

## BAB 4

### KESIMPULAN

Lewat penelitian ini, penulis bertujuan untuk mencari mengidentifikasi mengapa perubahan kebijakan luar negeri Ukraina sebagai *buffer state* berdampak pada peningkatan agresivitas Rusia. Selain itu, penelitian ini juga hendak mencari hubungan kebijakan luar negeri Ukraina, agresivitas Rusia, dan rivalitas Rusia dengan NATO. Dengan menggunakan konsep *enduring rivalries*, *buffer state*, dan intensitas konflik, ditemukan beberapa poin dalam penelitian ini.

Pertama, eskalasi agresivitas Rusia terhadap Ukraina tidak terlepas dari gambaran besar relasi yang terjadi di antara Rusia dengan NATO. Relasi rivalitas bertahan antara Rusia dan NATO membuat keduanya memiliki pandangan antagonistik satu sama lain. Baik Rusia maupun NATO sama-sama bersaing dalam sistem politik internasional untuk mendapatkan pengaruh sebesar mungkin. Pada konteks agresivitasnya terhadap Ukraina, Rusia takut bahwa negara tersebut akan jatuh ke dalam pengaruh NATO dan menjadi bagian dari negara tersebut yang sebetulnya telah ditunjukkan via tendensi Ukraina dengan memformulasikan kebijakan luar negerinya ke arah integrasi dengan NATO. Ketakutan ini juga sejalan dan ditunjukkan via peringatan berulang oleh Rusia terhadap NATO atas janji penerimaan keanggotaan Ukraina dan Georgia ke dalam organisasi keamanan tersebut.

Kedua, keterlibatan Ukraina terhadap rivalitas antara Rusia dengan NATO pada dasarnya disebabkan oleh posisi geografis Ukraina yang berdekatan dengan dua entitas yang sedang bersaing, menyebabkan negara tersebut memiliki peran strategis sebagai *buffer state*. Peran strategis Ukraina sebagai *buffer state* menyebabkan kestabilan hanya akan tercipta jika Ukraina

menjaga netralitas kebijakan luar negerinya. Namun, pada tahun 2014, Ukraina mengalami perubahan kebijakan luar negeri yang mengarah pada integrasi dengan NATO.

Ketiga, perubahan luar negeri Ukraina mendapatkan respon berupa eskalasi agresivitas dari Rusia. Pada tahun 2014, Rusia melakukan aneksasi pada Crimea. Jika diteliti menggunakan konsep intensitas konflik, maka aneksasi ini termasuk ke dalam kategori *limited war*. Selanjutnya, pada tahun yang sama, Rusia ikut ambil bagian dalam perang di Donbas, meletakkan perang Donbas dalam kategori *war*. Terakhir, pada tahun 2022, Rusia melancarkan aksi invasi ke Ukraina. Aksi invasi ini termasuk dalam kategori *war*, namun dengan intensitas yang lebih tinggi dari perang di Donbas.

Sebagai kesimpulan, alasan dibalik eskalasi agresivitas Rusia terhadap Ukraina disebabkan oleh perasaan terisolasi serta dilema keamanan yang dialami oleh Rusia. Ukraina selama ini dianggap dapat menjadi benteng yang melindungi keamanan Rusia dari intervensi maupun sikap agresif NATO karena mempertahankan status netralitasnya. Namun, karena perubahan kebijakan luar negeri Ukraina mengarah pada integrasi dengan NATO, Rusia menganggap bahwa kekuatan NATO akan semakin mendekati wilayahnya. Selain itu, dengan Ukraina yang menjadi pro-NATO, membuat Rusia merasa terisolasi karena dirinya dikelilingi oleh negara-negara sekutu dari lawannya. Dengan mengkonsiderasikan faktor-faktor diatas, maka agresivitas Rusia yang dilakukan secara tiga kali (aneksasi Krimea, keikutsertaan pada perang di Donbass, dan invasi Ukraina) merupakan upaya Rusia untuk melindungi negaranya dari ancaman keamanan tersebut.

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