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ABSTRACT

Indonesia and Madagascar are now witnessing a fundamental shift in the way they manage their bilateral relations. Traditionally, Madagascar and Indonesia used to base their relationship on the system “government to government” for communication and negotiation. However, Indonesia and Madagascar found a new way of cooperating in a discourse of solidarity among developing countries. Recently, the higher educational partnership signed between the two countries have the capacity to contribute to that change. Scholarship programs for developing countries constitute an efficient means of constructive solidarity and allow the reshaping of South-South cooperation. This study aims at examining higher education partnership process in the bilateral relation between Indonesia and Madagascar and its relation to South-South cooperation. Qualitative and quantitative methods are used in this research. The data was obtained from primary and secondary sources. In this study, Indonesia-Madagascar higher education partnership and its relation to South-South Cooperation is contingent on three factors: first, the involvement of ideas and institutions in higher education partnership, second, confronting power relations and political challenges, and third, shifting in the conduct of diplomacy and reshaping South-South cooperation. Apart from the rhetoric data based on literature review, the researcher made some investigation on the real evaluation of higher education partnership from the point of view of Malagasy students who are studying in Indonesia as well as some people involved in this partnership. The analysis of the data collected from the survey and some opinions of the Malagasy students, the Office of International Affairs, and teachers at INCULS on this higher education partnership and their suggestions. As a result, recommendations are addressed to the government of Indonesia and Madagascar so that their cooperation can move up the ladder. The results of the study are presented such that they can be set as an example for other countries to use education diplomacy for strengthening their relationships and revitalizing South-South Cooperation for global development.

Keywords: *Indonesia, Madagascar, higher education partnership, public diplomacy, institutions.*

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INTISARI

Indonesia dan Madagaskar sedang menyaksikan perubahan mendasar pengelolaan hubungan bilateral mereka. Secara tradisional, Madagaskar dan Indonesia menggunakan sistem " *government to government* " sebagai dasar hubungan mereka dalam komunikasi dan negosiasi. Namun, Indonesia dan Madagaskar telah menemukan cara baru untuk bekerja sama dalam wacana solidaritas di antara negara-negara berkembang. Baru-baru ini, kemitraan perguruan tinggi yang berkapasitas antara kedua negara telah bertandatangan untuk berkontribusi terhadap perubahan itu. Program beasiswa untuk negara-negara berkembang merupakan cara yang efisien dari solidaritas konstruktif dan memungkinkan membentuk kembali South-South cooperation. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menguji proses kemitraan pendidikan tinggi dalam hubungan bilateral antara Indonesia dan Madagaskar. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah metode kualitatif dan metode kuantitatif. Data diperoleh dari sumber primer dan sumber sekunder. Dalam studi ini, kemitraan perguruan tinggi Indonesia- Madagaskar dan hubungannya dengan *South-South cooperation* bertumpu pada tiga faktor: pertama, keterlibatan ide dan lembaga dalam kemitraan perguruan tinggi, kedua, menghadapi relasi kekuasaan dan tantangan politik, dan ketiga, menggeser pelaksanaan diplomasi dan membentuk kembali *South-South cooperation*. Terlepas dari retorika data dasar literatur review, peneliti membuat beberapa penyelidikan pada evaluasi nyata kemitraan perguruan tinggi dari sudut pandang mahasiswa Malagasi yang belajar di Indonesia serta beberapa orang yang terlibat dalam kemitraan ini. Analisis data diperoleh dari survei dan pendapat dari mahasiswa Malagasi, Kantor Urusan Internasional, dan guru-guru di INCULS pada kemitraan perguruan tinggi dan berdasarkan saran dari mereka. Hasilnya, terdapat saran-saran untuk pemerintah Indonesia dan Madagaskar sehingga kerjasama mereka dapat bergerak lebih tinggi. Penelitian disajikan sedemikian rupa sehingga dapat dijadikan sebagai contoh bagi negara lain untuk menggunakan diplomasi pendidikan untuk memperkuat hubungan mereka dan revitalisasi *South-South cooperation* untuk pembangunan global.

Kata kunci: *Indonesia, Madagascar, perguruan tinggi, diplomasi publik, institusi*