

## ABSTRAK

### IMPLEMENTASI *TRILATERAL COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENT* DALAM MENANGANI PERMASALAHAN DI LAUT SULU-SULAWESI DAN PERAIRAN LEPAS PANTAI SABAH BAGIAN TIMUR, 2016-2025

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Kawasan Laut Sulu-Sulawesi dan perairan lepas pantai Sabah bagian timur menghadapi ancaman kejahatan maritim transnasional. Ancaman tersebut mencakup perompakan bersenjata, penculikan awak kapal, dan aksi kelompok bersenjata Abu Sayyaf. Insiden tersebut mencapai puncak tertinggi pada tahun 2016 dengan delapan belas kasus yang tercatat. Oleh karenanya, Indonesia, Malaysia, dan Filipina menyusun kerangka *Trilateral Cooperative Arrangement* (TCA) pada Mei 2016. Kerja sama ini bertujuan menjaga stabilitas keamanan maritim di *Tri Border Area*. Penelitian ini menganalisis implementasi TCA selama periode 2016-2025 secara mendalam.

Penelitian ini menggunakan kerangka kerja sama multilateral dan teori diplomasi pertahanan. Konsep multilateral menekankan koordinasi antartiga negara secara terbatas. Teori diplomasi pertahanan menjelaskan penggunaan instrumen militer secara damai. Metode yang digunakan pada penelitian yaitu kualitatif dengan pendekatan studi kasus. Data sekunder berasal dari dokumen resmi, laporan ReCAAP, publikasi jurnal ilmiah serta berbagai sumber berita media internasional dan lembaga terkait.

Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa TCA berhasil menurunkan insiden kejahatan, dimana tidak ditemukan kasus pada periode 2021-2025. Keberhasilan ini dicapai melalui pilar operasional seperti *Trilateral Maritime Patrol* (TMP), *Trilateral Air Patrol* (TAP), dan penguatan *Maritime Command Center* (MCC). Berdasarkan konsep multilateral, TCA merupakan institusi terbatas (*restricted institution*) yang mengikat ketiga negara secara tak terpisahkan (*indivisibly linked*) untuk saling bergantung. Adapun dari teori diplomasi pertahanan, TCA berfungsi sebagai instrumen transformasional yang berhasil menyelesaikan krisis keamanan dan memulihkan keseimbangan regional. Secara keseluruhan, TCA membuktikan bahwa kolaborasi trilateral yang terinstitusi efektif menjaga kedaulatan dan stabilitas maritim regional.

**Kata Kunci:** Indomalphi, *Trilateral Cooperative Arrangement*, *Tri Border Area*

## **ABSTRACT**

### **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRILATERAL COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENT FOR ADDRESSING ISSUES IN THE SULU- CELEBES SEAS AND THE WATERS OFF EASTERN SABAH, 2016-2025**

**By**

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The Sulu-Sulawesi Sea region and the waters off eastern Sabah face the threat of transnational maritime crime. These threats include armed piracy, the kidnapping of ship crews, and attacks by the Abu Sayyaf armed group. Such incidents peaked in 2016, with eighteen cases recorded. Consequently, Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines established the Trilateral Cooperative Arrangement (TCA) framework in May 2016. This cooperation aims to maintain maritime security stability in the Tri-Border Area. This study provides an in depth analysis of the implementation of the TCA during the 2016–2025 period. This research applies multilateral cooperation frameworks and defense diplomacy theory. Multilateral concepts emphasize limited coordination among the three countries. Defense diplomacy theory explains the peaceful use of military instruments. The research method used is qualitative with a case study approach. Secondary data is sourced from official documents, ReCAAP reports, scientific journal publications, as well as various international media news sources and relevant institutions. The research findings show that the TCA has successfully reduced crime incidents, with no cases reported during the 2021–2025 period. This success was achieved through operational pillars such as the Trilateral Maritime Patrol (TMP), Trilateral Air Patrol (TAP), and the strengthening of the Maritime Command Center (MCC). Based on the concept of multilateralism, the TCA is a restricted institution that binds the three countries indivisibly, fostering mutual dependence. From the perspective of defense diplomacy theory, the TCA functions as a transformational instrument that successfully resolves security crises and restores regional balance. Overall, the TCA demonstrates that institutionalized trilateral collaboration effectively safeguards regional maritime sovereignty and stability.

**Keywords:** Indomalphi, Trilateral Cooperative Arrangement, Tri Border Area