

Relevance of Indonesia's G20 Presidency to the Resolution of the Russia-Ukraine Conflict

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Abstract

Since 2019 the world has been shocked by the occurrence of the Covid-19 pandemic , whose existence has greatly limited everything and affected various sectors of life in the world . The economy is no exception , coinciding with these conditions , Indonesia is hosting the G20 Presidency , which is an international forum that focuses on discussed the global economy . At the same time , Indonesia faces challenges and pressures from outside , namely the occurrence of the Russian-Ukrainian armed conflict . Indonesia's position is very difficult to deal with with the emergence of a Western coalition and an Eastern coalition in the G20 membership . With this situation , Indonesia took a neutral stance as the holder of the mandate to host the G20 Presidency . This pressure made the Indonesian government take a wise attitude by not taking sides with one party but invite all parties to sit together to determine the direction of global economics policy goals . not only that , Indonesian must also remain focused so that this international economic forum is not influenced by geopolitical conditions so that the essence and purpose of the implementation of the G20 Presidency remains in accordance with its khidah . Although it is unavoidable that geopolitical and geoeconomics conditions simultaneously are often interrelated . Thus , the interests and commitments to improve socio-economic conditions in the global and domestic spheres must be harmonized with enthusiasm and a balanced effort in providing discussion space to rebuild and improve global conditions to be better and stronger together .

Keywords : Covid-19, G20 Presidency , Russia-Ukraine

A. Introduction

Indonesia has now become the attention of the whole world because Indonesia is currently the host of the Group of 20 (G20) Summit and this is the first opportunity that Indonesia has had. The implementation period of the cooperation forum for the 20 major world economies will be held for one year, starting from December 1, 2021 to November 30, 2022. Historically, the G20 was originally only a forum for meeting the Ministers of Finance and Central Bank Governors between countries, but with increasing dynamics discussion of issues raised, especially in the development sector, namely the *Finance Track* and *Sherpa Track*. The Heads of State immediately took part in attending the discussion.

We are currently shown the emergence of multidimensional problems or crises arising from the COVID-19 pandemic . The COVID -19 epidemic has caused many losses in various aspects of life, both in terms of economy, social, culture, and politics. The influence of the multidimensional crisis is quite a big impact in changing the order of people's lives. In a situation where the whole world will have an impact on the COVID-19 pandemic , and all people who have adapted to the *New Normal era* , an armed conflict arises which historically has started to occur from a few years back . Tensions between Russia and Ukraine were initiated by the deployment of hundreds of thousands of Russian military personnel to the Ukrainian border area, which in turn caused responses from various countries in the world, especially the United States and NATO. The invasion of Ukraine by Russia on February 24, 2022 marked a return to war between countries which was something that Europe had not experienced since 1945 so the war between Russia and Ukraine had very serious implications for global markets that could potentially have a tiered impact on economies around the world. Russia and Ukraine are important actors in the global oil, gas, grain, energy, food and fertilizer markets.¹

¹Intan Rakhmayanti. (2022). Russia-Ukrainian War, World Food Prices Clash . Accessed at <https://www.cnbcindonesia.com/news.20220223205024-4-317797/russia-ukraina-yang->

B. Research methods

The method used in this study is a qualitative or *library approach search* . *library method search* or literature study is used by carrying out data collection techniques by conducting a review study of books, journals, literatures, notes, and reports that have to do with the case in question .

C. G20 Presidency

Since 1999, which was the first year the *intergovernmental forum* The G20 was formed by Indonesia and has officially become a part or member in it. The basic purpose of the establishment of the G20 forum is to discuss, study, and review policy issues among industrialized countries and emerging market countries with the aim of promoting international financial stability. Through contributions and participation by all G20 member countries, it is hoped that solutions to the global financial crisis will emerge from various perspectives. The G20 has an important role in formulating various global issues related to growth and the economy as well as economic and financial stability. Being the chair or host of the G20 Summit for Indonesia is considered to be able to offset the consequences of state financial spending. Since the G20 does not have a permanent secretariat, secretarial support is provided by the country that is chairing the G20 in the current year, which with that capacity, is responsible for organizing the annual summit.²

The implementation of the G20 Presidency in Indonesia is expected to be the right momentum for the Indonesian government to rearrange its focus on its long-term development agenda while facilitating discussions between heads of state regarding the rise of a stronger and more equitable global economy.

war-harga-pangan-dunia-bertebangan?msckid=fe77e9dad03411ec8b23cee6741521d7 on 6 September 2022

²Jan Rood . (2014). *transnational Governance and Democratic Legitimacy : The Case of the G20 and Financial -Economic Cooperation* . The Hague : The Hague Institute for Global Justice / Netherlands Institute of International Relations Clingendael .

The G20 Presidency was also carried out so that there was harmony in responding to various global and regional issues, with the theme raised on the occasion of the G20 Presidency is " *Recover Together , Recover Stronger* ". The momentum of the G20 Presidency must be utilized as much as possible to encourage the pace of strengthening the industrial sector in the midst of world conditions affected by the multidimensional crisis as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. In its implementation, the G20 Presidency this time has 3 priority sector focuses, namely:

- 1) Global Health Architecture.
- 2) Sustainable energy transition.
- 3) Digital and economic transformation.

Through the G20 Presidency , Indonesia has a great opportunity to win the trust of foreign investors to be able to invest in the country. Because of course for Indonesia, the G20 Presidency will open up a lot of investment, jobs, and ideas for economic development from all walks of life, including Indonesia in it , which will certainly benefit Indonesia's economic growth.

D. Russia-Ukraine conflict

In the midst of the struggles of various countries in the world to face the Covid-19 pandemic in order to save economic growth, a problem or armed conflict arises between Russia and Ukraine. From a historical point of view, this conflict is not a new conflict in Eastern Europe, but is part of the remnants of the cold war that still persists to this day. The invasion carried out by Russia into the border areas of the Ukrainian state by utilizing separatist groups in the Donetsk , Luhan and Crimea areas . Based on the expansion of NATO which has begun to spread its influence to Eastern Europe, Russia considers this expansion to be a danger to state security and becomes a threat in itself for Russia. Although some of the country's economies have bounced back quickly

after Covid-19. but in the war Russia and Ukraine led to major inflationary pressures and supply chain disruptions.³

The conflict between the two countries not only causes the loss of human life as victims of war due to armed conflict, but can also have an impact on the world economy. Because, both Russia and Ukraine are the highest suppliers of commodities in terms of energy and main food in the world, so that when a war occurs, it will automatically have implications for the distribution of the main energy and food. According to Aknolt Kristian Pakpahan that Russia can impose retaliatory sanctions or export bans, and other countries so that they can be affected and their interests are doubted ⁴, the estuary of the armed conflict will lead to the restructuring of international trade and countries that have relations with Russia and Ukraine. Because it certainly intersects with the national interests of each country.

E. Presidency and the Resolution of the Russia-Ukraine Conflict

It is clear that the Russian-Ukrainian conflict has implications for various aspects of life, especially regarding the distribution of energy and food supplies in the world. This condition resulted in differences of opinion regarding the presence of the Russian President at the implementation of the G20 Presidency in Indonesia. With these differences of opinion causing a fairly complex polarization in the G20 members, the US and its allies are very clear against the presence of the Russian President, but both China and Brazil argue that Russia still needs to be involved in the G20 Presidency . Quoting a statement from an international relations observer from Gadjah Mada University (UGM), Dr. Riza Noer Arfani stated that the rejection of Russia's involvement in the G20 meeting was a diplomatic drama. The aim is to

³Sony Hendra Permana. (2022). The Impact of the Russia-Ukrainian War on the Indonesian Economy. DPR RI Research Center , Vol . XIV, No. 5

⁴Aknolt Kristian Pakpahan. (2022). Russian Invasion of Ukraine and the Global Economy. accessed in <https://unpar.ac.id/invasi-russia-ke-ukraine-dan-perekonomian-global/> on 5 September 2022

influence international public opinion regarding Russia, which is considered the aggressor of Ukraine.⁵

In responding to this polarization, the Indonesian government firmly stated that all G20 member countries must attend without exception. Because to create a solution or answer to various complex global problems in terms of Global Health Architecture, sustainable energy transition and digital economic transformation. To discuss these multidimensional problems, all members of the G-20 are required to attend and discuss them together. Because, it cannot be denied that Russia is one of the countries that has an important role in increasing or growing the world economy. Heavier Western sanctions on Russia led to persistent increases in commodity prices and global inflation.⁶

Various parties encourage Indonesia to be able to use the G20 Presidency as a means of resolving the Russian-Ukrainian armed conflict. In the free and active foreign policy system adopted by Indonesia, it provides a strategic space in taking the trust of countries to be able to take concrete steps to resolve the Russia-Ukraine conflict. If indeed Indonesia can take advantage of this momentum to mediate between Russia and Ukraine, Indonesia will certainly get a positive response and make history in global leadership.

In accordance with the state constitution that Indonesia opposes all forms of war violence, consequently Indonesia certainly hopes for a good solution by prioritizing win-win solution to the Russian-Ukrainian conflict. However, looking at the reasons and objectives of the G20, it has become a debate whether this forum can indeed be used to resolve the conflict or not. Basically the G20 Presidency forum is not designed to be able to stop military operations of all countries without exception. Quoting from Edy Prasetyono 's statement

⁵Edy Prasetyono . (2022). Lecturer of International Relations in Public Discussion of the Impact of the Russia-Ukrainian Conflict on the G20 Presidency in Indonesia. <https://fisip.ui.ac.id/dosen-nasional-dalam-diskusi-publik-dampak-konflik-russia-ukraina-terhadap-presidensi-g20-di-indonesia/>. accessed on 5 September 2022.

⁶Muhammad, A. (2015). "Welcome to the Cold War!" Russia's Interests in Crimea and Eastern Ukraine and Tensions in Relations with the West. *Insighnia : Journal of International Relations*, 2(02), 01-11.

that, "Indonesia does not participate in imposing sanctions, it does not mean pro-Russia, but because Indonesia holds the principle of integrity and respects international law because at that time there was no official sanction provision from the United Nations". Of course, the three focus sectors of this discussion are complex issues, the burden of the state has resulted in many countries restructuring internally in dealing with this multidimensional problem. The focus of this forum is indeed on the financial sector, but this G20 forum is based on consensus, so everyone must be involved and sit together with a means of communication between state leaders. meet global energy and food needs.

F. Conclusion

Hosting the G20 Presidency is a very meaningful moment for Indonesia, because currently all countries in the world are struggling to maintain their respective economies. Meanwhile, an armed conflict emerged between Russia and Ukraine that had an impact on the global economy, as well as differences of opinion within the G20 membership regarding Russia's involvement in the international forum event . As a country that stands for peace and promotes free and active politics in its international relations, Indonesia needs to respect all decisions of countries in the world. However, as one of the countries that is expected to act as a mediator, Indonesia needs to open up space for the two countries, Russia and Ukraine, to be able to consolidate and negotiate on the issues that are already quite late. With differences of opinion emerging whether the G20 Presidency , which is the global economic discussion agenda, is relevant to solving these problems, Indonesia needs to communicate with all parties for the sake of Indonesia's accountability as the host of the G20 Presidency . The success of the G20 will have a significant impact not only on the economies of the G20 countries but also on the entire world. The privileges obtained by the G20 countries are also accompanied by a consensus that shows a global governance process. Likewise, the compliance of G20 member countries will take the same steps from non-G20 member countries.

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