

IMPLICATIONS OF DIPLOMATIC TERMINATION BY CANADA, SAUDI ARABIA, AND YEMEN ON IRAN

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ABSTRAK

Konvensi Montevideo 1933 menyatakan bahwa negara berdaulat sebagai subjek hukum internasional harus memiliki penduduk, wilayah, pemerintahan yang tetap, dan kapasitas untuk menjalin hubungan dengan negara lain. Suatu negara tidak dapat memenuhi kebutuhannya sendiri, oleh karena itu suatu negara perlu menjalin hubungan dengan negara lain agar kebutuhan negara tersebut dapat terpenuhi untuk kelangsungan kehidupan negara tersebut. Hubungan antar negara bersifat timbal balik, sehingga penting untuk menjaga dan menjaga hubungan baik antar negara. Hubungan antar negara tersebut diawali dengan dibukanya hubungan diplomatik antara satu negara dengan negara lainnya. Hubungan diplomatik antar negara biasanya didasarkan pada kepentingan ekonomi, perdagangan dan investasi, faktor politik, solidaritas regional, ideologi, dan jumlah warga negara tersebut di negara lain yang haknya perlu dilindungi. Hingga tahun 2021, ada beberapa negara yang memutuskan hubungan diplomatik dengan Iran, antara lain Kanada, Arab Saudi, dan Yaman. Kanada mengambil kebijakan luar negeri memutuskan hubungan diplomatik dengan Iran pada 2012, kemudian Arab Saudi melakukan hal yang sama pada 2016. Pada 2015 Yaman memutuskan hubungan diplomatik dengan Iran. Pemutusan hubungan diplomatik dilakukan secara sepihak. Adanya konflik dan perbedaan pendapat serta kebijakan yang tidak dapat diterima oleh negara-negara tersebut telah menyebabkan putusnya hubungan diplomatik dengan Iran yang telah terjalin selama bertahun-tahun. Ada beberapa negara yang memutuskan hubungan diplomatik dengan Iran, antara lain Kanada, Arab Saudi, dan Yaman. Kanada mengambil kebijakan luar negeri memutuskan hubungan diplomatik dengan Iran pada 2012, kemudian Arab Saudi melakukan hal yang sama pada 2016. Pada 2015 Yaman memutuskan hubungan diplomatiknya dengan Iran. Pemutusan hubungan diplomatik dilakukan secara sepihak. Adanya konflik dan perbedaan pendapat serta kebijakan yang tidak dapat diterima oleh negara-negara tersebut telah menyebabkan putusnya hubungan diplomatik dengan Iran yang telah terjalin selama bertahun-tahun. Ada beberapa negara yang memutuskan hubungan diplomatik dengan Iran, antara lain Kanada, Arab Saudi, dan Yaman. Kanada mengambil kebijakan luar negeri memutuskan hubungan diplomatik dengan Iran pada 2012, kemudian Arab Saudi melakukan hal yang sama pada 2016. Pada 2015 Yaman memutuskan hubungan diplomatik dengan Iran. Pemutusan hubungan diplomatik dilakukan secara sepihak. Adanya konflik dan perbedaan pendapat serta kebijakan yang tidak dapat diterima oleh negara-negara tersebut telah menyebabkan putusnya hubungan diplomatik dengan Iran yang telah terjalin selama bertahun-tahun. kemudian Arab Saudi melakukan hal yang sama pada 2016. Pada 2015 Yaman memutuskan hubungan diplomatik dengan Iran. Pemutusan hubungan

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Kata Kunci : *Negara, hubungan diplomatik, kebijakan luar negeri*

ABSTRACT

The 1933 Montevideo Convention states that a sovereign State as a subject of international law must have a permanent population, territory, government, and the capacity to establish relations with other States. A country cannot meet its own needs, therefore a country needs to establish relations with other countries so that the country's needs can be met for the survival of the country's life. Relations between countries are reciprocal, so it is important to maintain and maintain good relations between countries. Relations between these countries begin with the opening of diplomatic relations by one country with another. Diplomatic relations between countries are usually based on economic interests, trade and investment, political factors, regional solidarity, ideology, and the number of citizens of that State in other countries whose rights need to be protected. Until 2021, there are several countries that have cut diplomatic relations with Iran, including Canada, Saudi Arabia and Yemen. Canada took a foreign policy of severing its diplomatic ties with Iran in 2012, then Saudi Arabia did the same in 2016. In 2015 Yemen severed its diplomatic ties with Iran. The severance of diplomatic relations was carried out unilaterally. The existence of conflicts and differences of opinion as well as policies that are not acceptable to these countries have caused the severance of diplomatic relations with Iran that have existed for years. There are several countries that have cut diplomatic relations with Iran, including Canada, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen. Canada took a foreign policy of severing its diplomatic ties with Iran in 2012, then Saudi Arabia did the same in 2016. In 2015 Yemen severed its diplomatic ties with Iran. The severance of diplomatic relations was carried out unilaterally. The existence of conflicts and differences of opinion as well as policies that are not acceptable to these countries have caused the severance of diplomatic relations with Iran that have existed for years. There are several countries that have cut diplomatic relations with Iran, including Canada, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen. Canada took a foreign policy of severing its diplomatic ties with Iran in 2012, then Saudi Arabia did the same in 2016. In 2015 Yemen severed its diplomatic ties with Iran. The severance of diplomatic relations was carried out unilaterally. The existence of conflicts and differences of opinion as well as policies that are not acceptable to these countries have caused the severance of diplomatic relations with Iran that have existed for years. then Saudi Arabia did the same in 2016. In 2015 Yemen cut diplomatic relations with Iran. The severance of diplomatic relations was carried out unilaterally. The existence of conflicts and differences of opinion as well as policies that are not acceptable to these countries have caused the severance of diplomatic relations with Iran that have existed for years. then Saudi Arabia did the same in 2016. In 2015 Yemen cut diplomatic relations with Iran. The severance of diplomatic relations was

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Keywords : Country, diplomatic relations, foreign policy

PRELIMINARY

Iran is located on the Asian continent, to be precise in the southwest. Iran is a sovereign country which ranks 16th largest country in the world. Iran shares borders with Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Iraq, Pakistan, Turkey and Turkmenistan. Iran borders the sea with several countries, namely Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Kuwait, and Oman. Iran is known by the world as a developing country that is sensitive to foreign influence and interference in running the life of the country. In 2016 to 2018, the Reputation Institute released data which stated that Iran was in the second position as the most hated country in the world after Iraq. Iran's conflicting foreign policies are considered confusing by several countries in the world. Currently Iran maintains diplomatic relations with 97 countries.

Diplomatic relations are activities to maintain good relations between countries in the world (CST Kansil, 1989: 44). The interaction carried out by the State as a subject of international law to establish relations with other countries is obtained by the acceptance or recognition of its existence as a State by the international community (Starke, 2010: 127). The opening of diplomatic relations in general must comply with the provisions of the 1961 Vienna Convention on diplomatic relations, namely: (1)

There must be an agreement between the two parties (mutual consent). This is explained in Article 2 of the 1961 Vienna Convention, which states that the establishment of diplomatic relations between countries is carried out by mutual agreement, where the mutual agreement is set forth in a form of mutual agreement or statement. The establishment of diplomatic relations is based on the initiative and agreement of the countries concerned to establish friendship between the two for the sake of the interests of each country. (2) Each country conducts relations or exchanges diplomatic representatives based on applicable legal principles, namely the principle of reciprocity (Effendi; 1994: 26). The principle of mutual agreement and the principle of reciprocity are the two main pillars in enforcing diplomatic law, In the development of diplomatic relations between one country and another, the relationship can develop in a positive or negative direction. The Iranian revolution in 1979 led by Ayatollah Khomeini made Iran a country to be reckoned with in international politics. Since then, Iran has grown and become one of the established countries in the Middle East region. This underlies several countries to approach Iran by establishing diplomatic relations, including Canada, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, and Morocco. The diplomatic relations that were established then developed in a positive direction, namely the expansion of cooperation between countries from one field to another.

Diplomatic relations are not always in a peaceful situation because the interests between the two countries that establish diplomatic relations will experience changes or ups and downs along with the development of international

political conditions. Diplomatic relations between countries do not always run peacefully and positively, some countries cut off diplomatic relations with Iran because they are considered to cause controversy with foreign policy and nuclear proliferation. Diplomatic efforts carried out by various countries against Iran have not yielded results, this is due to Iran's traditional character which is sensitive to foreign influence and interference in policy making. Termination of diplomatic relations is a unilateral decision of a country that closes its diplomatic representatives (Mauna, 2003: 520).

- 1) In the event of war between the two countries concerned.
- 2) There are cases of disputes between the two countries that have gone so far, so that any actions and policies taken, such as expulsion of diplomats or summoning heads of representatives are considered insufficient.
- 3) The existence of a policy of a country that is very contrary to the position of another country or the unnatural activities of diplomatic personnel.

The severance of diplomatic relations with Iran by a number of countries is the last resort taken unilaterally after no middle point was found to resolve problems between the countries.

DISCUSSION

Canada Cuts Diplomatic Relations With Iran

Canada is a country that has the second largest area in the world. Canada is in sixth place in the category of developed countries in the world seen from its very high economic value (Captain, 1844: 15). Canada is a liberal country that is very open to establishing diplomatic relations with other countries as a way to strengthen and fulfill its national needs. Canada maintains diplomatic relations with various countries in the world, including countries in the Middle East, which are mostly closed to western countries. One of the countries in the Middle East that has diplomatic relations with Canada is Iran. Bilateral relations between Canada and Iran have existed since 1955, long before the Iranian revolution that occurred in 1979. Canada established a diplomatic mission in Tehran in 1959. Before opening its embassy in Iran, Canada asked the British Embassy in Tehran for assistance in matters of Canadian-Iranian relations. Then in 1961 Canada opened its embassy in Iran.

After establishing excellent diplomatic relations for 24 years, relations between the two countries began to become fragile when Iran experienced a revolution in 1979. At that time, 50 US diplomats were taken hostage at their embassy in Iran. Canada, which is a US ally, immediately took swift action through its embassy in Iran to protect six US diplomats who escaped arrest, and then helped them leave Iran using Canadian passports in January 1980. This incident led to Canada's decision to freeze diplomatic relations against Iran until 1988. A new chapter of diplomatic relations between Canada and Iran began in 1996. In these diplomatic relations, Canada implemented a Controlled Engagement Policy (CEP) in regulating political and economic relations.

Tensions between Canada and Iran also worsened when Zahra Kazemi, a Canadian journalist, died in an Iranian prison after being tortured and mistreated by

Iranian officials in 2003. Then in 2005, Iran's nuclear program became an international crisis. The UN Security Council also passed resolution 1737 on December 23, 2006, which ordered Iran to stop its uranium enrichment process. However, Iran ignored this resolution and maintained its right to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes as guaranteed in the Non-Proliferation Treaty (Khan, 2011: 27). Maintaining international security stability is the obligation of all countries in the world for the sake of a healthy and peaceful state life. Nuclear as a weapon of mass destruction that has a destructive explosive effect on human civilization and has a recovery time of up to tens of years, is certainly avoided by various countries. Nuclear is a serious threat to human civilization, so that any country discussing the possession, establishment, or testing of these weapons invites international attention and can trigger the breakdown of diplomatic relations between countries with different opinions and policies.

Canada and Iran's bilateral relations continued to experience a crisis that led to Canada's unilateral severance of diplomatic relations with Iran. The severance of diplomatic relations was officially announced by Canadian Foreign Minister John Baird on September 7, 2012 while attending the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Summit in Russia.

Saudi Arabia's severance of diplomatic relations with Iran

Bilateral relations between Saudi Arabia and Iran were very good for many years before the outbreak of the Iranian revolution in 1979. Basically, these two countries could not prevent themselves from contacting each other because of their geographical location which only bordered the sea. The geographical location of the two countries has also led to several disputes over the border area which includes several oil fields. The beginning of the tension between Saudi Arabia and Iran began in 1971. At that time, Iran's economy was superior to Saudi Arabia's, Iran's military strength was better trained, and its relationship with the Soviet Union made Iran begin to have a role in the Middle East region. This caused Saudi Arabia to accuse the Iranian leader at the time, namely Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, of cooperating with the US, so that Iran will benefit from the Twin Pillars Policy implemented by the US and UK. The Twin Pillar Policy is a policy taken by the US after Britain withdrew its troops in the Middle East and gave independence to 10 countries it had colonized in 1968. The British action made the US make Iran and Saudi Arabia as regional allies that could protect the region from the spread of influence. Soviet Union (Hooglund, 1992). The tension between Saudi Arabia and Iran again heated up in 1979 when there was an Iranian revolution led by Ayatollah Khomeini who no longer accepted the Twin Pillars Policy carried out by the US and Britain. Peace between Iran and Saudi Arabia finally collapsed because Ayatollah Khomeini wanted the new Iran to be free from various kinds of intervention and interference from Western countries (Keynoush, 2016:10).

During the Syrian conflict, the anti-Western narrative echoed by Syria and Iran provided an explanation of their position in responding to the Syrian revolution (Trias Kuncahyono, 2012: 193). The involvement of Saudi Arabia and Iran in the prolonged Syrian conflict indicates a proxy war in the Middle East region. The desire of Saudi Arabia and Iran to intervene in major, regional security in order to gain profits in the Middle East, especially in Syria as a strategic area. The Arab Spring incident became the entry point for a prolonged conflict between Saudi Arabia and Iran, exacerbating the situation in Syria, which strengthened the

opposing camp supported by Saudi Arabia and the Bashar al-Assad regime which was defended by Iran. The trigger for the Syrian Arab Spring was the demands of the people who wanted changes to a more democratic system,

The tension between Saudi Arabia and Iran reached its peak when the Saudi Arabian government issued a decision to execute a Shia cleric, Sheikh Nimr al-Nimr. The Saudi Arabian government executed the cleric on January 2, 2016, a few hours after the execution, Iranian citizens who are predominantly Shia Muslims carried out an attack by setting fire to the Saudi Arabian Embassy in Tehran. The incident made Saudi Arabia officially cut diplomatic relations with Iran on January 3, 2016, and withdrew all its diplomats in Iran, and expelled all Iranian diplomats in Saudi Arabia within 48 hours after the incident. As a result of the severance of diplomatic relations,

Yemen's severing of diplomatic relations with Iran

Yemen maintains diplomatic relations with various countries in the world, especially countries in the Middle East region such as Iran. After the Iranian revolution in 1979 which made Iran a country to be reckoned with, Yemen also took the initiative to strengthen relations with Iran which had been established based on geographical factors and the tendency of mutual need between the two countries. Iran has opened its embassy in Sana'a since 1972. Bilateral relations between Yemen and Iran are going well and well. The two countries often show support for each other. This can be seen when the unification of North and South Yemen in 1990, the first country to recognize the unification of the government of the Republic of Yemen was Iran. The initial turmoil of tensions between Yemen and Iran began in 1992 due to a sudden visit by the President of Iran at that time, namely Hashemi Rafsanjani to Abu Musa Island, United Arab Emirates. On the other hand, Yemen is focusing on the separatist civil war carried out by South Yemen in 1994. However, after Yemen succeeded in suppressing the separatist movement, bilateral relations between Iran and Yemen have stabilized.

Bilateral relations between Yemen and Iran became volatile again in 2004 due to Yemen's suspicion of Iranian intervention in its internal affairs marked by alleged Iranian support for the Houthi rebels. This allegation is based on the fact that the leader of the rebel group, Hussein Badr al-Deen Houthi, had studied in Iran and was very fond of Iranian ideology regarding his courage to oppose Western domination. The conflict that took place between al-Houthi and the Yemeni government from 2004 to 2015 showed evidence that Iran also supported and helped the al-Houthi movement. Yemen considers Iran to have interfered in its country's military affairs and intervened in propaganda. Iran's support for the Houthis was evident during the Dammaj war. In that war, there are many Houthis who speak Persian and have Iranian passports (Why the Houthis. 2014). The head of Yemen's National Security Bureau officially confirmed that Iran supported the Houthi rebel group in Sa'ada in 2009 financially, politically and through the media (Yemen Post. 2010). Relations between the two countries continue to become increasingly tense. In 2015, Yemen was disturbed by the presence of Iranian warships in Yemeni waters. Iran is suspected of providing weapons support to the Houthi rebel group, the arms smuggling is likely done by sea. and through the media (Yemen Post. 2010). Relations between the two countries continue to become increasingly tense. In 2015, Yemen was disturbed by the presence of Iranian warships in Yemeni waters. Iran is suspected of providing weapons support to the Houthi rebel group, the arms

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The internal conflict that occurred in Yemen has again dragged the names of Iran and Saudi Arabia as the two main powers in the Middle East region which have a long history of disputes between the two. This conflict seems to be re-facing Yemen to a similar event that happened many years ago when Yemen favored Iraq over Kuwait. Yemen had lost its political direction due to the termination of employment relations with Saudi Arabia due to Yemen's support for Saddam Hussein's intervention in Kuwait. This triggered the Yemeni economy to experience a free fall due to the loss of one of the largest sources of foreign exchange and receiving a number of workers who were repatriated from Saudi Arabia, so the Yemeni government is now more careful. Iran's support for the Houthi rebels sparks concern for Iran's rivals in the East Central, namely Saudi Arabia. Saudi Arabia and surrounding countries have taken seriously the disturbance of the Houthi group in Yemen because it is considered a threat to Saudi Arabia's interests in the Middle East region (Ghavani: 2018).

Iran's interference in Yemen's internal affairs worsens bilateral relations between the two. Riad Yassin stated that relations between Yemen and Iran have always been problematic (Bahrain and Yemen. 2015). Bilateral relations between Yemen and Iran are considered insincere or indicate that Iran has hidden intentions towards Yemen. From the beginning, the relations between Yemen and Iran were not good, due to Yemen's support in the Iraq issue and together against Iran. Diplomatic relations between Yemen and Iran are not really real, Iran has only several times shown appreciation for a number of policies issued by Yemen in dealing with the North Yemeni separatist movement. Iran has not made any real contribution to Yemen. It is unfortunate that Iran has worsened bilateral relations between the two through Iran's massive military intervention.

The severance of diplomatic relations between Yemen and Iran was due to Iran's policies and interference with Yemen. Iran has openly supported the Houthi group, which is a rebel group in Yemen. This is considered to greatly interfere with Yemen's internal affairs and interfere with its national interests. The tension of bilateral relations between Yemen and Iran led to the termination of Yemen's diplomatic relations with Iran on October 2, 2015 as a policy of the Yemeni government taken to minimize Iran's influence and intervention in Yemen. On the same day, the Yemeni government took action to expel the Iranian ambassador in Yemen and recall the Yemeni envoy in Tehran, as well as close its diplomatic mission in Iran (Journal of Asia: 2015).

CLOSING

Conclusion

In order to maintain peace between countries and seek cooperation in international relations, each country sends their delegations in the form of diplomatic envoys to other countries. Diplomatic envoys act as representatives of the protection of their citizens living in countries receiving diplomatic envoys. Of course, the receiving country of the diplomatic envoy and the sending country are

bound by the rules of diplomatic law. With the existence of a form of increasing international cooperative relations in the form of diplomatic relations, an agreement is made regarding activities diplomatic as outlined in the 1961 Vienna Convention (Muthia, 2017: 12). Born from the form of the international legal system as well as the doctrine of state sovereignty and the doctrine of equality between countries, state responsibility is the basic principle of international law (Mangku: 2019). In international law, the principle of state responsibility is based on the attitude that no state can enjoy its rights without respecting the rights of other countries. Every violation of the rights of other countries, causes the relevant State to be obliged to correct the violation of these rights (Muthia, 2017: 18).

The severance of diplomatic relations between one country and another is of course caused by many factors, including policy conflicts and differences in views and opinions. The main factor that triggered Canada's severance of diplomatic relations with Iran in 2012 was related to Iran's nuclear project which has attracted international attention for years. Canada argues that Iran's nuclear development is the most significant threat to global peace and security around the world. Canada's severance of diplomatic relations with Iran indicates that Canada strongly opposes Iran's arrogance in insisting on developing its nuclear program to carry out genocidal attacks against Israel, which is Canada's ally.

Bilateral relations between Saudi Arabia and Iran have never been in a really good condition. These two countries have often been at odds with each other for many years. Relations between Saudi Arabia and Iran as the two main powers in the Middle East region are often volatile. These two countries seem to divide the countries in the Middle East into the stronghold of Saudi Arabia and the stronghold of Iran. The relationship between the two certainly cannot be separated from the interference of other countries in Saudi Arabia's proxy war with Iran. Saudi Arabia as a follower of Sunni Islam and Iran as a follower of Shia Islam have a long history of disputes between the two which led to the unilateral severance of diplomatic relations by Saudi Arabia against Iran in 2016.

The severance of diplomatic relations by Yemen against Iran was caused by several driving factors based on differences in policy between the two countries regarding the Houthi group. Iran's support for Houthi interference and the proxy war between Iran and Saudi Arabia, as well as Iran's intervention which has proven fatal, were the reasons for the policy of severing Yemen's diplomatic relations with Iran in 2015.

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