

## **Leveraging Natural Disasters for Diplomatic Objectives in Indonesia and Türkiye in 2023 Türkiye's Earthquakes**

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**Abstract:** This research examines the concept of disaster diplomacy and its application in Indonesia and Türkiye, specifically focusing on the earthquake disaster in Türkiye in 2023. By analyzing how natural disasters are utilized in diplomatic strategies, this study sheds light on the role of disasters in shaping diplomatic relations. Data was collected through interviews with the National Agency for Disaster Countermeasures of the Republic of Indonesia and experts in disaster management and Indonesia-Türkiye relations. Library research and government reports were also utilized. The research findings indicate that Indonesia strategically employs disasters to enhance its disaster management capabilities and diplomatic relations. By utilizing disasters as an instrument, Indonesia advances its national interests, particularly in natural disaster resilience. On the other hand, Türkiye has successfully obtained international aid, including assistance from Indonesia, which aligns with its long-standing diplomatic goals. Türkiye effectively showcases the strength of its diplomatic practice. Through an exploration of these dynamics, this research contributes to a deeper understanding of how natural disasters intersect with diplomatic strategies in Indonesia and Türkiye. It sheds light on how disasters are utilized as tools for achieving national goals and enhancing diplomatic relations.

**Keywords;** Indonesia-Türkiye Relations, Natural disaster, Disaster Diplomacy, Türkiye Earthquake 2023

**Abstrak:** Penelitian ini mengkaji konsep diplomasi bencana dan penerapannya di Indonesia dan Turki, dengan studi kasus bencana gempa bumi di Turki pada tahun 2023. Penelitian ini menganalisis bagaimana bencana alam dimanfaatkan dalam strategi diplomasi. Data dikumpulkan melalui wawancara dengan Badan Nasional Penanggulangan Bencana Republik Indonesia dan akademisi dalam manajemen bencana serta hubungan Indonesia-Turki. Penelitian ini juga menggunakan sumber informasi dari perpustakaan dan laporan pemerintah. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa Indonesia secara strategis memanfaatkan bencana untuk meningkatkan kemampuan manajemen bencananya dan hubungan diplomatik. Dengan menggunakan bencana sebagai alat, Indonesia ingin ketahanan dalam bencana alam. Di sisi lain, Turki berhasil mendapatkan bantuan internasional, termasuk bantuan dari Indonesia, yang sejalan dengan tujuan diplomasi jangka panjangnya. Turki secara efektif menunjukkan kekuatan praktik diplomasi yang telah dijalankan sebelumnya dengan mendapatkan bantuan saat terjadinya bencana. Penelitian ini berkontribusi pada pemahaman yang lebih mendalam mengenai bagaimana bencana alam berinteraksi dengan strategi diplomasi di Indonesia dan Turki. Penelitian ini memberikan informasi mengenai bagaimana bencana dimanfaatkan sebagai alat untuk mencapai tujuan nasional dan meningkatkan hubungan diplomatik.

**Kata Kunci:** Hubungan Indonesia-Turki, Bencana Alam, Diplomasi Bencana, Gempa Bumi Turki 2023

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## INTRODUCTION

On February 2023, Türkiye faced disastrous earthquakes twice. As announced by The Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD) Türkiye, there were six provinces affected that are Bingöl, Kayseri, Mardin, Tunceli, Niğde and Batman. As the effect of disaster is disastrous, Türkiye is open to the international humanitarian community for providing prompt relief to the population impacted by the disaster. AFAD noted that there are 98,153 people, including 5,309 international personnel from 18 countries (BNPB, 2023). Indonesia was one of the countries providing humanitarian assistance to the Türkiye earthquake. Under the coordination of The Disaster Management Capacity of the National Agency for Disaster Management of the Republic of Indonesia, Indonesia delivered humanitarian assistance to Türkiye in three phases in 2023. Although not categorized as the first response in the International humanitarian community, The way Indonesia reacted to the Türkiye disaster cannot be counted as a small act. This research analyze this relations from diplomacy perspective. It tries to analyse how both country conduct its disaster diplomacy during natural disaster especially in Türkiye's 2023 earthquake. It assesses how both countries conduct its disaster diplomacy, how and why they conduct it. The essay will be structured as follow; an introduction highlighting the purpose of this article followed by an exploration of the definition and context of disaster diplomacy. Then, it will discuss how each country practised their disaster diplomacy and conclude with a final assessment.

Türkiye and Indonesia have a history of cooperation dating back to the 16th century when the Ottoman Empire provided assistance to the Sultanate of Aceh against Portuguese aggression. Türkiye was among the first nations to recognize Indonesia's independence, and diplomatic relations were established in 1950 (Kasim, 2023). The bilateral relations between Türkiye and Indonesia gained momentum after the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami disaster, followed by Erdogan visited Aceh in 2005, and both countries decided to upgrade their ties to a strategic partnership in 2011 (Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Türkiye, 2022). High-level visits between the two countries have increased since then, and efforts have been made to strengthen cooperation in trade, investments, technology, healthcare, energy, and defense industries. Türkiye and Indonesia also collaborate in various international organizations and fora such as the UN, OIC, G-20, D-8, and MIKTA. Türkiye is a Sectoral Dialogue Partner of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Kelman (2012) examines disaster diplomacy as how and why disaster-related activities do and do not reduce conflict and induce cooperation. Disaster-related activities do not create fresh diplomatic opportunities, but it has the possibility of catalysing diplomatic action. There are several conditions that can relate disaster to diplomacy. First, disaster can impact diplomacy in the short term, such as being secret and open to negotiations. Second, in terms of diplomatic relations, there are many relations in non-disaster rather than in disaster, such as changing of political leader, distribution of power or others (Kelman, 2012). Thus, disaster is assumed to only bring a small amount of influence on diplomatic affairs. It has been assumed that humanitarian assistance in terms of disaster diplomacy could bring negative effects on state relations, such as increasing conflict, disaster-related activities as a ploy to gain or retain power, or undermining those in power by accusing them of being at fault for the disaster (Kelman, 2012).

Given the active involvement of both countries in sending humanitarian assistance and their strong historical and cultural ties, it is important to assess the disaster diplomacy between Indonesia and Turkey. Turkey has provided significant humanitarian and other forms of assistance to Indonesia in the past, particularly during the Aceh Tsunami and the earthquake in Palu. It is noteworthy that Indonesia does not always request assistance from Turkey. However, there is limited of substantial research on Turkey's disaster diplomacy, particularly in relation to Indonesia. On the other hand, Indonesia is an active player in the international arena, consistently providing aid and assistance to countries in need. This is further supported by the fact that many Indonesians reside overseas. However, Indonesia has limited capabilities and capacities when it comes to delivering humanitarian assistance. Despite being a member of UN-OCHA, Indonesia continues to learn and strive for better aid delivery and capacity improvement. Consequently, in certain cases, Indonesia may only be able to provide specific aid to countries in need. Additionally, due to Indonesia's frequent experience with disasters, there is a need to enhance its search and rescue capabilities. The ability to deliver humanitarian assistance, together with



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the imperative to strengthen its rescue capacity, can serve as valuable tools in Indonesia's diplomacy. This can position Indonesia as a more active participant in foreign affairs and enhance its political and influential standing.

### **Theoretical Framework**

Disaster diplomacy as a field is quite new. The field of study mostly appears after 2010 (Papp & Pal, 2021). There are many fields of studies that also explain disaster diplomacy. Like management, health science, and others. Generally, in the International Relations field, disaster diplomacy talks about how disaster will pursue more cooperation and reduce conflict among states. Kelman (2012, p. 4) defines disaster diplomacy as 'disaster-related activities that bring different relations to states, whether cooperation is increasing or not'.

Disaster diplomacy is closely tied to humanitarian aid at the initial step, as it sets the objective for how states will conduct their relations thereafter. The successful delivery of humanitarian aid, satisfying both the donor and recipient countries, often leads to continued and improved cooperation. However, not all states are capable of providing humanitarian aid, even if they have close relations, or historical ties (Bogatyreva, 2022). States must obtain approval from UN-OCHA to participate in humanitarian aid efforts, which requires meeting specific criteria and possessing the necessary skills and capabilities (Cheng et al., 2023).

Furthermore, Kelman identifies several characteristics, categories, and objectives of disaster diplomacy. Firstly, in disaster diplomacy, disasters serve as catalysts rather than initiators (Kelman, 2012). This means that pre-existing state relations should already be in place, and disaster diplomacy is employed to advance these relations to a higher level. It is not an instrument for initiating state relations. Therefore, not only can states with existing cooperative relationships benefit from disaster diplomacy, but it can also be employed to address long-standing conflicts between states.

Secondly, disaster diplomacy involves multiple parties, encompassing various stages from providing humanitarian aid to the potential outcomes of enhanced cooperation or heightened conflict (Duda & Kelman, 2022). For instance, when a disaster occurs, a state must announce its need for humanitarian assistance at a multilateral level. The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN-OCHA) is typically the organization contacted to inform and coordinate the acceptance of humanitarian aid from other countries. While it is possible for a government to initially reach out to neighbouring states with close relations to secure aid, additional parties become involved as well. The government must then collaborate with local entities such as volunteers, civil society organizations, and other relevant entities capable of delivering humanitarian aid (Levine et al., 2023).

Thirdly, close ties between states often play a significant role in the implementation of disaster diplomacy (Kelman, 2012). These close ties can manifest through geographical proximity, shared history, common identity, trade relationships, cultural connections, ongoing peace negotiations (either secret or open), or joint participation in sports events (Ide, 2023). When a state is situated in close proximity to a disaster-stricken state, it is more likely to initiate initial humanitarian aid if it meets the requirements for international assistance. Additionally, even if a state does not meet the criteria or is not explicitly requested to provide humanitarian aid, the existence of close relations, particularly historical ties, tends to encourage states to engage in disaster diplomacy.

In addition, there are several conditions that need to be considered when examining the practice of disaster diplomacy. First, despite starting with existing relations, not all instances of disaster diplomacy lead to positive impacts on future state relations. While diplomacy typically aims to foster cooperation and strengthen relations, in the context of disaster diplomacy, the opposite outcome can occur (Reinhardt & Lutmar, 2022). This may exacerbate conflicts, a reduction in diplomatic efforts, and diminished prospects for peace. Such negative outcomes can be attributed to inappropriate practices during humanitarian aid efforts. For instance, donor states fail to provide aid according to the requirements, engage in covert activities, such as espionage, while delivering humanitarian aid, or provide unsuitable supplies that cannot be consumed by those affected by the disaster. Moreover, conflicts can arise over the distribution of relief supplies, disaster-related activities can be exploited as a means to gain or retain power, and disasters can be used to discredit those in power by blaming them for the occurrence of the disaster (Kelman, 2006). Further, it can be challenging to determine whether



donor states engage in disaster diplomacy to pursue relations with the affected states or if they are primarily focused on protecting their own citizens. It cannot be denied that states often prioritise their own citizens abroad affected by the disaster. They provide assistance and aid to respond to the needs of their own people in the affected areas as first priority. Regardless of the circumstances, states bear a responsibility to protect their citizens.

When discussing the objectives of disaster diplomacy, Kelman (2012) identifies at least four key objectives. These include survival, mutual benefit, long-term goals, reaffirmation of old prejudices and enmity, and the demonstration of humanitarianism. The objective of survival primarily pertains to the affected states in a disaster. They seek assistance from other states to help them recover from the disaster and ensure their survival. Mutual benefit can be achieved by both recipient and donor countries. Recipient countries benefit from the humanitarian assistance they receive, while donor countries can assess their skills and capabilities through the disaster response efforts. This allows both parties to pursue further relations that are mutually beneficial. Long-term goals involve maintaining or strengthening state relations through disaster diplomacy (Duda & Kelman, 2022). If states already have a strong relationship, engaging in disaster diplomacy can incentivize them to pursue better and longer-lasting relations in other areas. The objective of proving humanitarianism in disaster diplomacy is often targeted at the international or multilateral level. When a state provides humanitarian aid, even if it is in a small amount or not in the initial stages of assistance, it demonstrates to the international community that the state has a sense of care and understands the importance of conducting humanitarian assistance. It is a way of portraying themselves as good global citizens. Additionally, states with this objective may have limitations in terms of capabilities and capacities to provide humanitarian assistance. They may lack a capable team, sufficient tools required for humanitarian aid, or only have a small number of accredited individuals for conducting aid. Different types of medicine and technical resources can also pose obstacles to conducting effective disaster diplomacy.

Lastly, the reaffirmation of old prejudices and enmity can be demonstrated when a donor state fails to provide humanitarian assistance, even when it has been requested by the recipient state or international institutions (Kelman, 2012). This can reinforce existing prejudices and indicate that the relations are more likely to become conflictual. However, the attainment of these objectives is not always guaranteed. Factors such as the lack of aid delivery, the willingness of the affected state to receive assistance, distractions from the disaster, and a lack of political will to provide aid can all impact the outcomes. It is important to consider these factors in assessing the effectiveness of disaster diplomacy. Additionally, disaster diplomacy can be categorized as active or passive (Kelman, 2016). Active disaster diplomacy occurs when disaster-related cooperation leads to future collaborations and reinforces the relations between the involved states. This type of diplomacy involves multiple actors in the disaster diplomacy practice. The underlying message is that diplomacy can and should be utilized to improve cooperation in disaster-related contexts.

## RESEARCH METHODS

This research utilizes qualitative methods to examine disaster diplomacy practiced by Indonesia and Türkiye. Qualitative data was collected through in-depth interviews with a purposively selected subset of participants. These interviews provided rich, detailed insights into the participants' perspectives and experiences. We interviewed several people from three majoring institutions, namely the National Agency for Disaster Countermeasures of the Republic of Indonesia, The National Search and Rescue Agency of the Republic Indonesia and academic experts in disaster management and Indonesia-Türkiye relations, and Indonesia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. As initial step, this research designed its research design, research questions, potential of interviewees and list of questions. To shape and get in-depth data collection, semi-structured interviews was employed to make sure data obtained in this research design yet giving space for interviewees to elaborate and deliver their experience and opinion. Interviewed conducted into several weeks from one institution to others. Usually, there are around two to four people represented from institution as interviews targeted. Some questions related to their experience in dealing with 2023 earthquake in Türkiye. How they did the mission from pre-deployment until sending back home. For academicians, list of questions relate to their opinion about Türkiye and Indonesia relations, and how both countries dealing with disaster and employ natural



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disaster for their national interests. After this step research team do data collection from secondary data that involved concept of disaster diplomacy, book, document, and report about humanitarian assistance between Indonesia and Türkiye. In this step we collected kind of aid delivered in each country. How they conduct it and whether it was published in government report or not. The next step is data analysis to look at the pattern of Indonesia's humanitarian aid to Türkiye and vice versa. This study also do data triangulation to look at the comprehensive and relevant of data from interviews with secondary data collection. The analysis of this research found the pattern of disaster diplomacy conduct by both country.

## DISCUSSION

To deliver humanitarian assistance to Türkiye, Indonesia coordinated with several institutions such as International Search And Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG) and United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN-OCHA), AFAD, and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Republic Indonesia. Based on report from BNPB (BNPB, 2023), Indonesia delivered around 1 million USD for financial assistance, 51 Urban search and rescue (USAR) personnel, 119 emergency medical team (EMT) from various institutions such as TNI and Indonesia Police, Ministry of health, NGOs, Medical associations and others. Also it delivered 45,15 ton daily needs as logistic materials. The EMT was able to served around 2390 victims. In addition based on request from Türkiye's government, Indonesia gave around 10.000 vial of tetanus vaccine (BNPB, 2023). Since 21 February 2023, Indonesia delivered the aid into three phases and two batches of USAR and EMT. The USAR was there from 12 to 22 february 2023 and EMT from 14 to 28 February 2023. Mostly Indonesia's humanitarian team worked in Hatay province (BNPB, 2023).

The Indonesian government currently lacks a comprehensive legal framework to regulate the provision of humanitarian assistance in overseas emergency situations. Consequently, the delivery of humanitarian aid in such circumstances has primarily been guided by Presidential directives. In response to Türkiye's request for Emergency Medical Teams (EMT), the Indonesian government participated in providing humanitarian assistance in term of middle, and heavy Urban Search and Rescue (USAR). This involvement was supported by the Minutes of the Ministerial Coordination Meeting on Humanitarian Assistance for Türkiye and Syria RR.08.02.2023-16, which took place on February 8, 2023. The meeting chaired by the Coordinating Minister for Human Development and Culture, served as the legal basis for deploying the Indonesian humanitarian team.

The Indonesian humanitarian assistance to Türkiye's earthquake had three main objectives. First, it aimed to search for and provide assistance to the earthquake victims. Second, it involved implementing health services in accordance with Türkiye's local health authorities. Last, it entailed sending humanitarian aid logistics. However, Indonesia was unable to provide a heavy USAR mission in Türkiye. The Indonesian evacuation team arrived a couple of days after the initial evacuation, and in Hatay, they were able to rescue 15 remains of victims, two of whom were Indonesian nationals (BNPB, 2023). Additionally, a field hospital operated for 24 hours to provide medical services to Türkiye's earthquake victims. The search and rescue operations for potential survivors were concluded on February 23, 2023, by the local authority (AFAD) in coordination with the USAR Coordination Cell (BNPB, 2023). This marked the point at which the Indonesian evacuation team was recalled and returned home.

The relationship between Indonesia and Türkiye can be traced back to the 16th century, with a particular focus on the Kingdom of Aceh Darussalam's interactions with the Turk Ottoman Empire. Even during Indonesia's colonization period, there were ongoing exchanges of aid between the two nations, including in the areas of security, hajj pilgrimage, disaster relief, and economic and trade. One notable example is in 1567, when the Turk Ottoman Empire requested the governor of Mecca to provide various resources, such as security, water, horses, and usherette, to facilitate the journey of the Sultan of Aceh's envoy to Mecca (Mehmet Akif Terzi et al., 2017). In 1912, 18 Indonesians embarked on the hajj pilgrimage, but faced financial difficulties in continuing their journey to Madina. In response, the Turkish Ministry of Internal Affairs sent a letter to the Hijaz Railways transport company, a Turkish entity, requesting that to transport their pilgrims to Madina at no cost (Mehmet Akif Terzi et al., 2017). In terms of security, in 1898, the Turk Ottoman Empire requested the Batavia Consulate to protect Ayse



Hanim, a member of the Turkish aristocracy who was held hostage by the Dutch during her visit to her uncle Teuku Ali in Aceh (Mehmet Akif Terzi et al., 2017). The Turk Ottoman Empire also urged the Dutch to take all necessary measures to return her safely to Türkiye. Furthermore, in 1905, Türkiye proposed a partnership with Indonesia in rice trading, as they saw the potential to import high-quality rice from Java for their military forces, rather than importing it from Armenia at a higher cost and lower quality (Mehmet Akif Terzi et al., 2017). In times of natural disasters, both countries have continued to extend aid to each other. In 1916, when a severe flood hit Java, Türkiye provided financial assistance of 20,000 Kurusy from their unforeseen expenses fund to support the relief efforts into international aid at that time was commissioned by Prince Henry from Dutch (Mehmet Akif Terzi et al., 2017). In 1914, the Red Crescent of Batavia donated 6000 francs to the Turkish Red Crescent as a humanitarian assistance contribution (Mehmet Akif Terzi et al., 2017). This was followed by an additional donation of 10000 francs from the Red Crescent of Batavia to the Turkish Red Crescent. In recent year such in 2004 and 2018 Türkiye sent emergency relief assistance financial and in-kind assistance to Indonesia as earthquake occurred in Sulawesi and Tsunami in Aceh in 2004 (Sorwar Alam, 2018). In 2004 the Turkish government established Istanbul Village in Aceh, which consisted of a school, a mosque, and an orphanage. The total aid sent by Türkiye to Indonesia surpassed 75 million USD (Kasim, 2023)

Looking at the characteristics of disaster diplomacy, both Indonesia and Türkiye fulfill those characteristics. Firstly, both countries have established long and strong relations. The disaster diplomacy conducted by Indonesia in Türkiye in 2023 was not aimed at establishing initial relations; instead, it aimed to emphasize and strengthen their existing long-term relationship. Secondly, in terms of multilateral involvement or the engagement of international organizations, Indonesia sent aid to Türkiye after receiving a request letter from the Türkiye government and the international announcement of the need for humanitarian assistance by UN-OCHA. Through this, Indonesia understood the specific requirements needed by Türkiye to assist them with the disaster. Analyzing from the perspective of their relations, Indonesia provided humanitarian assistance to Türkiye and engaged in disaster diplomacy based on the historical and cultural connections between the two countries, as well as the respect for their long-standing relations as distance of both countries geographically is quite distances. This is also why Türkiye sought aid from Indonesia without hesitation. Similarly, in the past, Türkiye had also provided aid to Indonesia during the Aceh Tsunami.

However, as Kelman (2012) has stated, although disaster diplomacy can exist when there are existing relations between countries, it does not always result in further cooperation. This was also the case between Indonesia and Türkiye. Türkiye has actively provided aid to Indonesia for a long time, and in return, Indonesia provided aid to Türkiye when it was needed. However, after the earthquake in 2023 and the disaster diplomacy conducted by Indonesia, no significant further collaboration between the two countries has been established. Some people argue that Indonesia and Türkiye have a strong collaboration in defense, as evidenced by the agreement signed by their defense ministries. However, it is important to note that this agreement was signed in 2022, before the earthquake occurred. Therefore, it is premature to conclude that Indonesia cannot achieve further collaboration through disaster diplomacy with Türkiye. In the future, both countries may potentially work together to strengthen their disaster or humanitarian response teams. On the other hand, for Türkiye, the earthquake in 2023 demonstrated that their previous disaster diplomacy efforts, such as providing aid to Indonesia during times of disaster, have been beneficial to them, especially when they themselves were in need. Although collaboration not form in the agreement to send the aid, Indonesia sent humanitarian aid to Turkiye in 2023, set as an example how from disaster diplomacy another cooperation occurred.

Talking about citizen protection as part of disaster diplomacy, it is not easy to determine Indonesia's disaster diplomacy in Türkiye. In practice, it differs from the disaster diplomacy conducted in Syria at the same time. In Türkiye, Indonesia's humanitarian assistance team operated in Hatay, a location where many Indonesians in Türkiye reside. However, Indonesia also worked alongside other countries such as Australia, Argentina, and Switzerland in the same camp (BNPB, 2023). Nevertheless, we cannot deny the fact that the Indonesian humanitarian team also saved some Indonesian citizens who were victims of the earthquake while providing care on-site. This practice is quite different from what happened in Syria. After completing the mission and recalling the team, Indonesia facilitated the repatriation of 27 Indonesians from Syria back to Indonesia (BNPB, 2023). Therefore, in the case of



disaster diplomacy missions in Syria, citizen protection cannot be separated from Indonesia's diplomatic practices. However, in Türkiye, it is not as directly evident as in the Syria mission.

Considering what Indonesia has done in response to the earthquake and what Türkiye has done for Indonesia in their relations, both countries engage in disaster diplomacy with long-term goals. Türkiye's consistent provision of aid and assistance to Indonesia over a long period of time proves that their relationship can be beneficial when a country is in need. For Indonesia, it serves as a tool to reinforce its position as a close ally of Türkiye, showcasing the historical ties between the two nations and demonstrating that Indonesia can be relied upon, especially in challenging situations. Additionally, it benefits Indonesia's humanitarian teams in the long run. As mentioned earlier, Indonesia's humanitarian teams could not arrive during the critical initial phase of the disaster due to limitations in capabilities and capacities. Nevertheless, they could still send medium and heavy search and rescue teams. This event provided valuable lessons for the Indonesian humanitarian teams on how to conduct search and rescue operations and provide humanitarian assistance in extreme weather conditions, which differ from Indonesia's own climate. Consequently, Indonesia's teams must reconsider the tools and aid they should deliver to suit the field, such as providing snow camps, appropriate clothing, and other necessities.

From Türkiye's perspective, as a party affected by the earthquake, their long-term disaster diplomacy with Indonesia has proven beneficial. They have sent aid during the Aceh tsunami, the earthquake in Palu, and other incidents, which has brought their relations closer. Türkiye has consistently utilized disaster diplomacy as a means to strengthen their relations with Indonesia over the long term. Similarly, Indonesia also employs disaster diplomacy to foster better diplomatic ties and actively engage in the international system. Both Indonesia and Türkiye conduct disaster diplomacy with the aim of improving their relations. Yet for Indonesia, humanitarian capabilities and team skills in the long run. It is expected that in the future, Indonesia will be able to achieve better cooperation through the disaster diplomacy it conducts.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, this article has provided an explanation of disaster diplomacy and analyzed how Türkiye and Indonesia conducted their disaster diplomacy in the 2023 earthquake in Türkiye. First, it explores context of disaster diplomacy in study of International Relations. Second, it assesses Indonesia's provision of aid to Türkiye can be seen as a symbolic form of disaster diplomacy. Indonesia responded to the request for humanitarian assistance from Türkiye. For Türkiye, disaster diplomacy serves as an objective, as they seek assistance during times of need, and Indonesia, as their partner, provides that assistance. Türkiye has been engaged in disaster diplomacy for a long time by sending humanitarian aid and assistance to Indonesia during times of crisis. On the other hand, for Indonesia, disaster diplomacy in the 2023 Türkiye earthquake served as a diplomatic tool. It allowed Indonesia to showcase its active role as a humanitarian country, strengthen its relations with Türkiye, and enhance the capabilities of its humanitarian team. Both countries have a strong historical relationship and share certain similarities in terms of identity, which contributes to their long-term goals and relations in disaster diplomacy. However, it is worth noting that after the earthquake, no specific collaboration has been initiated between the two countries.

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