Triumphing Over Adversity: Navigating Climate Change, Covid-19, and Conflict for Sustainable Development in the Post-Globalization Era

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Abstract

This research examines the role of addressing global humanitarian issues in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) established by States at the UN Sustainable Development Conference in 2012. The SDGs aim to tackle key challenges related to sustainable development, covering environmental, social, and economic dimensions. However, achieving a balance between environmental protection, economic growth, and social inclusion is a complex task requiring continuous efforts and commitment. Through a socio-legal approach, this study identifies three global humanitarian issues as obstacles to the SDGs: climate change, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and conflicts between States, specifically the Russo-Ukrainian War. Addressing climate change is crucial as it poses significant threats to the environment and human life. The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbates existing challenges, impacting health systems, economies, and social well-being. State conflicts disrupt peace and stability, impeding progress towards development goals. Overcoming these obstacles necessitates international cooperation, policy reforms, and effective governance, prioritizing sustainability, resilience, and inclusiveness. By addressing these humanitarian issues, we can enhance the likelihood of achieving the SDGs and building a more sustainable and equitable future for all.

Keywords: Sustainable Development Goals; Global Humanitarian Issues; Climate Change; COVID-19 Pandemic; State Conflicts; International Cooperation

Introduction

A new dimension in international relations that has developed since the world entered the era of globalization (at the end of 1989) is attention to harmony in economic, human, and environmental development (Morán-Blanco, 2022). The emphasis on applying international law has shifted from the formal structure of relations between countries and their jurisdictional restrictions towards developing the substance of rules on issues related to human welfare, which focus on economic development, human rights, and environmental protection in each country (Mensah, 2019). The Sustainable Development Objectives (SDGs), or Global Goals, are the United Nations agenda containing 17 global objectives with 169 measurable achievements and deadlines determined by the United Nations (Moyer & Hedden, 2020).

The SDGs are set as the world’s development agenda to attain peace and prosperity for humanity now and in the future (de Jong & Vijge, 2021). The SDGs were jointly proclaimed by countries through the UN Resolution issued on October 21, 2015, as shared development

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objectives until 2030. The SDGs agenda continues the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), signed by leaders from 189 countries as the Millennium Declaration at the UN headquarters in 2000 and ended at the end of 2015 (Loetan, 2021). Countries in the UN forum agreed upon the SDGs agenda to address poverty, inequality, and climate change in actual action (Ermolina et al., 2021).

The concept of SDGs was born by countries at the UN Sustainable Development Conference, Rio+20, in 2012 by establishing a series of universally applicable targets that can be measured by balancing the three dimensions of sustainable development: environmental, social, and economic. The interests of the present and future generations are included so that justice between generations can be attained. However, in practice, it requires work to balance the interests of environmental protection and management, as well as social and economic.

In the post-globalization era towards 2000, the world community began to realize that the processes that were eventually known as globalization were driven by the expansion of capitalism-liberalism to dominate the world economic system (Cazdyn & Szeman, 2012). This situation, in actuality, further increases the injustice in relations between countries. Therefore, efforts to establish justice in the new world economic order are continuously fought for together. The struggle to construct a new world economic order has manifested in trade and military conflicts. For some Western countries, capitalism-liberalism must be acknowledged as a single truth to other countries; however, for some other countries, liberalism does not have to be accepted as such (Desai, 2022; Fukuyama, 2022).

The values incorporated in liberalism are compromised with values the nation-state has agreed upon (Axtmann, 1996). In other words, some of these other countries also carried out transformations in the economic order, which had implications for the legal order and governance. It cannot be denied that the natural appeal of the concept of capitalism-liberalism in the post-2000 era continues to strengthen along with the weakening of the system of economic centralization as it was dominant in socialist countries. However, at the end of 2019, the world suddenly faced a humanitarian problem that considerably impacted the economy and social order, namely the Corona Virus Disease-19 (COVID-19) pandemic (Sawicka et al., 2022; Djalante et al., 2020).

The proliferation of the COVID-19 was swift and massive (Ho & Liu, 2021). The world was shaken by its presence, which greatly affected economic movements because the government budgets of countries worldwide were dedicated to managing this calamity (Ibn-Mohammed et al., 2021). The COVID-19 pandemic has created new destitution and unemployment. The following impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is that most citizens lack purchasing power for food requirements, which is an elementary human need (Kaye et al., 2021).

Countries, including Indonesia, have yet to recover from the COVID-19 disaster when the Russia-Ukraine conflict happened in early 2022, which affected the availability of world oil and supplies of other natural resources (Allam et al., 2022). These unexpected conditions can alter regulatory policies in the economic sector that had previously been agreed upon in the highest fundamental law in a country and make it challenging to achieve SDGs.

The author found much research related to the problem of the relationship between Climate Change, COVID-19, and Conflict (in this instance, the Russo-Ukrainian armed conflict) in various research. Paulo Pereira et al. (2022) describe the impact of the Russia-Ukraine conflict on the dimensions of the Biophysical, Social, and Economic SDGs. The conflict triggered a
chain of events with implications at the global level, particularly in the energy and food sectors. The escalation of this conflict poses a significant threat to achieving the SDGs of the United Nations (UN), not only for countries directly involved in the conflict but also for other countries, especially developing countries that are more vulnerable to economic crises.

Olivier Uwishema et al. (2022) describe the impact of the Russo-Ukrainian conflict on food security and its impact on the United Nations: Europe and the global consequences of the Russia-Ukraine conflict negatively impacting human rights. The long-term implications for protecting and fostering human rights in Ukraine will be enormous. This war resulted in human rights violations, lawlessness, forced displacement of civilians, and environmental destruction. This Russo-Ukrainian conflict violated the right to life, liberty, and security. Based on the above, a further escalation in the Russian-Ukrainian conflict poses a grave hazard to infrastructure and severe food shortages.

Benedetta Barchielli et al. (2022) explain that climate change, depletion of natural resources, COVID-19, and the Russo-Ukrainian conflict are significant challenges in today’s era. The consequences will affect psychological health and can hurt mental health. From a psychological perspective, this study seeks to assess the level of involvement and fear around 21st-century issues and their implications for the general psychological health of Central/Southern Italy residents in different age groups. In conclusion, the numerous pressures of the 21st Century discussed in this study (Climate change, depletion of natural resources, COVID-19, and the Russo-Ukrainian war) have a relationship with personal well-being. Further, it is crucial to consider the potential global mental health problems resulting from these pressures.

Kouji H. Harada et al. (2022) Explain that the Russo-Ukrainian War since February 24, 2022, has caused unsustainable conditions and made millions of people abandon their homes. For decades, the conflict has been associated with environmental degradation, radioactivity and heavy metals exposure, and infectious diseases. The Russian invasion caused certain environmental risks, such as releasing radioactive substances from nuclear power facilities and contaminated soil. Since international cooperation is one of the most effective ways to solve environmental problems, it is essential to establish a scientific body within a global framework to identify appropriate and concrete actions to provide immediate assistance to Ukrainian citizens. International cooperation is one of the most effective methods to solve environmental problems. Establishing a scientific body within a global framework is essential to identify appropriate and concrete actions to provide immediate assistance to citizens. International collaboration to evaluate and prevent environmental health risks is a method to support scientific evidence of the impact of armed conflict on public health. We are responsible for highlighting these issues, not least in environmental health.

Sheryl L Hendriks et al. (2022) explains that global environmental climate change, the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the Russo-Ukrainian war can cause problems related to health, food security, and nutrition, particularly in war-affected communities. Changes in the environmental climate, coupled with the emergence of COVID-19 and the Russia-Ukraine conflict, have contributed to food insecurity.

The research results are published in scientific approaches such as social sciences, health, environment, economics, and psychology. In addition, the research results related to the relationship between Climate Change, COVID-19, and Conflict (in this instance, the Russo-
Ukrainian armed conflict) are primarily not associated with achieving SDGs. The results of research in international law are prepared using a socio-legal approach. Based on the socio-legal approach, the authors characterize the reality-based factors that influence the effectiveness of international law in achieving the SDGs. In the results of this study, these reality-based factors are concentrated on climate change, COVID-19, and the Russo-Ukrainian conflict.

**Research Methods**

This is law research with a positive-empirical approach. This research’s positive-empirical (sociological) approach is studied within the Legal Positivism school of thought framework. Therefore, the teachings born from Legal Positivism remain vital signs for conducting this research. From the perspective of empirical legal research, what is examined is why, in reality (facts), the agreements contained in the SDGs are not implemented with UN member countries. This fact can be seen from the behaviour of countries as reported in various research results. Since it concerns state behaviour, an analysis is carried out not by law but by social humanities sciences such as sociology, anthropology, politics, history, economics, and other social humanities sciences that can explain state behaviour in International Relations. Based on the understanding of the approach, law practice in society is the central premise. The facts of state behaviour are the main factor in the study. Since state practice in the international community is placed as a central premise, the analysis of research results is based on inductive analysis. Epistemologically, researchers position themselves impersonally, separate from the object of research. Thus, the researcher's position is neutral, not taking sides, towards the research object. Therefore, the position of the researcher and the research object is separate. Researchers observe parties outside the object, not based on subjective assumptions such as values, beliefs, and political beliefs.

**Rethinking Nationhood: Balancing Globalization, Capitalism, and Sovereignty in the 21st Century**

In the post-globalization era, efforts to accept the truth of capitalism and the free market are carried out by arousing views on the importance of individual freedom, the importance of individual security, the emphasis on respect for human rights, the importance of limiting state power over the lives of its people, the importance of privatization, and other views which in the past had been initiated by prominent philosophers of the 17th to 18th centuries, such as John Locke, Adam Smith, Rousseau, and Hegel (Samekto, 2017). This cultural acceptance is further complemented by research results by world-renowned experts, which are easily accessible to the world community. This cultural acceptance, in turn, encourages certain groups to change the legal principles previously agreed upon in the highest fundamental law in a country. The values instilled by the founders of a nation at that time seemed to have gone wrong and were unable to respond to global challenges and, therefore, needed to be overhauled. Then, a split arose between those who were pro and those who were against the reform, which had the potential to weaken the life of the nation and state. When the conflict peaked, foreign interference could come under various pretexts, which, in the end, only made the country’s situation even more uncertain.

The Arab Spring Phenomenon is a relevant example. It is a wave of revolution manifested in protest movements in Arab countries around 2011-2012 under the pretext of building democracy (Abdelali, 2013). The phenomenon is like a pandemic originating in one country,
then spreading to others, making several people join the rebellion. However, after the Arab Spring passed, there was a tragic problem, which Francis Fukuyama (2014) called a lack of basic institutions, or the absence of an effective government. As a result, in several Arab countries, a chaotic situation arose because there was no guarantee of security and protection for the population due to the absence of a state as an institution with a legal monopoly of power over its people. The Arab Spring in 2011 can be an example to explain the processes that ultimately weaken the nation-state (Ismael & Ismael, 2013).

The need for nickel material will increase because this is a new alternative to fossil fuels (Dilshara et al., 2024). These materials are abundant in Indonesia, among other places. One country’s suspicion of another country related to efforts to seize nickel natural resources makes it concentrate on maintaining control over the said resource, even though the country owning the natural nickel resource has not been able to process it into a ready-to-use material. Then, encouragements to use nickel as an alternative energy raw material by other countries are suspected by owner-countries as an attempt to control rich countries over other countries’ natural resources so that efforts to tackle climate change as a global commitment are neglected (Wellmer, 2022).

According to the UN report through the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), or translated as the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, which was released on July 07, 2022, global crises are intertwined with each other namely climate change, COVID-19, and the Russo-Ukrainian conflict. These crises threaten the 17 SDGs that countries have agreed to in the UN Forum and impact food supply, health, education, and security in all countries worldwide. The report stated that in terms of the 2022 SDGs, the convergence of escalating conflicts, including the Russia-Ukraine war, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and the long-term climate crisis, could push an additional 75 to 95 million people into extreme poverty in 2022, compared to pre-pandemic projections. This jeopardizes the goals of the SDGs to create a more resilient, peaceful, and equal world community. This situation illustrates that in international relations, prioritizing the country’s interests remains the main interest, and there will be no power that can force an agreement on a country. The international community is a society consisting of states as equal legal subjects. Such a conception of an international community is based on the philosophical beliefs of the teachings of Thomas Hobbes (1588-1679) but raised at the international community’s level (Shen, 1999). At that level, countries are analogous to individuals. The teachings of Thomas Hobbes stated that humans are free beings whom other humans do not bind in determining their lives. When Thomas Hobbes’s philosophical teachings are raised at the international level (where the state is analogous to an individual), then within the state is attached what is known as a personal project, which gives birth to the principle that every country has the right of self-determination and will move for the sake of self-interest, which is fought for by the country itself or with other countries that have similar interests (Thomas, 2014). The state does not need institutions above the state (supranational), which are seen as limiting the state’s freedom because they stand as equals and have the right to self-determination. The UN has never been interpreted as a supranational institution that stands above countries. The UN Agenda and Programs will be carried out to the extent that they are following the interests of the country or group of countries.

Based on this framework, the UN agenda and programs related to achieving the SDGs are carried out as long as the programs are in the interests of the country or a group of countries.
Themselves. The SDGs are set as a world development agenda to realize present and future peace and prosperity for humanity through joint development up to 2030. However, in practice, it takes work to balance the interests of environmental protection and management and social interests with economic interests since the international community varies greatly in economic level, quality of population, and government's political commitment.

Climate Crisis and Global Commitment: Navigating Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainable Development Goals

Since 2015, countries’ commitment to deal with climate change has been made one of the objectives of the SDGs agenda listed in Goal 13: “to take urgent action to deal with climate change and its impacts by regulating emissions and promoting developments in renewable energy”.

The impacts of climate change include increasing global warming, rising sea levels, flooding, and storms since they significantly change habitats as natural homes for various species of animals, plants, and other organisms (Shivanna, 2022). Hence, later, at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 1992 conference participants reached agreements, which eventually resulted in the United Nations Framework for Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (Johnson, 2001). This Convention is better known as the Short-term Climate Change Convention. The main objective of preparing this Convention is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions so that the concentration of these gases does not exceed the threshold and endanger the world’s climate. This Convention was signed on June 05, 1992, in Rio de Janeiro due to the 1992 Rio Conference. As a follow-up to this Convention, all countries ratified it had to make regular climate change reports. Indonesia ratified the Climate Change Convention through Law No. 6 of 1994 on Ratification of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change on August 23, 1994. The Climate Change Convention is an important international agreement to reduce carbon emissions worldwide. This Convention contains a framework for elaborating steps to reduce carbon emissions. The 1998 Kyoto Protocol is an example of a follow-up to the Climate Change Convention (Fattah, 2015).

However, implementing international agreements related to carbon emissions reduction has experienced many obstacles because there are different views among countries, especially between industrialized countries and developing countries (Jorgenson et al., 2019). Efforts at the global level to tackle climate change as one of the goals of the SDGs are constrained by the energy crisis, which has led to the emergence of a state or group of countries to try to control other countries through conflict and intervention in other countries.

Countries or groups of countries that are strong but do not have adequate natural resources try to seize or control the economy, natural resources, or markets in the sovereign territory of other countries for their interests. Such modes may have a higher intensity in the future, considering the higher demand for energy-generating materials or the power needed to run technological devices. Nicholas Stern et al. (2021) in their research report for 2021, stated: The growing consequences of climate change have been all too visible worldwide this year with severe heatwaves, floods, wildfires, and tropical cyclones. A new science assessment by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), published in August 2021, concluded a clear link between rising greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere and increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events.
Therefore, the impacts of climate change are increasingly being seen in all regions of the world, with severe heat waves, floods, wildfires, and tropical cyclones. Scientific analysis from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) published in August 2021 concluded that there has been a clear relationship between increasing concentrations of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and increasing the frequency of extreme weather intensity.

According to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Report in July 2022, the world is on the verge of a climate catastrophe in which billions of people have already suffered from global warming and increasingly extreme weather. Energy-related CO2 emissions have been increasing by six per cent since 2021. This is at its highest level ever and completely obliterates any downturn related to the Covid-19 pandemic. In other words, these CO2 emissions cause difficulties in reducing the Covid-19 pandemic, especially in poor countries. The OCHA report further states that by 2022, an estimated 17 million metric tons of plastic will enter the oceans, and it is expected to increase even more by three times by 2040.

Adriana Quevedo et al. (2020) stated that before the COVID-19 pandemic occurred, the UN was worried about insufficient funding for climate change management that made the goals as agreed in the Paris Agreement and Sendai Framework. Not achieved as a follow-up to the United et al. Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The three researchers said that although this year (2020) was designated the year of climate action by the UNFCCC, COVID-19 has set back progress, including the postponement of COP26 from 2020 to 2021 and delayed submissions of the revised Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Therefore, even though this year was designated a climate action year by the UNFCCC, COVID-19 has slowed progress, including the postponement of the Conference on Parties (COP) 26 from 2020 to 2021 and delays in submitting revisions to the NDC. The three researchers recommended the following:

1. Adapt existing anticipatory action/early warning and response finance mechanisms to a broader range of threats, including pandemics, and continue to improve their design and implementation.
2. Do not create standalone COVID-19 recovery plans, but integrate them into low-carbon and resilient development plans, building on existing efforts.
3. Donor countries need to get back on track in leveraging finance towards climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction and ring-fence such commitments, including those within the 0.7% gross national income targets.

According to the three researchers, anticipatory/early warning measures and financing mechanisms must be taken to respond to broader threats, including the COVID-19 pandemic, and continue improving their design and implementation. It is also recommended not to create a standalone COVID-19 recovery plan but to integrate it into a low-carbon and resilient development plan based on existing efforts. It is further recommended that donor countries get back on track in leveraging finance towards climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction and limit these commitments, including those within the gross national income target of 0.7%.

However, in practice, this recommendation will be difficult to implement because UN agendas and programs related to achieving the SDGs will be implemented by countries as long as they
align with the interests of developed countries or a group of developed countries. Even though the SDGs are set as a world development agenda to realize present and future peace and prosperity for humanity through joint development until 2030, in practice, it is not easy to balance the interests of protecting and managing the environment, social interests, and the economic interests of developed countries or a group of developed countries.

**Vaccine Equity Crisis: Unveiling the Injustice in Access to Covid-19 Vaccines**

The commitment of countries in the UN forum to encourage healthy lives that support the realization of the welfare of all human beings at all age levels is listed in Goal 3 of the Sustainable Development Goals: “to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages” (Pandey, 2020).

However, the 2022 Sustainable Development Goals Report, published through the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in July 2022, revealed that the Covid-19 pandemic had undermined countries’ efforts to achieve global goals in the SDGs and the impact is still far from finished. Deaths directly and indirectly caused by COVID-19 would reach 15 million by the end of 2021, wiping out four years of progress on poverty reduction and seriously disrupting essential health services. It also derails hard-earned progress towards meeting Goal 3 of the SDGs. Additionally, since 2020, approximately 147 million students have missed more than half of their face-to-face instruction.

At the same time, countries with highly vulnerable populations (due to poverty, especially in Africa and South Asia) have been disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, including women who have lost their jobs. In these countries, the pandemic has sparked an increase in violence against women and children. The 2022 SDGs report through the OCHA also states that in less developed countries, COVID-19 has resulted in a slowdown in economic growth, an increase in inflation, and a disruption of the leading supply chain that is useful, for people’s lives. This situation is an implication of injustice in access to the COVID-19 vaccine.

Since the vaccine was developed at the end of 2019, many rich countries have been hunting for it. At that time, at least five vaccine candidates were already in the last phase of clinical trials and were being sought after by many countries. They were being developed by AstraZeneca, Gamaleya Research Institute, Moderna, Pfizer, and Sinovac. Though the vaccine was to be administered to humans, it was not immediately accessible to the world’s countries, even when the state made it an obligation to provide free of charge to its citizens (Bown & Bollyky, 2022). In other words, even if the five vaccine candidates passed the final stage of clinical trials and received official permits from the relevant health authorities, not all countries could get them. The non-profit organization focusing on poverty alleviation, Oxfam, reported in 2020 that rich countries, whose population was only 13% of the world’s population, had secured 51% of the total vaccine doses produced by vaccine developers, as mentioned above. Agreements related to vaccine supply had reached 5.3 billion doses, and 2.73 billion doses (51%) had been ordered by developed countries such as the UK, US, Australia, Hong Kong & Macau, Japan, Switzerland, Israel, and the European Union. According to Oxfam’s report, the UK government secured several vaccine doses so that 1 citizen got a supply of 5 doses. This starkly contrasts Bangladesh’s conditions, which has only received 1 dose for 9 people.
Meanwhile, the remaining 2.575 billion doses had been purchased by or promised to developing countries, including India, Bangladesh, China, Brazil, Indonesia, and Mexico. According to Oxfam’s calculations, two-thirds of the world’s population must wait until 2022, when the five developers could produce these vaccines. Vaccines to deal with COVID-19 should become public goods in the interest of human safety, so there should be the dissemination of knowledge on the development and no patent protection on this vaccine discovery (Boschiero, 2022). Therefore, if the countries of origin of the vaccine developers encourage monopoly efforts to gain profits from the distribution of vaccines to deal with COVID-19, these countries are contributing to the human tragedy and world economic crisis. In other words, for self-interest, vaccine-developer countries can potentially cause a world economic crisis by taking advantage of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Secretary General of the UN Antonio Guterres, since January 2021, has warned that vaccination inequality can have disastrous effects, such as the creation of more mutations that make current vaccination injections ineffective, and that will further prolong the human tragedy with all its implications in the field of economy and national welfare. Therefore, it is understandable that the Government of Indonesia, through the Coordinating Minister for the Economy Airlangga Hartarto, stated that the emergence of the Omicron variant in various parts of the world is due to the unfairness of the COVID-19 vaccine. The omicron variant itself was first detected in an African country.

The gap in access to the COVID-19 vaccine significantly harms developing countries (Choudhary et al., 2023). As previously explained, the activities of rich countries that hoard vaccine supply two to three times their population have caused vaccine supply to be uneven in the world. In addition to purchasing power, the difficulty of access to available vaccine copyrights also means that developing countries cannot safely produce their vaccines (Li et al., 2021). The Covid-19 pandemic hit and harmed countries in Europe and the United States first. However, that does not mean that access to vaccines is even more difficult for developing and poor countries to achieve if their purpose is to fight the pandemic globally. Several factors are involved in the unfair distribution of the coronavirus vaccine worldwide. Several causal factors can be identified in the distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine which ultimately leads to unfair access to the COVID-19 vaccine are the stockpiling of vaccines by rich countries and vaccine developers, export and supply restrictions by rich countries, inadequate infrastructure for the equitable distribution of vaccines as well as the lack of adequate funding for poor countries.

Unraveling the Nexus: War, Conflict, and Sustainable Development in the Modern Era

Goal 16 listed in the Sustainable Development Goals is: “to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels”. However, the explanation does not explicitly mention the word war or armed conflict between countries as something that must be kept away to resolve disputes between countries (Kumar & Roy, 2018).

In practice, the reasons for the use of war by a country to coerce other countries are packed with manipulative themes such as: “pre-emptive strike” or “necessary war”. As in the case of the Iraq-Kuwait war in 1990, Iraq was beaten back by the Multinational Force formed by the UN Security Council (O’Connell, 1991). Even in the Iraq-Kuwait war, no other Arab
countries defended themselves based on solidarity. Each seemed to protect their interests. By studying the phenomenon of wars that have occurred since the 1990s, it can be said that wars are primarily carried out as a form of invasion by one country or group of countries against countries that are weak internally or against countries that try to thwart the interests of countries or groups of countries that have strong economic and military. Thus, war is waged to protect or enforce self-interest in the globalization era, not for noble goals such as protecting human rights or creating a just international community order (Helfont, 2023).

The conflict that manifested in the Russo-Ukrainian war broke the view in the modern era that war is not a way to realize the state’s wishes. It turns out that war is still a method for a country to free itself from threats from others. War is also a means to impose the meaning of peace according to the interests of one’s own country. War becomes an instrument for creating peace not through dialogue but by forcing peace according to its perception, far from creating a just world order. The Russo-Ukrainian case reflects war in the era of global order, which is more oriented to protect a country or a group of countries, and vice versa to impose or at least protect their interests. As long as the root of the problem is not resolved in a just settlement, conflict or war has the potential to continue. Thus, war is no longer a means to form a more just world order later and protect human rights but to impose one's or group’s interests.

Manish Dhawan et al. (2022) stated the following things:

1. While the severe efforts of many countries are being made to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic, the Russia-Ukraine conflict has emerged as a severe threat that could change the trajectory of the pandemic;
2. Health services, especially in Ukraine, will last longer, even after the war ends. It is important to note that the Ukrainian healthcare system is already under extreme stress as a result of the increasing number of victims and the negative impact on the socioeconomic system. The spread of COVID-19 has become rapid due to the overcrowding of Ukrainian refugee shelters;
3. The termination of immunization programs in war zones has contributed significantly to the spread of other communicable diseases. Until this research, in 2022, more than six million Ukrainians had fled the war area. The displacement phenomenon resulting from the Russo-Ukrainian war is the fastest-growing refugee crisis in Europe since the Second World War;
4. The health care and well-being of the Ukrainian people have been put at acute risk. The Russo-Ukrainian war made countries worldwide experience significant disruptions in energy and raw materials supply and soaring commodity, oil, and food prices. One of the most significant disruptions caused by the war was the availability of grain in history;
5. Most agricultural product imports from Russia and Ukraine are consumed by conflict-affected countries and regions, such as Lebanon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, North Africa, and West Africa. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) stated that the Russo-Ukrainian war had destroyed the world's food supply due to rising food prices and Ukraine's failure to
grow crops like wheat. Nearly 70% of the land in Ukraine is used for agriculture, including wheat.

The 2022 SDGs Report through the OCHA in July 2022 stated that the Ukrainian war had created one of the most significant refugee crises in modern times. As of May 2022, more than 11.5 million people in Ukraine had been forcibly displaced from their places of residence. The Russo-Ukrainian war has dramatically increased the prices of grain, fuel, and fertilizer. The problem became even more complicated when the supply chain for these materials became more difficult due to the war. The implication is that there are financial market shocks, a threat to global food security and the flow of humanitarian aid to war zones.

**Conclusion**

Efforts to tackle climate change as one of the goals of the SDGs tend to be ignored by countries because of the energy crisis that has led to the emergence of a state or a group of countries to control natural resources in other countries through conflict and intervention. As a result, implementing international agreements related to carbon emissions reduction has experienced many obstacles because there are different views among countries, especially between industrialized countries and developing countries. In addition, there are different commitments among countries to tackle climate change.

The inequity of access to the COVID-19 vaccine has caused many victims and delayed economic recovery processes in poor countries. This has occurred because since the vaccine was developed at the end of 2019, rich countries have been hunting for it to benefit their citizens. By 2020, rich countries, whose population was only 13% of the world's population, had secured 51% of vaccine doses produced by vaccine developers. Agreements related to vaccine supply in 2020 had reached 5.3 billion doses, and 2.73 billion doses (51%) had been ordered by developed countries such as the UK, US, Australia, Hong Kong and Macau, Japan, Switzerland, Israel, and the European Union. The disparity in access to the COVID-19 vaccine significantly affected developing countries. The rich countries that hoard vaccine supplies of two to three times their population have caused an uneven vaccine supply worldwide.

The Russo-Ukrainian War hampered the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. This phenomenon reflects war in the era of global order, which is more oriented to protect a country or a group of countries, and vice versa to impose or at least protect their interests, which sacrifices human safety, the difficulty of overcoming the COVID-19 pandemic, and no environmental protection.

The Sustainable Development Goals, set as the world development agenda to achieve peace and prosperity for humankind, have faced many obstacles in their implementation, including the unresolved climate change problem, the COVID-19 pandemic, and the Russia-Ukrainian war. These obstacles are challenging to resolve as long as the countries still prioritize their interests in international community relations. It is not easy to balance the interests of protecting and managing the environment and social and economic interests in the international community, which vary significantly in economic level, population quality, and government’s political commitment. The mainstreaming of self-interest by the state cannot be separated from the philosophical basis of individualism taught by Thomas Hobbes regarding the level of relations between countries. Based on this philosophy, what is known
as a personal project is embedded within the state, which gives birth to the principle that every country has the right of self-determination and will act for its interests by itself or with other countries with similar interests.

References


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