

Abstrak

Dalam proses panjang menuju normalisasi hubungan Amerika Serikat dan Kuba para Paus berperan sebagai *faith-based diplomats*. Paus Yohanes Paulus II mengawali keterlibatan para Paus dalam hubungan AS dan Kuba saat ia berhasil menegosiasikan pembebasan sejumlah tahanan oleh pemerintah Kuba. Paus Benediktus XVI melanjutkan langkah Paus Yohanes Paulus II dengan mendorong Kuba agar lebih terbuka pada dunia dan mengakhiri segala bentuk pelanggaran terhadap kemanusiaan. Kemudian, Paus Fransiskus membantu AS dan Kuba dalam mencapai kesepakatan normalisasi. *Faith-based diplomacy* yang dilakukan para Paus ini berhasil membangun kembali hubungan antara AS dan Kuba. Bahkan, Presiden Obama dan Castro bersedia mempercayakan proses normalisasi hubungan mereka kepada diplomasi Paus.

Kata Kunci: *faith-based diplomacy*, normalisasi, Amerika Serikat, Kuba, Paus Yohanes Paulus II, Paus Benediktus XVI, Paus Fransiskus.

Abstract

In a long process towards the normalization of United States and Cuba relations the Popes acts as faith-based diplomats. Pope John Paul II started this process when he succeeded the negotiation to freed hundreds of prisoners held by the Cuban government. The efforts continued under Pope Benedict XVI, who encouraged the Cuban to be more open to the world and to put an end to all kinds of violation against humanity. Then, Pope Francis helped the US and Cuba reached the final normalization agreement. The Popes' faith-based diplomacy succeed in rebuilding the US and Cuba relations. Moreover, President Obama and Castro entrust the further normalization process to the Pope's diplomacy.

Keywords: faith-based diplomacy, normalization, United States, Cuba, Pope John Paul II, Pope Benedict XVI, Pope Francis.