issue in Asia.
4. As a requirement to achieve the bachelor degree of Department of International Relations, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta.

F. Method of Research

This research is a qualitative research. The method is chosen to analyze the problems and find the conclusion toward the issues. There are three main steps of a qualitative research, namely: data collection, data categorization, and analysis.

1. Data Collection

In this research, the writer will conduct a library and online research to collect secondary data that is obtained from literature such as books, journals, bulletins, magazines, newspapers, articles, and internet sources. This research would like also to use a primary data about the problem from direct interview with the Mr. Kim Solomon as the Secretary General of Humanitarian Affairs.

2. Data Categorization

After collecting the data, the data will be classified in order to determine the appropriate and suitable data for conducting the analysis.

3. Analysis

From the data that has been collected and categorized, the writer will conduct an analysis in accordance with the theories that have been described on the theoretical framework. From the analysis, the conclusion is going to be asserted that would answer the research question.

G. Scope of Research

In this undergraduate thesis, the writer will make a limitation by regarding the scope of the time which is set since the establishment of Humanitarian Affairs Asia (HAA) in 2008 to the time this research is conducted.

H. Systematic of Writing

This undergraduate thesis is systematically written based on the rules that applied in a scientific writing. It is divided into several chapters with different discussion within its own territory but interrelated. In order to facilitate in interpreting the topic issue, this undergraduate thesis will be divided into five chapters that consist of:

Chapter I This chapter examines the background of the research, research question that need to be answered, theoretical framework that is used to analyze the research question, hypothesis, purpose of the research, method of research, the scope of research, and the systematic of writing that also written in this chapter.

Chapter II This chapter defines about human security issues and the emergence of human security issues in Asia region.

Chapter III This chapter explains about the Humanitarian Affairs Asia and their activities that involved global activists as change-makers and future leaders.

Chapter IV This chapter explains about the strategy of Humanitarian Affairs Asia in mainstreaming human security issues in Asian region.

Chapter V This chapter figures out the conclusion coming from Chapter I until Chapter IV as a form of affirmation of this research. This chapter also will give a suggestion that could be used for further research.