

Research Article

A Series of Strategic Cooperation Towards 100 Years of Indonesia-France Relations

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Abstract: Macron's visit also commemorated 75 years of diplomatic relations and a decade of strategic partnership between Indonesia and France. This meeting showed how bilateral diplomacy can trigger long-term transformation in various sectors. The partnership is part of extending the diplomatic relations between the two countries, which will be 100 years old in 2050. Indonesia and France are developing strategic partnerships in various important sectors, ranging from defense, technology, agriculture, economy, to culture. Both countries have the same vision of world order. The strategic partnership strengthens their positions in facing global uncertainty with a total of 21 strategic agreements. The forms of cooperation and strategic agreements between Indonesia and France include: 1) Defense sector, for example, the Indonesian Ministry of Defense and the French Ministry of Armed Forces agreed to establish a strategic partnership related to the exchange and joint protection of confidential information in the defense sector, 2) Economic sector, both countries agreed to encourage more balanced trade and investment relations, including: (1). MoU between the National Nutrition Agency and Danone; (2). Danantara and Eramet; (3). Investment Agreement between PT RGE Indonesia and Total Energies; (4). Investment Agreement between PT Citra Bonang Indonesia and Lesaffre; (5). MoU between PT SMI, PT PLN, and HDF; (6). MoU between Bank Indonesia and Banque De France, 3) Indonesia and France agreed to encourage Palestinian independence. This is considered the only way to resolve the long conflict between Palestine and Israel. Humanity must be prioritized in order to realize peace in the region. "Two State Solutions" or a two-state solution is the most diplomatic way out for Palestinian independence.

Keywords: Bilateral Cooperation; Indonesia-France Foreign Policy; Indonesia-France Relations; Strategic Cooperation; Towards 100 Years

1. Introduction

The strategic relationship between Indonesia and France was further strengthened with the signing of a joint vision to achieve 100 years of diplomatic relations by 2050, covering key sectors such as the economy, defense, and culture. The Cabinet Secretariat (Setkab, 2025) reported that the two countries agreed to adopt this shared vision as part of strengthening their long-term partnership. This vision not only reflects the close ties between the two countries in various aspects but also demonstrates the importance of cooperation between the two countries in addressing global challenges. French President Emmanuel Macron's visit to Indonesia in May 2025, marking 75 years of diplomatic relations between the two countries, was an important milestone in deepening the relationship. The visit also reaffirmed both countries' commitment to building a more solid partnership in the future, particularly in the defense and economic sectors (Présidence de la République, 2025).

In this commemoration, Indonesia and France agreed to enhance cooperation in various fields, including the exchange of technology, information, and human resources. The Jakarta Post (2025) noted that the two countries also agreed to introduce new initiatives to support capacity building in research, technology, and trade. Additionally, Modern Diplomacy (2025) states that this partnership encompasses various sectors, from geopolitics to humanitarianism, seeking to create long-term benefits for both countries. This cooperation

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extends beyond government-to-government relations to include the private sector, educational institutions, and research institutions, strengthening a strategic foundation that can contribute to the development of both countries and regional and global stability. In total, there are 21 strategic agreements built by the two countries. The signing by the respective ministers of state was witnessed directly by Prabowo and Macron. Moreover, the strategic partnership was also forged closer with the signing of the agreement by the ministers of the two countries. Several other targeted fields include education, culture, transportation, energy transition, and disaster management.

In fact, one of Prabowo's flagship programs, Free Nutritious Meals, is also included in the strategic partnership. In that sector, cooperation was established between the National Nutrition Agency and Danone to improve national nutrition in order to build a healthy and advanced generation.

The forms of cooperation between Indonesia and France include in the fields of Defense and the economy, namely: 1) In the field of defense, for example, the Indonesian Ministry of Defense and the French Ministry of the Armed Forces agreed to establish a strategic partnership related to the exchange and joint protection of confidential information in the defense sector. Furthermore, the two countries also agreed to a strategic partnership in the defense sector more generally; (1) France is one of Indonesia's main partners in the modernization of defense equipment, including in the development of the defense industry through joint production and technology transfer; (2) The 11th Indonesia-Defence Dialogue held in April recorded positive results. Indonesia also participated in the La Perouse Naval exercise. This is a form of joint commitment to maintaining regional stability; (3) France is one of Indonesia's main partners in modernizing defense equipment, including in developing the defense industry through joint production and technology transfer. 2) From the economic sector, the two countries agreed to encourage more balanced trade and investment relations; (1) Indonesia asked for France's support to accelerate the completion of the Indonesia-European Union Agreement regarding a comprehensive economic partnership in the EU CEPA. He believes that the agreement can be realized in the future; (2) President Macron supports Indonesia in CEPA, but also in the OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development). 3) Indonesia-France Push for Palestinian Independence; Indonesia and France agree to push for Palestinian independence. This is considered the only way to resolve the long conflict between Palestine and Israel. Humanity must be prioritized in order to realize peace in the region. "Two State Solutions" or a two-state solution is the most diplomatic way out for Palestinian independence. One of the most important things in my discussion with President Macron was what President Macron said about France's desire to push for a peaceful resolution of the Palestinian problem, where France will also continue to support steps towards Palestinian independence,". France provided this support by pushing for all armed activities to be immediately stopped in Gaza. The country also called for a guarantee of full humanitarian access; (1) Macron's wishes are in line with his plan to hold a Summit between France and Saudi Arabia in June. In that forum, a proposal for a conflict resolution in the form of "Two State Solutions" will be pushed to realize peace in the Middle East region; (2) Two State Solutions is also a solution offered by Prabowo to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. He has conveyed this idea many times in various forums; (3) Indonesia views only the Two State Solution. Independence for the Palestinian people is the only way to achieve true peace; (4) Indonesia will also recognize and guarantee Israel's right to stand as a sovereign state. Thus, the country's security must also be guaranteed. Prabowo also opened the diplomatic option if Israel has recognized Palestinian independence; (5) Indonesia has conveyed that once the Palestinian state is recognized by Israel, Indonesia is ready to recognize Israel and we are ready to open diplomatic relations with Israel. We also convey that Indonesia is ready to contribute peacekeeping troops in the region.

2. Proposed Method

Based on the background above, the formulation of the problem in this paper is: "A Series of Strategic Cooperation Towards 100 Years of Indonesia-France Relations"?

The Data Collection Technique uses Online Data Search/Internet searching, browsing, surfing or downloading data, Books, magazines, Journals, Theses, Dissertations, online news, media, websites and Sources from Experts related to matters related to "A Series of Strategic Cooperation Towards 100 Years of Indonesia-France Relations".

3. Results and Discussion

Indonesia-France Both countries have the same vision of world order. Strategic partnerships strengthen their positions in facing global uncertainty.

Indonesia and France are developing strategic partnerships in various important sectors, ranging from defense, technology, agriculture, economy, to culture. The partnership is part of extending the diplomatic relations of the two countries, which will be 100 years old in 2050.

The commitment to strengthening the partnership was reaffirmed when President Prabowo Subianto received a state visit from French President Emmanuel Macron, at the Merdeka Palace, Jakarta, Wednesday (5/28/2025). Macron's visit also commemorated 75 years of diplomatic relations and a decade of strategic partnership between Indonesia and France.

President Prabowo, after holding a bilateral meeting with Macron. "Today we agreed to go further by adopting a joint vision declaration towards 100 years of Indonesia-France relations in 2050. This also shows our commitment to increasing cooperation in strategic areas,"

Despite the distance, my message is actually simple: France is on Indonesia's side, and in various aspects we have the same ideas about world order.

3.1. A Series of Indonesia-France Cooperation

Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto and French President Emmanuel Macron held a bilateral meeting on May 28, 2025 at the Merdeka Palace, Jakarta. The results of this meeting were:

- 1) 4 strategic joint declarations.
- 2) 11 G2G (Government-to-Government) MoUs.
- 3) 6 G2B and B2B (Government-to-Business & Business-to-Business) agreements.

The areas of cooperation include: diplomacy, defense, culture, energy, forestry, transportation, and food security.

- 1) Joint Declarations (4 main documents):
 - (1) Joint Declaration on the Development of the Indonesia-France Strategic Partnership until 2050.
 - (2) Joint Declaration on Cultural Strategy between Indonesia and France.
 - (3) Joint Declaration on the Peaceful Resolution of the Question of Palestine and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution.
 - (4) Joint Statement between the President of the Republic of Indonesia and the President of the French Republic.
- 2) G2G MoU and Letter of Intent (11 documents):
 - (1) MoU for the Cooperation on Diplomatic Capacity Building.
 - (2) MoU on Mutual Protection of Classified Information MPCIA.
 - (3) Letter of Intent on Strategic Defense Cooperation.
 - (4) Joint Statement between the President of the Republic of Indonesia and the President of the French Republic.
 - (5) Declaration of Intent concerning Cooperation in the field of Agriculture.
 - (6) Letter of Intent on Critical Minerals Cooperation.
 - (7) Declaration of Intent in the field of Sustainable Forestry.
 - (8) MoU on Cooperation in the field of Creative Economy.
 - (9) MoU on Cooperation in the field of Culture.
 - (10) Declaration of Intent on Cooperation in the field of Disaster Risk Management.
 - (11) MoU on Cooperation in the Transportation Sector.
 - (12) Cooperation Agreement between Pordasi and FFI Avasec AFCE France Galop on the Development of Sport Horse Cooperation.
- 3) G2B and B2B Agreements (6 documents):
 - (1) MoU between the National Nutrition Agency and Danone.
 - (2) Danantara and Eramet.
 - (3) Investment Agreement between PT RGE Indonesia and Total Energies.
 - (4) Investment Agreement between PT Citra Bonang Indonesia and Lesaffre.
 - (5) MoU between PT SMI, PT PLN, and HDF.
 - (6) MoU between Bank Indonesia and Banque De France.

3.2. Form of Strategic Partnership Between France-Indonesia

The form of strategic partnership is stated in the signing of an agreement document that includes a joint declaration, cooperation between governments, between institutions, private partnerships, and cooperation between central banks.

A total of 21 strategic agreements were built by the two countries. The signing carried out by the respective state ministers was witnessed directly by Prabowo and Macron.

- 1) In the defense sector, for example, the Indonesian Ministry of Defense and the French Ministry of Armed Forces agreed to establish a strategic partnership related to the exchange and joint protection of confidential information in the defense sector. Furthermore, the two countries also agreed to a strategic partnership in the defense sector more generally.
 - (1) France is one of Indonesia's main partners in the modernization of defense equipment, including in the development of the defense industry through joint production and technology transfer.
 - (2) Prabowo noted that the 11th Indonesia-Defense Dialogue which took place last April recorded positive results. Indonesia also participated in the La Perouse Navy exercise. This is a form of joint commitment to maintaining regional stability. (3) Macron welcomed it regarding the matter of cooperation in the defense sector and the defense equipment sector which is quite strategic for both countries; and
 - (3) Other sectors, such as energy transition to education and culture. All partnerships that are established are expected to be in line with increased investment in Indonesia. (Kompas.id, 05/28/2025).
- 2) From the economic sector, both countries agreed to encourage more balanced trade and investment relations. He asked for France's support to accelerate the completion of the Indonesia-European Union Agreement regarding a comprehensive economic partnership in the EU CEPA. He believes that the agreement can be realized in the future.
 - (1) President Macron promised to support our membership not only in CEPA, but also in the OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development).
 - (2) Strategic partnerships are also being established more closely with the signing of agreements by ministers from the two countries. A number of other targeted areas include education, culture, transportation, energy transition, and disaster management.
 - (3) France is one of Indonesia's main partners in modernizing defense equipment, including in the development of the defense industry through joint production and technology transfer.
 - (4) In fact, one of Prabowo's flagship programs, Free Nutritious Meals, is also included in this strategic partnership. In this sector, cooperation is established between the National Nutrition Agency and Danone to improve national nutrition in order to build a healthy and advanced generation.
 - (5) Danantara is also included in this cooperation point. The government investment fund institution has agreed to cooperate with Eramet, together with the Indonesia Investment Authority (INA), regarding critical minerals. This sector is targeted to support the electric vehicle ecosystem and nickel downstreaming.
- 3) Regarding France's position on the Ukrainian conflict and the still heated situation in Palestine and Israel. Both countries agreed to push for a sustainable peaceful solution.

3.3. Indonesia-France Push for Palestinian Independence

"Two State Solutions" or a two-state solution is the most diplomatic way out for Palestinian independence.

- 1) Indonesia and France agree to push for Palestinian independence. This is considered the only way to resolve the long conflict between Palestine and Israel. Humanity must be prioritized in order to realize peace in the region.

"One of the most important things in my discussion with President Macron was what President Macron said about France's desire to push for a peaceful resolution of the Palestinian problem, where France will also continue to support steps towards Palestinian independence,".

- 2) France also provided support for Palestinian independence by pushing for all armed activities to be stopped immediately in Gaza. The country also called for a guarantee of full humanitarian access.

- (1) Palestinian independence is in accordance with Macron's wishes for this in line with his plan to hold a Summit between France and Saudi Arabia in June. In the forum, the proposal for a conflict resolution in the form of a "Two State Solution" will be pushed to realize peace in the Middle East region.
 - (2) The issue of "Two State Solutions" is also a solution offered by Prabowo to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. He has conveyed this idea many times in various forums.
 - (3) Indonesia views only the Two State Solution. Independence for the Palestinian people is the only way to achieve true peace.
- 3) Prabowo also stated that he would recognize and guarantee Israel's right to stand as a sovereign state. Thus, the country's security must also be guaranteed. Prabowo also opened up the diplomatic option if Israel recognized Palestinian independence.
- (1) Indonesia has conveyed that once the Palestinian state is recognized by Israel, Indonesia is ready to recognize Israel and we are ready to open diplomatic relations with Israel. We have also conveyed that Indonesia is ready to contribute peacekeeping troops in the region.
 - (2) Indonesia has conveyed that once the Palestinian state is recognized by Israel, Indonesia is ready to recognize Israel and we are ready to open diplomatic relations with Israel. We have also conveyed that Indonesia is ready to contribute peacekeeping troops in the region.



Figure 1. The atmosphere of the meeting between President Prabowo Subianto and President Emmanuel Macron along with the French-Indonesian delegation at the Merdeka Palace, Jakarta, Wednesday (Kompas, 5/28/2025).

According to a lecturer in International Relations from the University of Indonesia, Agung Nurwijoyo (5/28/2025), stated, the "Two State Solution" or two-state solution is actually the most diplomatic and superior option to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. However, the implementation order in the form of an ideal formation has its own challenges, such as the geographical boundaries of the agreed area with the reality on the ground which are different along with the expansion of Israeli colonization.

- 1) Indonesia's support for the two-state solution can be interpreted as a form of recognition of the sovereignty of Palestine and Israel in the practice of living side by side. He assessed that Indonesia was in the right position to provide absolute conditions for recognition of Israel to be carried out after Palestinian independence. "Currently, achieving Palestinian independence is a higher priority for Indonesia than normalizing relations with Israel,".
- 2) Recognition of Palestinian sovereignty is now the international mainstream. To his knowledge, more than 140 countries have recognized Palestine. This attitude should be

shown more clearly in an effort to stop Israeli colonialism and genocide against Palestine. (Kompas, 5/28/2025).

- (1) However, the path to peace will not be realized without an equal position between Israel and Palestine. The problem is, Israel is often the party that prevents the realization of the "Two State Solutions".
- (2) On the other hand, Macron's visit to Indonesia indicates a global situation that is starting to change. Moreover, the topic of Palestine was also discussed. This indicates recognition from the "Global North" countries of the power possessed by the "Global South" countries. This is what must be the modality in Indonesian diplomacy, especially on the Palestinian issue," (Kompas.id, 05/28/2025).
Not only that, Macron also wants to prioritize cooperation from the cultural sector. The realization of this cooperation will be marked by the signing of a friendship between the two countries, at Borobudur Temple, Magelang, Central Java, Thursday (05/29/2025).

4. Conclusions

Indonesia and France are developing strategic partnerships in various important sectors, ranging from defense, technology, agriculture, economy, to culture. The partnership is part of extending the diplomatic relations between the two countries, which will be 100 years old in 2050. Both countries have the same vision about world order. The strategic partnership strengthens their positions in facing global uncertainty.

Macron's visit also commemorates 75 years of diplomatic relations and a decade of strategic partnership between Indonesia and France. This meeting shows how bilateral diplomacy can trigger long-term transformation in various sectors.

A total of 21 strategic agreements were built by the two countries. A number of fields Other targeted areas include education, culture, transportation, energy transition, and disaster management. In fact, one of Prabowo's flagship programs, Free Nutritious Meals, is included in the strategic partnership. In this sector, cooperation is established between the National Nutrition Agency and Danone to improve national nutrition in order to build a healthy and advanced generation.

The forms of cooperation between Indonesia and France include in the fields of Defense and the economy, and Palestinian Independence:

1. In the defense sector, for example, the Indonesian Ministry of Defense and the French Ministry of the Armed Forces agreed to establish a strategic partnership related to the exchange and joint protection of confidential information in the defense sector. Moreover, the two countries also agreed to a strategic partnership in the defense sector more generally.
2. In the economic sector, the two countries agreed to encourage more balanced trade and investment relations. Indonesia asked for France's support to accelerate the completion of the Indonesia-European Union Agreement regarding a comprehensive economic partnership in the EU CEPA, and other fields, including:
 - 1) MoU between the National Nutrition Agency and Danone.
 - 2) Danantara and Eramet.
 - 3) Investment Agreement between PT RGE Indonesia and Total Energies.
 - 4) Investment Agreement between PT Citra Bonang Indonesia and Lesaffre.
 - 5) MoU between PT SMI, PT PLN, and HDF.
 - 6) MoU between Bank Indonesia and Banque De France.
 - 7) Indonesia-France Encourage Palestinian Independence

Indonesia and France agree to encourage Palestinian independence. This is considered the only way to resolve the long conflict between Palestine and Israel. Humanity must be prioritized in order to realize peace in the region. Two State Solutions” or a two-state solution is the most diplomatic way out for Palestinian independence.

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