

**TITLE PAGE**

**CHINA'S REJECTION TOWARDS THE HAGUE TRIBUNAL  
RULING ON SOUTH CHINA SEA CASE 2016**

**UNDERGRADUATE THESIS**



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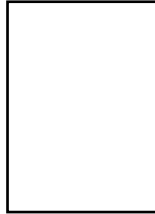
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**ENDORSEMENT PAGE**

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## **STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY**

This is to certify that to the best of my knowledge, the content of this undergraduate thesis and research is my own work. This undergraduate thesis has not been submitted for any degree or other purposes.

I certify that the intellectual content on this undergraduate thesis is the product of my own work and that all of the assistance received in preparing this thesis and sources have been acknowledged.

Yogyakarta, January 2020

Sitta Wahyu Qurana

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

*I dedicate this undergraduate thesis for  
my mother, Ibu Sri Wahyuningsih,  
my father, Bapak Bambang Wahyu Nugroho,  
and my siblings, Rizka Wahyu Kartika, Tria Wahyu Icwara, Ahmad  
Wahyu Avicenna  
who have given me their endless love and support throughout my life.*

## PREFACE

This undergraduate thesis entitled **“China’s Rejection towards the Hague Tribunal Ruling on South China Sea Case 2016”** is made as a completion to obtain bachelor degree in the Department of International Program of International Relations, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta. This undergraduate thesis will not be completed without the contribution of several people. Thus, I would like to express my sincerest gratitude to my undergraduate thesis supervisor, Grace Lestariana Wonoadi, S.IP, M.Si., that has given much knowledgeable advice and guidance during the process of writing this undergraduate thesis. I would also like to express my deepest gratitude towards the board of examiners, Dr. Nur Azizah, M.Si., and Sidiq Ahmadi, S.IP, M.A., for their thoughtful and constructive suggestions that addressed for the better improvement of this undergraduate thesis. Hopefully, with their valuable inputs, suggestions, time, and supports, this undergraduate thesis is able to develop the academic references for the study of International Relations, especially in Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta.

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Sitta Wahyu Qurana

## ABSTRACT

The People's Republic of China and the Philippines are both the parties which are tied to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). As the practice of UNCLOS' Annex VII, the Philippines proposed to deal with the jurisdiction over the South China Sea dispute. The effort in dealing with the case was met with China's non-acceptance and non-participation towards the proceedings and the result of The Hague's Tribunal Ruling which decided to rule unanimously in favour of the Philippines, costing China to be "legally lost" over the two million square kilometres of sea encompassed by its "nine-dash line". On July 12, 2016, China declared her rejection towards The Hague's tribunal decision.

The objective of this thesis is to analyse the reasons behind China's rejection towards the Hague tribunal ruling over the South China Sea case. This thesis uses the rational actor model of foreign policy decision-making process and the concept of national interest in analysing the case. The qualitative method is applied, and the writer is using media and library research such as books, journals, proceedings, government webpages, and news related to China, South China Sea, and the *Philippines v. China's* case.

The research found that China's rejection to the decision of the arbitral tribunal's ruling brings more advantages for China in the aspects of territorial integrity, military security, and economic well-being.

**KEYWORDS:** *China's rejection, Tribunal Ruling, Rational Actor, South China Sea, South China Sea Dispute, United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea*

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