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The Role of Indonesia in Mitigating the Humanitarian Impact of the War in Gaza through Humanitarian Assistance

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Abstract: The outbreak of the Hamas-Israel war in October 2023 resulted in significant humanitarian impacts, including tens of thousands of civilian casualties, destruction of homes, places of worship, and hospitals, heightened potential for diseases, and deep-seated trauma. The humanitarian impact in Gaza became a global issue requiring immediate attention, including from Indonesia. This research aimed to explore the Hamas-Israel conflict, highlighting Indonesia's active role in alleviating humanitarian impacts in Gaza through humanitarian assistance. Descriptive qualitative methodology was used in this research to provide a comprehensive understanding of the topic. Data were collected through a literature review from relevant books, journals, and websites to elucidate Indonesia's role in mitigating the humanitarian impact of the Gaza conflict through humanitarian assistance. The study employed Conflict Theory, Constructivist Theory, and Humanitarian Assistance Concepts for analysis. The study results revealed that Indonesia had provided humanitarian aid covering basic needs such as food, water, and medical supplies, alongside funding for hospital repairs delivered via sea and air routes in collaboration with Egypt and Jordan. Indonesia guided by its national goal to achieve world peace is committed to give humanitarian assistance throughout the Hamas-Israel war while supporting a two-state solution as a conflict resolution.

Keyword: Indonesia's Role, Hamas-Israel War, Humanitarian Impacts, Gaza, Humanitarian Assistance

INTRODUCTION

Territorial disputes are one of the main causes of conventional conflicts leading to destructive impacts due to invasions (Rezara & Sedyantoputro, 2020). One pertinent example is the prolonged conflict between Palestine and Israel, which has persisted since the 20th century (Damura et al., 2021). The conflict traces back to Israel's unilateral declaration over Palestinian territories, stemming from the Balfour Declaration by the British government in

1917 (Satri, 2019). This declaration promised the establishment of a Jewish state on Palestinian land (Nurdyawati, 2020). Following this agreement, Israelis forcibly annexed and expelled Palestinians from their homeland using coercion and violence (Cahya, 2022). Israel's territorial expansion and Palestinian resistance have resulted in a prolonged conflict, destroying private homes and public facilities such as schools, offices, and places of worship, and causing significant loss of life among Palestinians (Jazuli, 2023).

The cumulative injustices experienced by Palestinians over more than 70 years prompted Hamas (Harakat Al-Muqawwamatul Islamiyah), a faction in Gaza, to launch a retaliatory attack against Israel on October 7, 2023 (Zhafira, 2023). Hamas spokesman Khaled Qadomi stated that the attack aimed to garner international support to stop the atrocities against Palestinians in Gaza, including the destruction of sacred sites like Al-Aqsa (CNBC Indonesia, 2023). Following the Hamas attack, which resulted in Israeli casualties, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed to take decisive action against Hamas, declaring war and promising to eradicate Hamas forces through a prolonged and complex war (Rahmani, 2023). Israel launched air and ground assaults, bombing various locations in Gaza. Research by Ramadhan (2024) indicates that Israel's war declaration has inflicted severe suffering on Palestinians, particularly in Gaza. Within a month of Hamas's attack, 1,200 Israelis were killed, 250 were taken hostage, while Israeli attacks killed 33,000 Palestinians, with the toll continuing to rise.

Israel's disproportionate response, targeting not only combatants but also civilians, including children and women, has prompted countries like South Africa to seek legal action against Israel for genocide at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) (Ramadhan, 2024). Although South Africa is advocating for justice, the humanitarian impact of the Israel-Hamas war in Gaza persists, drawing global attention, including from Indonesia.

Indonesia believes that "independence is the right of all nations and therefore, colonialism must be abolished as it is contrary to humanity and justice." Consequently, Indonesia's foreign policy often leans towards peace diplomacy in various regions, including between Palestine and Israel (Gati & Hafid, 2024). Indonesia's commitment in the context of the Hamas-Israel war is demonstrated by Foreign Minister Retno Marsudi's speeches at international forums like the United Nations, presenting data on war-related losses (Renaldo, 2024).

Efforts to prosecute Israel at the ICJ have yet to yield a decision, and the UN has been unable to pass a ceasefire resolution due to veto power exercised by superpowers. The end of the Hamas-Israel war remains uncertain, and the humanitarian impact, including loss of life, psychological trauma, disease from poor sanitation, and starvation, continues (Abudayya et al., 2023).

Given the background, it is essential to further examine Indonesia's role as a nation with national goal to achieve world peace based on independence, perpetual peace, and social justice in mitigating the humanitarian impact of the war in Gaza. This study analyzes Indonesia's role through the concept of Humanitarian Assistance, which involves providing aid to alleviate suffering caused by disasters or conflicts, as seen in Gaza due to the Israel-Hamas war (Samudro et al., 2022).

METHOD

This study uses a descriptive qualitative method, as explained by Sugiyono (2014), to comprehensively explore complex issues like Indonesia's role in mitigating the humanitarian impact of the Gaza war. Findings are presented narratively, describing Indonesia's role based on chronology and interpretation without manipulation (Rusandi & Rusli, 2021). Data collection was conducted through library research, which Nazir (2014) defines as gathering data from books and previous journals as references to obtain information about the Israel-Hamas war and its humanitarian impact, and from official Indonesian government websites

and other online sources for data on humanitarian assistance to war victims since October 7, 2023.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

History and Chronology of the Hamas-Israel War

Hamas is one of the leading factions in the Gaza Strip (Khumairoh & Fadhil, 2019). The faction's name originates from the Arabic letters Cha', Mim, Alif, and Sin, forming the acronym for Harakat al-Muqawama al-Islamiya, meaning Islamic Resistance Movement, which also translates to "zeal" in Arabic (Muzammil et al., 2015). Hamas is divided into several sub-committees: the Shura Council, responsible for decision-making and strategy formulation; the Executive Committee or Political Office, the highest committee within Hamas; the Military and Security Wing, often involved in attacks against Israel; the Youth Wing, operating in universities around Palestine to mobilize students; Da'wa (Outreach) and Social Networks, aimed at building Hamas's strength in social, cultural, religious, and educational aspects; and Communications and Media, responsible for all declarations or announcements made by Hamas (Ibrahim, 2015).

The tense relationship between Hamas and Israel has historically been fraught with various confrontations and wars over control of the Gaza Strip (BBC, 2023). Hamas's primary goal is to reclaim all land that initially belonged to Palestine, viewing Israelis as tourists who should eventually return to their origins. Hamas also aims to mobilize all Arab and Muslim countries worldwide to address and act against the issues faced by Palestine and counter Israel's occupation efforts (Al Quds, 2017).

The current war between Hamas and Israel is part of a long and deadly conflict between Palestine and Israel. The bloodshed between the two is one of the world's most enduring conflicts, dating back to the early 20th century, with no conflict resolution achieved to initiate a peace cycle (Indriasandi & Wargadinata, 2023). The primary cause of this conflict is Israel's unilateral claim over Palestinian territories, stemming from the League of Nations mandate to Britain to establish a Jewish state in the region after World War I (Fitria & Putra, 2022). This mandate was realized through the Balfour Declaration, a letter from the British Foreign Secretary to a prominent British Jew, Lionel Walter Rothschild (Trangerud, 2021). The brief letter of 67 words committed the British government to establishing a national home for Jews in Palestine, promising to facilitate efforts to achieve this goal (Nurjannah, 2019).

The unending disputes escalated into a bloody event known as the Nakba in 1948 (Wibowo, 2014). Israel's occupation of Palestinian land was not accepted by Arab countries, leading to resistance against Israel and its allies, like the United States, although these efforts failed due to the Arab nations' defeat (Derajat & Kurniawan, 2023). The term Nakba, meaning catastrophe, aptly describes the massive physical, psychological, and material losses suffered by Palestinians. Around 700,000 Palestinians were expelled from their homeland, and 100 people were massacred in the Deir Yassin village (CNN, 2024).

The British government withdrew from the conflict, calling on the United Nations to find a resolution for the Israel-Palestine conflict (Nurjannah, 2019). Despite numerous UN efforts, including seven General Assembly Resolutions and Security Council Resolutions from 1947 to 2002, the conflict persists, claiming many lives (Firdaus & Yani, 2020). Conflict, defined by Merriam-Webster as warfare, fighting, or struggle for interests, arises from differing and obstructing interests among parties, potentially escalating into war and casualties. This definition aptly represents the ongoing Palestine-Israel conflict, now evolving into the Hamas-Israel conflict. Hamas's interest lies in stopping Israel's longstanding atrocities and securing Palestinian rights to live safely on their land, while Israel aims to maintain its occupation, viewing the land as divinely destined for Jews. Webster's view is supported by Ichsan Malik (2017), who states that conflict can lead to violence as parties

involved strive to eliminate each other's rights, including lives. UN data indicates that from 2008 to 2020, 251 Israelis and 5,590 Palestinians died in the conflict. The Gaza conflict of 2014, known as Operation Protective Edge, resulted in the highest casualties, following Hamas's killing of Israeli youths (Pusparisa, 2021).

Conflict intensity surged on October 7, 2023, when Hamas attacked Israel on Simchat Torah, launching about 5,000 rockets and weapons at 22 locations outside Gaza, causing at least 250 deaths and numerous injuries (Adryamarthanino & Indriawati, 2023). Hamas's operation, termed Operation Al-Aqsa Storm, reflected their frustration with Israel's long-standing brutality against Palestinians. However, Israel viewed this counterattack as terrorism and an invasion attempt (Hutchinson, 2023). Hours after Hamas's attack, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu responded by declaring war on Hamas (Subramaniam, 2023). Israel's war declaration signaled the start of "Operation Iron Swords" by the Israel Defense Forces to retaliate against Hamas (Christiastuti, 2023). The day after Hamas's attack, Israeli tanks and personnel carriers moved towards the Israel-Gaza border. In his aggression towards Palestine, the Israeli Prime Minister warned Gaza residents to leave the area, signaling massive retaliation against densely populated regions (Deng, 2023). Israel launched air and ground assaults, bombing various Gaza locations and preparing for a ground invasion involving urban combat, risking civilian lives (Kirby, 2023).

Humanitarian Impact of the Hamas-Israel War

The risk of Israel's ground aggression on civilians is evident, as Israel's declared war aimed at eradicating Hamas impacts Palestinian civilians negatively (Indraswari, 2023). Amnesty International's Secretary-General, Agnès Callamard, stated that Israel's efforts to eradicate Hamas show a disregard for civilian lives based on current casualty data (Amnesty International, 2023).

Humanitarian law governing warfare includes the principle of distinction, differentiating between civilians (non-combatants) and military objects (combatants) (Sulistia, 2023). According to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, attacks during warfare should only target military objectives, meaning Israel should only strike Hamas forces. However, data shows most casualties are civilians.

Figure 1. Martyrs victims of the Hamas-Israel war



Source: Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, 2024

According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, since Israel's attacks began on October 7, 2023, 36,899 Palestinians have died, with 36,379 from Gaza and 520 from the West Bank (Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, 2024).

Figure 2. Injured victims of the Hamas-Israel war



Source: Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, 2024

Among the tens of thousands of Palestinian casualties, 69 were civil defense forces, and the rest were civilians. The highest number of deaths were children, with 15,162 from Gaza and 124 from the West Bank. Gaza's Health Minister reported that 160 children die daily in the conflict, and this number could worsen if the war continues (Baba, 2023).

The second-highest casualties were women, totaling 10,018, and elderly people, totaling 1,049. Similar to children, women and the elderly are not combatants but still fall victim to the prolonged and complex Hamas-Israel conflict. Israeli attacks also killed non-combatants like medical staff (492 deaths), journalists (147 deaths), education staff (246 deaths), UN staff (152 deaths), and many others reported missing or dead.

Meanwhile, 87,407 Palestinians are injured, with 82,407 from Gaza, including 6,168 children, and 5,000 from the West Bank, including 660 children. UN reports indicate severe damage to essential public facilities in Gaza, with 33 health facilities and 126 ambulances out of service, exacerbating the humanitarian crisis.

Israel's aggression also severely damaged infrastructure crucial for Palestinian life (Al Jazeera, 2024). Continuous cross-border attacks have destroyed thousands of buildings, including mosques, churches, government offices, schools, universities, and civilian homes, leaving Palestinians, especially in Gaza, feeling constantly threatened and far from peace. With 200,000 people displaced and 13,975 detained, Palestinians, particularly children, women, and the elderly, are focused solely on survival amid relentless Israeli attacks.

War, considered the last resort in conflicts, is still governed by International Humanitarian Law to ensure actions remain within reasonable bounds, preventing excessive suffering. The ICRC website states that Article 54 of the 1977 Additional Protocol I prohibits making starvation a method of warfare by blocking essential supplies like food, clean water, electricity, medicine, and fuel to Gaza. However, Israel has violated this law since the war began by preventing these supplies from reaching Gaza (CNBC Indonesia, 2023).

Figure 3. UN Report on Gaza Blockade



Source: United Nations, 2023

The UN reports that Israel's full blockade on Gaza exacerbates civilian suffering by blocking basic life-saving services like clean water, food, electricity, and medical supplies. Bombing across Gaza necessitates special tools for testing and treating water, which Israel prohibits, preventing the Gaza Health Ministry from ensuring clean water (Baba, 2023).

Israel's indiscriminate war forces Gaza civilians to drink unsafe water, risking waterborne diseases like cholera. Gaza's Health Ministry warns that the lack of clean water and sanitation could lead to epidemics, worsening existing conditions and increasing mortality rates (Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, 2023).

The WHO is concerned about the damage to health facilities, making it difficult for vulnerable groups like pregnant women and the elderly to receive basic healthcare. The increasing temperatures in Gaza have also led to a rise in hepatitis and meningitis cases, prompting the Ministry of Health to call on humanitarian and international organizations to urgently intervene as the clean water situation worsens due to access restrictions imposed by Israel (The New Arab, 2024).

Initiation of Indonesia's Role in the Hamas-Israel War

The outbreak of war between Hamas and Israel has drawn global attention, particularly due to the excessive humanitarian impact caused by random attacks that have claimed many civilian lives, especially in Gaza. Countries around the world, assembled under the United Nations (UN), held a meeting with the General Assembly in the tenth emergency special session discussing "Illegal Israeli actions in occupied East Jerusalem and other occupied Palestinian territories" (United Nations Press, 2023).

Recalling Security Council resolutions on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, including on children and armed conflict, expressing grave concern at the latest escalation of violence since the 7 October 2023 attack and the grave deterioration of the situation in the region, particularly in the Gaza Strip and other Occupied Palestinian Territories, including East Jerusalem, and in Israel, condemning all acts of violence aimed at Palestinian and Israeli civilians, including all acts of terrorism and indiscriminate attacks, as well as all acts of provocation, incitement and destruction, recalling the need to uphold the principles of distinction, necessity, proportionality, and precaution in hostilities, emphasizing that civilians must be protected in accordance with international humanitarian law and human rights law, and deploring the heavy civilian casualties and widespread destruction, emphasizing the need

to pursue accountability and stressing the importance of ensuring independent and transparent investigations in accordance with international standards, expressing grave concern at the catastrophic humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip and its vast consequences for the civilian population, largely comprising children, and underlining the need for full, immediate, safe, unhindered, and sustained humanitarian access, expressing strong support for the efforts of the Secretary-General and for his calls for immediate and unrestricted humanitarian aid access to meet the most basic needs of the Palestinian civilian population in the Gaza Strip, underlining the Secretary-General’s message that food, water, medicine, and fuel need to be sustained at scale, and expressing appreciation for the critical role played by Egypt in this regard, expressing strong support also for all regional and international efforts aimed at achieving an immediate cessation of hostilities, ensuring the protection of civilians, and providing humanitarian aid.

In this UN General Assembly meeting, a resolution titled "Protection of civilians and the enforcement of legal and humanitarian obligations" (UN Document, A/ES-10/L.25) was adopted, with 120 countries supporting, 14 opposing, and 45 abstaining. The UN General Assembly’s decision calls for all parties to promptly assume their roles and adhere to their respective obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law. Following this decision, international organizations and individual countries, including Indonesia, have begun formulating policies to participate in the Hamas-Israel war.

Indonesia and Palestine have historically maintained a close relationship. This bilateral relationship was established even before Indonesia’s independence due to the many Indonesian youths who traveled to the Middle East for education, learning from Palestinian Sheikh Kahar Muzakkar and Sayyid Amin al-Husaini from Egypt (Hakim, 2017). Indonesia, striving for independence at the time, greatly needed recognition from other countries, and Palestine, along with Egypt, were the first to recognize Indonesia as a sovereign state. This recognition has since strengthened the relationship between Indonesia and Middle Eastern countries such as Palestine and Egypt (Nurhasanah & Setiwati, 2024).

Indonesia consistently monitors and responds to the conflict in Gaza, and as the humanitarian impact worsened, President Joko Widodo held a special meeting in October 2023 to discuss Indonesia's strategic response to the Hamas-Israel conflict. President Widodo declared that Indonesia would send humanitarian aid to alleviate the suffering of people in Gaza in accordance with the needs and requests of the Palestinian people (Indah, 2023).

Indonesia's initiative to provide humanitarian aid to Gaza can be understood through the lens of constructivist theory, which emphasizes shared ideas shaping norms, identities, and interests of actors in international relations. This theory suggests that although actors like Indonesia have their interests and policies driven by these interests, higher components such as shared ideas must be considered and upheld in policy-making (Hermawan, 2007).

Table 1. Constructivist Theory Analysis of Indonesia’s Initiation

Norms	Identity	Interests
International humanitarian norms	Nation under Colonial Rule Preamble of the 1945 Constitution Religious Nation Palestinian Support for Indonesian Independence	Indonesia’s Existence in the International Community

Source: Research data

Constructivism highlights three main components: norms, identity, and interests, which explain Indonesia's intention to provide humanitarian aid to mitigate the war's humanitarian

impact in Gaza. In international relations, norms guide countries on what should be considered national interests and implemented through national policies (Hara, 2011). The relevant norm in the Hamas-Israel case is international humanitarian law, emphasizing respect for human rights, peaceful conflict resolution, and humanitarian aid to alleviate the suffering of those affected by the war (Khurun'in, 2015). The existence of humanitarian norms in international relations prompts Indonesia to take action, as the Hamas-Israel war is a global humanitarian issue needing immediate attention.

Identity, derived from the Latin word "idem," has two fundamental meanings: similarity and distinction. Identity can align characteristics between countries and differentiate them from one another. It refers to shared traits with other nations and distinguishing features. Shared identity influences a country's solidarity and loyalty regarding national policies (Zehfuss, 2002). The aspects of identity driving Indonesia's humanitarian aid in Gaza include its history of colonialism, constitutional mandates, religious ethos, and Palestine's support for Indonesia's independence in 1944 (Kementerian Agama Republik Indonesia, 2017).

Indonesia's history as a nation that gained independence from colonial rule by the Dutch and Japanese influences its solidarity with Palestine, which has faced displacement since the Balfour Declaration (Nurjannah & Fakhrudin, 2019). This shared history of colonization fosters a sense of solidarity and loyalty, prompting Indonesia to provide humanitarian aid to Gaza.

The suffering caused by colonialism in Indonesia's past is enshrined in its 1945 Constitution, which declares, "Independence is the right of all nations, and therefore, colonialism must be abolished because it is not in line with humanity and justice." This aligns Indonesia against colonialism as seen in Palestine. The escalation of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict indirectly hinders freedom, perpetuating colonialism. Indonesia's commitment to global peace, including in Palestine, is reflected in the constitutional mandate to "participate in maintaining world order based on freedom, perpetual peace, and social justice."

During Indonesia's fight for independence, it needed international recognition to establish itself as a sovereign state. Palestine was among the first to recognize Indonesia's sovereignty, significantly aiding its global acceptance (Sahlan et al., 2021). This historical support is a strong reason for Indonesia's ongoing involvement in Palestinian issues.

Discussing identity, Indonesia and Palestine share significant Muslim populations. Beyond religious affiliation, Indonesia's religious identity, acknowledging that no religion condones suffering as seen in Gaza, compels it to act to mitigate this suffering (Kementerian Agama Republik Indonesia, 2017).

Indonesia's humanitarian aid initiative is also driven by interests, including fostering global peace and asserting its presence on the international stage. Besides humanitarian aid, Indonesia actively engages in diplomacy to build peace between Palestine and Israel (Kementerian Luar Negeri Indonesia, 2023). The components of "norms, identity, interests" within constructivist theory are the driving forces influencing Indonesia's role in initiating humanitarian aid to alleviate the humanitarian impact of the Hamas-Israel war in Gaza and surrounding areas.

Humanitarian Assistance by Indonesia for War Victims in Gaza (2023-2024)

Indonesia, a nation that has demonstrated its commitment to global peace through international forums such as the United Nations (UN), international organizations like the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), and regional entities like ASEAN, is dedicated to resolving the conflict between Hamas and Israel, as well as the broader Palestinian-Israeli conflict. The worsening humanitarian crisis in Gaza and its surroundings has prompted Indonesia to provide humanitarian assistance, a concept that can be explored through the framework of humanitarian assistance.

Humanitarian assistance involves providing aid to save lives and alleviate the suffering of those affected by humanitarian crises during conflicts and wars, such as the current situation in Gaza (Samudro et al., 2023). This concept focuses on short-term humanitarian aid, including basic necessities such as food, clean water, clothing, and shelter, as well as efforts to enhance peacekeeping missions, security, and basic health services to save lives disrupted by war (Nugraha et al., 2022). Humanitarian assistance is grounded in human rights, supporting the survival of individuals, and is often provided through coordinated efforts by governments, civil society, and humanitarian organizations (Ugwu & Onwuka, 2016).

Humanitarian assistance is based on the importance of respecting human rights (Karmila, 2018). Pringle and Hunt (2015) explain that humanitarian aid aimed at saving the lives of conflict-affected populations must adhere to three key principles: neutrality, impartiality, and independence. Neutrality means that humanitarian aid must not favor any party involved in the conflict. Impartiality requires that aid prioritize all affected victims without discrimination based on their affiliation. Independence mandates that humanitarian actors providing aid should not be associated with any conflicting parties.

Indonesia, as a nation supporting global peace, has undertaken concrete steps to mitigate the humanitarian impact in Gaza and its surroundings due to the war. These steps include:

Table 2. Details of Indonesia's Humanitarian Assistance for Gaza (2023-2024)

No.	Date	Type of Aid	Actors	Value
1.	November 4, 2023	Basic needs	Indonesian government, BAZNAS, PMI, Humanitarian Forum Indonesia, TNI	50 Tons
2.	November 6, 2023	Clean water distiller, basic medicines (ARI, skin diseases, diarrhea)	Indonesian government and TNI	7 Tons
3.	November 20, 2023	Basic needs and hygiene kit	Indonesian government and TNI	21.7 Tons
4.	December 4, 2023	Basic needs	Indonesian, BAZNAS, TNI, Indonesian government	6 Container truck
5.	December 18, 2023	Basic needs	Indonesian, BAZNAS, TNI, Indonesian government	10 Container truck
6.	December 28 2023	Basic needs	Indonesian, BAZNAS, TNI, Indonesian government	3 Container truck
7.	January 14, 2024	Basic needs	Indonesian, BAZNAS, TNI, Indonesian government	60 Tons
8.	January 26, 2024	Funds for repairs to the Indonesian Hospital in Gaza	Indonesian, BPKP, MER-C	US\$2000
9.	February 14, 2024	Basic needs	Indonesian, BAZNAS, TNI, Indonesian government	242.6 Tons

10.	March 29, 2024	Basic needs	Indonesian government and Jordan	14 Tons
11.	April 3, 2024	Medical general and medicine (syringe pump and anesthesia) and ambulance supply	Indonesian government and Egypt	16 Tons

Source: Research data

Humanitarian aid provided through cooperation among all components of Indonesian society, including humanitarian organizations such as the Indonesian Red Cross (PMI), BAZNAS, and the Humanitarian Forum Indonesia, coordinated by the Indonesian government and delivered to Gaza with the assistance of the Indonesian National Armed Forces (TNI). This aid addresses the basic needs of Gaza’s population, including food, clean water, blankets, mattresses, medicine, medical equipment like oxygen tanks, and generators to alleviate the current humanitarian impact. The aid will be distributed by the Palestinian Red Crescent to the affected victims (Fanuelle, 2023).

The Israeli blockade of Gaza complicates humanitarian aid delivery, prompting Indonesia to collaborate with Egypt, which facilitates the delivery of aid. Various transportation methods from Indonesia include the KRI Dr. Radjiman Wedyodiningrat-992 naval vessel and aircraft such as the Hercules C-130 J, Airbus A0330, and Boeing 737 Garuda. The Indonesian National Armed Forces (TNI) also collaborates with the Royal Jordanian Air Force (RJAF) to deliver aid via air drops into Gaza (Kementerian Pertahanan Republik Indonesia, 2024).

The Indonesian Minister of Defense, Prabowo Subianto, representing the President of the Republic of Indonesia, expressed a commitment to continuously support the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) by sending additional humanitarian aid, including medical personnel and field hospital staff to Gaza, as well as a hospital ship. Indonesia will also contribute to air-dropping humanitarian aid as needed. Additionally, Indonesia is willing to receive up to 1,000 patients from Gaza for optimal treatment in Indonesian hospitals, with plans to repatriate them once their conditions have stabilized. Indonesia will also provide post-trauma care and education for Gaza’s children, returning them once the situation stabilizes (Kementerian Pertahanan Republik Indonesia, 2024).

Despite Indonesia's active role in providing humanitarian assistance to alleviate the humanitarian impact in Gaza due to the ongoing war, it also supports the resolution of the conflict through tangible conflict resolution measures such as ceasefires and the two-state solution. The two-state solution is a realistic resolution for Palestine and Israel to coexist peacefully, aiming to prevent future wars (Kementerian Pertahanan Republik Indonesia, 2024).

CONCLUSION

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is a prolonged struggle originating from territorial disputes and annexation. The injustices felt by Hamas due to Israeli annexation have triggered attacks on Israeli citizens, which Israel responded to with a declaration of war against Hamas. Israel’s attacks have not only targeted Hamas forces but also resulted in numerous civilian casualties, leading to the destruction of infrastructure such as homes, places of worship, and hospitals, and increasing the risk of disease and trauma among Gaza’s population. As a country upholding human rights and guided by its national goal to achieve world peace based on independence, perpetual peace, and social justice, Indonesia views this conflict as a shared issue that must be resolved, consistent with its national identity opposing

colonialism and violence. Therefore, Indonesia has initiated humanitarian assistance to mitigate the impact of this conflict. This effort involves all components of Indonesian society, including the public, humanitarian organizations, the Indonesian National Armed Forces (TNI), and the government, collaborating to send essential supplies and medical equipment via sea and air routes. Cooperation with Egypt and Jordan is also undertaken to facilitate aid delivery. Indonesia is committed to continuing its humanitarian efforts and supporting a two-state solution to resolve the Hamas-Israel conflict.

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