



Keynote Address Strengthening Multilateralism: Survival Amid Global Turbulence and a Fragmented World

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Keynote Address

The international system is experiencing growing pressures arising from geopolitical rivalry, armed conflicts, economic protectionism, climate change, and rapid technological transformation. These interconnected developments have weakened confidence in multilateral institutions while exposing inconsistencies in the implementation of international law. The increasing complexity of transnational challenges demonstrates that multilateral cooperation remains indispensable, although international institutions require reform to become more representative, adaptive, and capable of responding effectively to evolving global realities.

Indonesia continues to uphold its Bebas Aktif foreign policy as the fundamental framework guiding its international engagement. This principle does not represent neutrality or passive diplomacy but reflects Indonesia's sovereign authority to determine its own foreign policy while actively contributing to international peace, safeguarding national sovereignty, promoting national prosperity, and maintaining constructive relations with all partners without joining exclusive geopolitical blocs. Expanding strategic options while preserving national interests therefore remains the central orientation of Indonesia's diplomacy.

Strengthening multilateralism requires improving existing international institutions rather than abandoning them. Indonesia consequently supports initiatives to enhance the effectiveness, inclusiveness, transparency, and accountability of global governance through the UN80 Initiative, reform of the United Nations Security Council, and stronger representation of developing countries in international decision making. These reforms are expected to reinforce collective responses to increasingly interconnected global challenges while preserving a rules-based international order.

Indonesia also continues to expand its strategic engagement through active participation in ASEAN, the G20, BRICS, the D-8,

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and the OECD accession process. These complementary engagements broaden Indonesia's diplomatic space, strengthen international partnerships, and preserve strategic flexibility without shifting from one geopolitical bloc to another. This approach reflects the practical implementation of the *Bebas Aktif* principle in navigating an increasingly dynamic international environment.

Strong diplomacy depends upon strong national resilience. Food security, energy security, industrial downstreaming, technological capability, human capital development, economic governance, and trade diversification constitute mutually reinforcing priorities supporting Indonesia's long-term national transformation. Strengthening these domestic foundations enhances Indonesia's capacity to protect national interests while contributing to regional stability, sustainable development, and international cooperation.

Multilateralism therefore remains indispensable despite increasing global fragmentation. Maintaining an effective international order requires continuous institutional reform to ensure that global governance remains relevant, inclusive, and responsive to contemporary challenges. Through the integration of comprehensive national resilience and the *Bebas Aktif* foreign policy, Indonesia will continue to preserve its strategic autonomy, expand international cooperation, and contribute to a peaceful, stable, and rules-based international order.

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