

# **HUMAN SECURITY:** Safeguarding & Empowering People

International Conference on International Relations  
27 October 2016  
Mercure Hotel, Bandung, West Java, Indonesia

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# PROCEEDINGS

HUMAN SECURITY:

*Safeguarding & Empowering People*

*International Conference on International Relations*

*27 October 2016*

*Mercure Hotel, Bandung, West Java, Indonesia*

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## Foreword

It is a great pleasure to write this foreword in the proceedings of the 1<sup>st</sup> biennial International Conference on International Relations (ICON-IR 2016) organized by Parahyangan Centre for International Studies (PACIS) in cooperation with the International Department, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, Parahyangan Catholic University.

The theme of this conference Human Security: Safeguarding and Empowering People is indeed timely in the context of our globalized world today as the focuses and the actors of security are no longer state-centered. It has been broadened to include and center on the people, which has led to the emergence of a people-centered concept of human security. With this broadening and deepening concept, the issues considered as security issue are also widened, as ICON-IR 2016 covered. In the past, the security issues were just limited on the traditional issue that related with the ability of a state to protect its territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence from external threats that broadly define as the other state. Nowadays, as you will see in this proceeding, the human related issues and threats from non-state actor such as terrorism, poverty, environment, diseases, energy scarcity, lack of education, trafficking, secessionist, people movement, disaster, etc. that previously considered as just domestic problems or social issues have been included as security issues.

In the other hand, the modifications of security concept also have several impacts towards the management of security. The state with its sovereignty and as an actor that has the legitimacy to use force, still has the responsibility to ensure its own security. In addition, state also has the obligation to safeguard its people by making policies that focus on human needs. It is the limitations of the state that eventually allow the involvement of non-state actors. Most of them are set to play significant roles in promoting people's rights in the society as well as empowering people through provision of knowledge and development of capacity.

Furthermore, the basic instrument for human security is not limited to the use of force and military-related approach, but also related with social, political, economic and development conditions. The mechanism should be based on cooperation, because the nature of human security is universal, different from traditional security that highlights the zero sum game mechanism. Therefore, the approach is also should be interrelated between safeguarding the people that implies the top to bottom approach in protecting the people and empowering that implies the bottom to top approach in developing people capabilities into their full potential.

It is my sincere hope that proceeding of ICON-IR 2016 will contribute to scholarly debate on Human Security and other related fields. I strongly believe the mutual exchange of ideas generated in this proceeding will lead to greater scholarship, academic networking and lasting friendship among all contributors.

With warm regards,

Elisabeth Dewi, Ph.D  
Chair  
Conference Organizing Committee



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