

Abstrak

Penelitian ini berusaha menganalisis bagaimana karakter-karakter asertif hadir dalam kebijakan luar negeri kontemporer Federasi Rusia di bawah kepemimpinan Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin sehingga mendorong Rusia untuk melakukan konfrontasi terbuka—sebagaimana yang tercermin pada pecahnya Konflik Rusia-Ukraina 2022. Fenomena ini menarik, mengingat meski berbagai jalur diplomatis telah ditempuh serta ancaman-ancaman ekonomi, politik, bahkan militer juga telah digulirkan, Putin secara tegas menyatakan bahwa Rusia “tidak memiliki opsi lain”. Alasan tersebut terkesan jauh dari pertimbangan matang akan konsekuensi negatif yang dapat merugikan Rusia, Ukraina, dan dunia internasional—terlebih apabila terjadi eskalasi konflik menuju konfrontasi militer terbuka antarnegara adidaya. Dengan berlandaskan pada teori Realisme Neoklasik Tipe III, tulisan ini memaparkan bahwa meskipun faktor sistemis—berupa dinamika distribusi kekuasaan relatif antara NATO & Federasi Rusia di kawasan Eropa Timur—berperan penting dalam mempengaruhi perilaku Federasi Rusia, faktor-faktor domestik yang pada akhirnya mendikte bagaimana Rusia menginterpretasikan dan kemudian merespons faktor sistemis tersebut. Faktor-faktor domestik tersebut adalah (1) Budaya strategis negara-bangsa Rusia; (2) Kondisi institusi domestik Rusia yang didominasi oleh Fraksi Silovik; (3) Relasi negara (pemerintah) dengan masyarakat Rusia; dan (4) Persepsi Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin selaku pemegang kekuasaan tertinggi atas trayektori politik luar negeri Rusia.

Kata kunci: *Kebijakan luar negeri, Kebijakan luar negeri Rusia, Rusia, Ukraina, Vladimir Putin, NATO, Asertifisme, Realisme Neoklasik, Krimea, Donbas, Invasi Ukraina 2022*

Abstract

This study aims to analyze the presence of assertive characteristics in the contemporary foreign policy of the Russian Federation under the leadership of Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, which has led Russia to engage in open confrontation as exemplified by the outbreak of the 2022 Russia-Ukraine Conflict. This phenomenon is intriguing, given that various diplomatic avenues have been pursued and threats of economic, political, and even military actions have been issued; yet, Putin unequivocally stated that Russia "had no other option". This reasoning appears distant from a careful consideration of the potential negative consequences that could harm Russia, Ukraine, and the international community—particularly if the conflict escalates into an open military confrontation between superpowers. Based on the perspective provided by the Type III of Neoclassical Realism Theory, this study posits that although systemic factors—being the dynamic distribution of relative power between NATO and the Russian Federation in Eastern Europe—play a significant role in influencing Russia's behavior, domestic factors ultimately dictate how Russia interprets and subsequently responds to these systemic elements. These domestic factors include (1) the strategic culture of Russia as a nation-state; (2) the condition of domestic institutions in Russia, which is dominated by the Silovik faction; (3) the relationship between the state (government) and the Russian society; and (4) the perception of Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin as the ultimate authority on Russia's foreign policy trajectory.

Keywords: *Foreign policy, Foreign policy of Russia, Russia, Ukraine, Vladimir Putin, NATO, Assertivism, Neoclassical Realism, Crimea, Donbas, Russian invasion of Ukraine 2022*