

## Post-Pandemy Global Order Changes

**Budi Mulyana**

Departement of International Relations, Faculty of Social and Political Science. Universitas  
Komputer Indonesia, Jl Dipatiukur 112-116 Bandung, Indonesia

[budi.mulyana@email.unikom.ac.id](mailto:budi.mulyana@email.unikom.ac.id)

**Abstract**—The purpose of this research was to enrich predictive analysis in the study of international relations, especially those related to global issues. The study used qualitative research methods with data collection techniques through literature studies. The result showed that the study of the pandemic situation, provides new conditions in state behavior as well as international interactions. However, in order to arrive at a change in global order, certain preconditions are needed. This research concludes that certain preconditions required in changing the global order have not yet been realized so that the direction of change in the global order has not been seen by itself.

*Keywords*—*pandemic, global change, global issues*

### Introduction

The Covid-19 outbreak that has lasted several months has raised speculation that this outbreak will bring about a change in the global order. Not only does it have an impact on the health aspect, because it causes passivity at the level of the spread and death of life, but also has a systemic impact, be it economic, socio-cultural, and even political issues (Lika, 2020)

Although the study of the Covid-19 outbreak is a new study, considering that this phenomenon has only occurred in the past year, several related studies include; Global Order in the Shadow of Coronavirus; China, Russia and the West written by Bobo Lo (Lo, 2020); Reflections on the Pancemic in the Future of the world edited by Muzaffer Seker et al (Seker et al, 2020), Pandemic Diplomacy and the Politics of paradox; international cooperation in the age of national distancing written by Balogun and Soile (Balogun and Soilw, 2020), The Possible Geopolitical Implications Of The Covid-19 Pandemic (Lika, 2020) and The World Order in the Post-Coronavirus Era (Mehdi Sanaei , 2020).

This study aims to examine how changes in the world order after the COVID-19 pandemic. By using the method of researching literature data, examining the discourse that has been developed related to this phenomenon.

## **Method**

This study uses a qualitative method. Researchers examine the discourse of international relations issues related to global issues. With that the researcher tries to construct reality and understand its meaning. Pay attention to processes, events and authenticity. And struggling with thematic analysis (Somantri, 2005). The researcher seeks answers to research questions to understand the meaning, process, background and look for causality patterns (Creswell, 2009).

Researchers conducted a study of various literature in the form of books and journals. So that the researcher does content analysis (Gubrium et.al., 1992). Thus, in this study researchers conducted a focus on issues related to the discourse on global issues of international relations.

## **Results and Discussion**

### **Economic Impact**

Economic activity that is forced to stop, of course, has an impact on the global economic cycle. High debt problems, falling prices due to deflation and skyrocketing unemployment rates will hamper global economic recovery following the COVID-19 pandemic.

Even for some circles, the current condition of the outbreak will provide economic challenges, as happened during the period between the 1930s.

Even during the Great Depression, in the United States for example, unemployment did not increase at nearly the same rate it is today. Over the past six weeks, when the United States imposed a lockdown, some 30 million people or about one in five American workers have been forced to apply for unemployment benefits. Very likely, the US unemployment rate will peak above 20 percent of the workforce.

### **Political Impact**

Politically, this outbreak tests the capabilities of a country. Testing the readiness and ability to deal with crises quickly with various policies he undertakes.

With almost no country having survived as the COVID-19 pandemic has spread across the globe, the response to the outbreak differs greatly from country to country. Quarantine and lockdown have been practiced everywhere, but even then there are differences in severity.

In South Africa, tens of thousands of troops have been asked to enforce one of the world's strictest lockdowns. Meanwhile, countries such as South Korea and Taiwan have managed to contain the outbreak without closing all public places and activities.

In India, on March 24, 2020, the Indian public only received four hours' prior notification by Prime Minister Narendra Modi that India would implement a lockdown. The decree limits 1.3 billion people from returning to their homes for 21 days. A curfew is in place and most businesses are closed. As a result, a large number of people lost their jobs, with the most recent number unemployed at 140 million. The lockdown measures also spawned massive internal migration as Indians fled cities to return to their villages, leaving some of the world's most crowded areas desolate.

India's lockdown and movement restrictions (which began easing this week) are among the world's strictest. Videos show the police beating and whipping people caught breaking the rules.

### **Socio-Cultural Impact**

Social interaction patterns have also been affected by this outbreak. Concerns about spreading the virus gave birth to various health protocols. Social distancing, which was then corrected to physical distancing, limited social interaction. Coupled with various restrictions on assembly, making public arenas avoided to be visited.

Not only a place for economic and social interaction, it is also a place of worship. Muslim countries began to prohibit group prayers at any mosque. In Turkey, for example, Ali Erbas, Head of Turkish Religious Affairs has said that Islam does not want to endanger human life. All worship at the mosque has been suspended. Other countries that have now banned congregational prayer are Lebanon, Iraq, Egypt and Jordan. Although there is a partial ban on worshipping and praying in the mosques of Saudi Arabia (including in Makkah and Medina), Iran, Sudan, Nigeria, Rwanda, Kenya and Kuwait.

Public transportation activities are also subject to restrictions. Flights have been banned and efforts are being made by some countries to prevent the import of the virus through immigration. However, there are countries such as Pakistan, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and some countries that have not initiated effective action to contain this trend.

Racial issues also accompanied the Covid-19 outbreak. India's 200 million Muslims face a unique challenge during the pandemic: violence and abuse. As the country's largest religious minority, Muslims have been scapegoated and accused of spreading the virus. The allegations were sparked by television news and several members of the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party. The false claim is also widespread on social media.

Something similar in the form of hoaxes related to the epidemic; Associations with global conspiracy issues, future predictions, effective treatment tips are other phenomena of this outbreak.

### **The history of the plague that changed the political order**

As human civilization developed, so did infectious diseases. A large number of people living close to one another and buying animal nutrients, often faced with poor sanitation and nutrition. This provides a fertile ground for various diseases to develop. Plus, foreign trade routes are spreading new infections everywhere, thus creating the first global pandemic.

Scientists and medical researchers have for years been divided over the exact definition of a pandemic (whether it is a pandemic, or an epidemic). One thing everyone agrees on, however, is that the phrase describes a wide spread of the disease, beyond what is usually geographic.

Cholera, the bubonic plague, smallpox, and influenza are some of the most brutal transboundary "killers" in human history.

Cholera is a recurring contagious disease in human history, in the context of a pandemic it has experienced seven pandemics with a total toll of millions of people. However, this disease has encouraged new knowledge about the importance of public health. Now, countries that pay attention to sanitation are no longer affected by this epidemic. However, poor countries, with minimal sanitation, still find the plague afflicting its people.

Flu, is almost the same as cholera in terms of the threat of a recurring pandemic. Under various names; Asian Flu, Russian Flu, Hong Kong Flu (1968) with millions of victims. Moreover, the Spanish Flu (1918) by infecting more than a third of the world's population, about 500 million people and with the death of 20-50 million people. It occurred before the First World War so that it intertwined with political problems so that it had an influence on changes in the global political order.

However, these various outbreaks have not all had a political impact. Especially politics globally. Some of them;

The Antonine Plague, or Galen (165 AD), was an ancient pandemic that affected the Asia Minor region, Egypt, Greece and Italy. The outbreak is thought to be a form of smallpox or measles, although the real cause is still unknown. This unidentified disease was brought back to Rome by soldiers returning from Mesopotamia around 165 AD. Unknowingly, they had spread a disease that would eventually kill more than 5 million people and destroy the Roman army. And this outbreak is changing the political constellation in the region.

Justinian Plague. The Justinian Plague occurred in Constantinople, the capital of the Byzantine Empire, in 541 AD. He was brought from an envoy on a ship across the Mediterranean from Egypt, a land which had just been conquered and paid tribute to Emperor Justinian. The lice on black mice are the

masterminds of disease. The plague devastated Constantinople and spread like wildfire across Europe, Asia, North Africa and Arabia, killing an estimated 30 to 50 million people, or half of the world's population. In the city of Constantinople, where at its peak it killed 5,000 people per day and ultimately resulted in the death of 40 percent of the city's population. Episodes of plague contributed to the political and economic weakening of the Byzantine Empire. As disease spread throughout the Mediterranean world, the empire's ability to resist its enemies weakened. The agricultural sector was destroyed and trade disrupted. The plague lasted 225 years and stopped in 750 AD.

Black Death - From 1346 to 1353 the plague devastated Europe, Africa and Asia, with an estimated death toll of between 75 and 200 million people, two-thirds of Europe's population. Allegedly, the plague originated in Asia, most likely leaping continents via the fleas that live on the rats that so often live aboard merchant ships. The harbor being the center of a large city at the time, was the perfect breeding ground for rodents and ticks, and thus harmful bacteria thrived, destroying three continents. The plague has generated cynicism against religious officials who have failed to keep their promises to heal plague victims and drive disease away. So that, the debate between scientists and religious circles in Europe has intensified. Which later gave birth to the 30 years war in Europe which ended with the Westphalia Treaty which gave rise to two basic principles of modern political life; secularism and nationalism.

Smallpox is endemic that has spread in Europe, Asia and Arabia for centuries, and is a constant threat that kills three in ten infected people. This disease also leaves the sufferer with a pockmarked scar. However, death rates in the past outweighed the damage inflicted on native populations in the New World, when the smallpox virus arrived in the 15th century with the first European explorers. The indigenous peoples of modern Mexico and the United States do not currently have natural immunity to smallpox and the virus has reduced their numbers to tens of millions. And the impact of smallpox that swept through this new world has hastened the extinction of the natives who lacked strong immunity against this disease. And then made this continent the western continent.

PANDEMY HIV / AIDS (2005-2012) Since it was first identified in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in 1976, HIV / AIDS has truly established itself as a global pandemic, killing more than 36 million people since 1981. There are currently between 31 and 35 million of people living with HIV, most of them in Sub-Saharan Africa, where 5 percent of the population is infected, or about 21 million people. With a known cause, awareness of the dangers of this disease should grow. Instead, its neglect has kept the disease progressing with control programs trying to adapt to the disease. Not eradicate it.

## **Finding change in the post-plague world**

### **World Recession**

It is certain that this outbreak will lead to an economic recession. It not only affects one country, but globally. This recession had been predicted by many circles. With the economic wheels stopping. Cessation of production factors for both goods and services. Cessation of distribution. And the more limited the consumption factor, it is certain that a recession will occur. This outbreak cannot be estimated when it will stop. With the character of an infectious epidemic that necessitates limiting interactions, it is not easy to revive the wheels of the world economy. Adjustments continued, but still couldn't find the 'new normal' form.

### **United States leadership**

Global capitalism led by the United States is feeling a tremendous blow. With its status as a superpower, compared to the status of other countries such as Vietnam, for example, the US is not moving as fast as Vietnam in responding to the potential threat of COVID-19 in the first place. Delays in action have undoubtedly contributed to high US deaths.

The US also does not coordinate health and safety information to the public through broadcasts, print media, street posters and warnings everywhere, as Vietnam did. The incessant information was even carried out on a scale that reflected mass mobilization efforts during the war.

PROCEEDING BOOK

The 3rd International Conference on Business, Economics, Social Sciences, and Humanities 2020

ISBN: 978-623-95562-0-4

## **New Superpower**

China is considered to emerge as one of the strongest poles fighting for US hegemony. China's interaction in various regions continues to increase, especially in Southern and Eastern Europe, Africa, Central, South and Southeast Asia, and Latin America. The countries in the region have connected each other in trade and investment with China. The trade competition between China and the United States is increasingly apparent when China has become the country with the highest economic growth rate. Economic growth which has implications for increasing the country's capacity by strengthening processes in various other sectors. So China began to become an emerging state that shifted from a Regional Power State to a Global Power. It's just that the lack of China's experience in the global arena, especially in international conflicts, makes China still doubtful about being able to shift the US hegemony as the leader of global capitalism. China's efforts to partner with Brazil, Russia, India and South Africa to build a new economic axis with its BRICS effectiveness are still questionable. Moreover, they have not been able to break away from the framework of the Brettonwoods system which is the foundation of global capitalism.

India, moving still far backward compared to China. With almost similar potential, India is not as "agile" as China. However, the existence of regional power, with its sparring of Pakistan, makes India a power that also has potential.

When referring to the prediction of the NIC, only the Khilafah State does not yet have a foundation of reality in the context of statehood. Although historically its existence has been difficult to lose in the minds of the great civilization struggles, it is now scattered with ideas that are constantly being discussed.

## **Conclusion**

The plague does not necessarily give birth to a new superpower. However, he will test the capability of the state. The weak state is about to collapse. Strong countries will be weakened. The potential "ngadodoho" is ready to take over civilization, turning a corrupted civilization into a civilization that brings blessings to all of nature.

## **Acknowledgment**

The authors say many thanks to: Rector of Unikom who has given the opportunity and permission to the author to conduct research. Prof. Dr. Samugyo Ibnu Redjo, MA., As the former Dean of FISIP Unikom who gave me confidence and convenience during the research process and Dr. Dewi Triwahyuni, S.IP., M.Si as the Chairperson of Department of IR Science.

## **References**

- [1] Somantri, Gumilar Rusliwa. 2005. "Memahami Metode Kualitatif". *Makara, Sosial Humaniora*, Vol 9 No 2, p 57-65
- [2] Creswell, John W., 2009. *Research Design; Pendekatan Kualitatif, Kuantitatif, dan Mixed*. Terjemahan Achmad Fawaid. Yogyakarta: Pustaka Pelajar
- [3] Gubrium, Jaber F and James A. Holstein, 1992. "Qualitative Methods", dalam *Encyclopedia of Sociology*, Vol. 3. New York: Macmillan Publishing Company
- [4] Sanaei, Mehdi. 2020. *The World Order in the Post-Coronavirus Era* [https://valdaiclub.com/a/highlights/world-order-in-postcoronavirus-era/?sphrase\\_id=662765](https://valdaiclub.com/a/highlights/world-order-in-postcoronavirus-era/?sphrase_id=662765) DOI: 10.31278/1810-6374-2020-18-2-54-59

- [5] Lika, Ildir. 2020. *The Possible Geopolitical Implications Of The Covid-19 Pandemic*. Seta | Siyaset, Ekonomi Ve Toplum Arařtırmaları Vakfı Foundation For Political, Economic And Social Research Ankara Türkiye
- [6] Lo, Bobo. 2020, *Global Order In The Shadow Of The Coronavirus*. Australia. The Lowy Institute
- [7] Őeker, Muzaffer. Etc (ed). 2020. *Reflections on the Pandemic in the Future of the World*. Turkish Academy of Sciences. Ankara Turkiye
- [8] A. BALOGUN, Oluwaseun I. SOILE. 2020. 'Pandemic Diplomacy' and the Politics of Paradox: International Cooperation in the Age of National Distancing Gaziantep University Journal Of Social Sciences 2020 Special Issue 413-428
- [9] Kiran, Yavuz Selim, etc (ed). 2020. *The World after COVID-19: Cooperation or Competition?*Center for Strategic Research & Antalya Diplomacy Forum Republic of Turkey Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- [10] Kolodko, Grzegorz. 2020. *After the Calamity: Economics and Politics in the Post-Pandemic World*. Sociological Review Polish ISSN 1231–1413 2(210)'20 DOI:10.26412/psr210.01