

Indonesia's Motives and Actions by Assisting Rohingya Refugees: Content Analysis of Indonesia News Articles, Government Official Documents, and International Organization Reports

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Abstract

The plight of the Rohingya minority is linked to escalating violence in Rakhine State and the inaction of ASEAN urges Indonesia diplomacy to help resolve this crisis. According to UNHCR, by the end of 2017, there were 1.2 million Rohingya refugees originating from Myanmar who represented the fourth-largest refugees in the world. Indonesia has proposed to restore the stability and security of Myanmar, end the violence, protect all people in Rakhine State regardless of race and religion, and open more access to humanitarian assistance. This research analysed around 300 Indonesia news articles, several government official documents, and some international organizations reports. This research was a content analysis of a case study. It used qualitative analysis via Nvivo and checklist considering time reference. The results showed that Indonesia has exercised humanitarian diplomacy and has provided international assistance as well as proposing a one-year-long resettlement towards Rohingya refugees. In addition it was likely to bolster Jokowi's popularity towards a presidential reelection. The conclusion was that Indonesia, through the ethical approach and international aid could influence its national goals, particularly boosting its role in the region and Jokowi's presidential electability.

Keyword : Rohingya, Indonesia, ASEAN, diplomacy, politics