

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

Diplomacy is an old concept in international relations studies. Diplomacy in Medieval Age was previously perceived as activities which was full of full of deception and secrecy. The idea of open diplomacy and the end of WW II have later changed the stigma of diplomacy, thus diplomacy is known as management of international relations involving various activities and norms at bilateral and multilateral level. Technological advances have also gradually changed the practice of diplomacy which was initially too ceremonial to become more interactive and can be performed through various channels. Web Framework. 2.0 has contributed to several changes in internet governance and the emergence of interactive websites, has later leveraged current diplomatic activities.

The innovation in diplomacy is of course cannot be separated from pros and cons. The cyber-utopians tend to see digital diplomacy has given huge changes to foreign policy environment, since digital diplomacy requires speed and accuracy in managing the information and diplomats need to deal with digital disruption. The vagueness of the concept of digital diplomacy explained by the utopians is of course drawn criticism from skeptic groups who see that digital diplomacy is merely a diplomacy. Digital technologies only have changed the way in which the actors interact with people and enabled more interactive

communication, but they have not completely altered the traditional diplomatic practices.

The Indonesian Government seems to be very enthusiastic in implementing digital diplomacy in the last three years. Digital diplomacy has suddenly become the tagline of Indonesian foreign policy. Nevertheless, the government virtually considers that digital diplomacy does not replace the core function of conventional diplomacy, as it is stipulated in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Strategic Plan. Indonesian Government, particularly the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been actively using social media in communicating Indonesia's foreign policy; such as Global Maritime Fulcrum, Indonesia's position on promoting peace for Palestine and Rohingya, and ASEAN. Unfortunately, the interactions that occur in social media are still minimal. Social media platform, such as the Kemlu's Twitter account or @kemlu_RI for example, it only works as the documentation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' agendas rather than an interactive means to generate conversations between the Indonesian government and the worldwide public. The Indonesian government still has to learn from the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs which can interactively use social media to manage the opinions that spread in the cyberspace.

Nevertheless, Indonesia has made several developments that are deserved to be appreciated. The Indonesian government has digitalized a number of government and public services which enable Indonesian and foreign public to access the government services efficiently. The government has also carried out a number of collaborations, with

internal institutions, particularly think tanks such as CfDS and governmental enterprises such as Telkom, as well as international institutions such as the UN Pulse Lab and DiploFoundation in improving the capacity of Indonesian digital diplomacy.