

The Role of Indonesian Military Women in Peacekeeping Operations as Agents of Changes

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Abstract:

This study explores the role of Indonesian military women in peacekeeping operations, focusing on their contributions, challenges, and potential as agents of change. Using a qualitative case study approach, this analysis examines the historical involvement, present contributions, and future prospects of Indonesian military women in peacekeeping operations. The study relies on document analysis and secondary data from peacekeeping missions, with a particular focus on the roles and impact of female personnel in the Garuda Contingent. Findings reveal that Indonesian military women actively contribute to operational effectiveness by performing diverse roles such as community engagement, healthcare provision, and logistical support, while addressing gender-sensitive issues in conflict zones. Their participation enhances mission outcomes, builds trust with local populations, and promotes Indonesia's international image as a proponent of global peace. However, challenges persist, including societal expectations and institutional barriers that limit leadership opportunities. By aligning with the United Nations' gender inclusion goals, Indonesia demonstrates its commitment to expanding women's roles in peacekeeping missions. This study highlights the transformative impact of gender integration on operational efficiency and offers insights into strategies for addressing barriers faced by military women. The findings contribute to the growing discourse on the significance of women in peacekeeping and provide a framework for advancing inclusive practices in international peace missions.