Digital Governance and Smart Diplomacy: Transformation of State Administration on the International Stage

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Abstract: *The growth of technology for sharing information and communicating has led to major changes in how countries manage their affairs and conduct foreign relations. This study examines how online rule-making and smart diplomacy act as new ways to manage state affairs, changing with global trends. This study uses a simple descriptive method using book reviews and text examination techniques. Indonesia's shift to digital administration is a key strategy to create an effective and inclusive government system using technology and to enhance its global reputation with smart diplomatic methods. Digital rules create fast services using data studies and smart diplomacy, combining tradition with learning and protection to keep digital conversations safe for state purposes. Cities across the border are joining in as local cities become more involved and Indonesia grows its soft influence. Collaborative efforts lay the foundation for Indonesia to address global issues with flexible, environmentally friendly strategies that support Indonesia's digital plan for 2045.*
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Introduction

Countries globally need to update their governance methods and international relations management due to rapid digital innovation developments. Information and communication technologies (ICTs) have transformed social and economic interaction patterns while simultaneously changing governance processes (Sepriano et al., 2023). The concept of digital government has emerged as a response to the need for an efficient, transparent, participatory, and data-driven bureaucracy. Digital governance integrates technology into every aspect of public service delivery, policy formulation, and mechanisms of accountability to the public (Katharina, 2021).

In line with this development, the concept of smart diplomacy has also emerged—a modern form of diplomacy that adopts digital, innovative, and strategic approaches in interstate relations (Rasool & Ruggiero, 2022). Unlike conventional diplomacy, which tends to be formal and closed, smart diplomacy emphasizes information openness, the use of social media, real-time data analysis, and global digital networks as effective diplomatic instruments (Suryanarayana, 2016). Countries that are able to integrate digital aspects into their foreign policy will have greater competitiveness and influence in the global order (Garčević, 2023).

This transformation has led to fundamental changes in state governance on the international stage. Governments that adapt to technology are not only able to improve the quality of public services domestically but also strengthen their strategic positions in international forums (Nye, 2008). Diplomacy no longer takes place solely in formal negotiation rooms but also through digital platforms that allow cross-border communication within seconds. Therefore, a country's ability to manage the synergy between government digitalization and modern diplomacy has become a crucial indicator of successful global governance in the 21st century (Lumintosari et al., 2024).

Several countries have become successful examples of implementing this synergy. Estonia is widely known as a pioneer of e-governance, having integrated digital services into nearly all aspects of public administration while also building a strong digital diplomacy strategy to expand its influence in Europe and globally (Sari, 2024). Singapore, through its Smart Nation initiative, has developed adaptive diplomacy through technology and innovation, including data-based foreign policy (Hoe, 2016). Meanwhile, developing countries like Indonesia are making efforts to adopt similar models to enhance their diplomatic capabilities in the digital era.

However, the transformation toward digital government and smart diplomacy is not without challenges. Various obstacles must be overcome, such as unequal access to technology across regions, cybersecurity threats, a lack of qualified human resources, and a regulatory framework that has not fully adapted to digital advances (Yazid & Karmila, 2024). Furthermore, ethical issues and privacy rights must be considered while using digital technology for government and diplomacy. The emergence of this phenomenon shows that digital transformation requires technological expertise alongside political and strategic leadership. Modern international order positions states as vital players through their capacity to regulate information flows and build international narratives via digital means while protecting data sovereignty as an

essential national resource. (Setyasih, 2022).

Jan AGM van Dijk's study (2020) shows that the use of digital technology in government makes it more efficient and encourages openness, public participation, and accountability. The use of digital technology in government will make it more efficient and encourage openness, public participation, and accountability. The report emphasizes that for digital government to function, there needs to be a digital infrastructure, and the public needs to know how to use it. From this perspective, countries such as Estonia and South Korea are seen as leaders in creating e-government systems that are open to everyone and can last. This makes them more competitive in international interactions.

On the other hand, Berridge's study (2022) examines how traditional diplomacy has changed in the digital age using the smart diplomacy approach. This study is published in the article "Digital Diplomacy: Theory and Practice." The study looks at how social media, big data, and information technology influence people's opinions around the world and help build a country's soft power. Big data and information technology influence people's opinions around the world and help build a country's soft power. The study shows that digital diplomacy is not just a symbol; it is also a strategy because it makes it easier and faster for countries to talk to each other, especially during international crises or foreign policy campaigns.

Another study by Ma'arif (2022) talks about some of the problems that Indonesia's public sector faces as it goes digital. These problems include uneven infrastructure, low digital literacy in some areas, and a lack of rules about data protection and security. Still, it concludes

that progress in digital governance is a good thing. This study indirectly supports the idea that Indonesia needs to combine digital government policies with technology-based diplomacy to improve its standing in the world.

In light of this, this study looks into how digital government and smart diplomacy might work together to make state governance more responsive, flexible, and relevant in a global state. This study aims to give us a better understanding of how governance is changing in the age of global digitalization by looking at the practices, problems, and chances that come with combining the two ideas. This study's results are expected to be very useful for making policy strategies that fit with current needs and help the country do better in the modern international arena.

Method

This study uses a qualitative research method. Qualitative research methods aim to understand the phenomena experienced by research subjects by describing them in the form of words and language in a certain context that is natural and by utilizing various natural methods (Moleong, 2015, p. 6). The informant selection technique uses a purposive sampling technique, namely the selection of informants with certain considerations. By using this sampling technique, informants were determined to consist of officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, especially from the Directorate General of Information and Public Diplomacy, and academics, especially those who are experts in related fields. The data analysis method uses an interactive analysis model (see Miles, Huberman, and Saldana, 2014). To realize the validity of the data, triangulation techniques are used, both using

triangulation of sources, methods, and data.

Results and Discussion
Digital Government Transformation in Indonesia

Government digitalization in Indonesia is a strategic move to strengthen governance through the use of information and communication technologies. In this context, the government wants to create a system that is not only efficient but also accountable and inclusive. By digitizing processes such as planning, budgeting, and public services, the government can reduce bureaucracy, speed up service delivery, and increase public access to government information and services (Walo et al., 2022). This aligns with the "Digital Indonesia 2045" vision, which places digital transformation as the main pillar of national development. According to Cahyono et al. (2023) in Government, which focuses on using modern technology to create faster and leaner public service, Oracle's Halim (2015) states. It is not only a question of how physical services will be digitized but, rather, of how work will change and how bureaucracy will adapt to technological development. Web applications—citizens can receive administrative services, such as population records, business licenses, tax filing, etc. Through the Internet, they are not required to be present at government offices. This is time- and cost-efficient and reduces corruption through transparency and responsibility in the process of providing services.

Moreover, big data plays a crucial role in more accurate decision-making. With the ability to collect and analyze data in real-time, the government can identify public needs, map social problems, and formulate evidence-based policy (Higmah et al., 2023). For example, data from public service applications can be used to observe service demand trends, citizen satisfaction levels, and areas that still lack digital access. Therefore, big data is the foundation for the development of personalized, adaptive, and proactive services that respond to community dynamics. Technologies such as the Internet of Things and artificial intelligence are also being integrated into public services to improve operational efficiency. The Internet of Things (IoT) enables devices to be integrated to automatically control and monitor systems, such as traffic management, environmental monitoring, or drinking water distribution (Atmaja, 2024).

Meanwhile, artificial intelligence (AI) is used to automate customer service through chatbots, detect fraud in budget management, and predict future social needs. The integration of this technology is a paradigm shift in public services, from reactive to predictive, so the government can be more responsive and proactive in addressing problems before they become crises. The application of digital technology in government is not only modernization but also increases the efficiency and effectiveness of the whole bureaucratic process. Digitalization can streamline long and time-consuming processes into more concise and automated processes so public services can be faster and cheaper (Wutsqah & Erwianti, 2025). For example, the licensing process, which used to take several days, can now be done in minutes through the e-government system. Moreover, digital systems can optimize resource allocation by reducing physical documents, storage space, and large administrative staff.

When it comes to transparency and accountability, digital transformation opens up a wider and more effective space for public oversight. By making data

available online—like budgets, audit results, and service performance—the public can easily access information and keep an eye on government activities. Tools like electronic budgeting and monitoring enable both the public and oversight institutions to track how public funds are allocated and spent (Fadri & Fil, 2024). This goes a long way in minimizing opportunities for corruption and misuse of power. Moreover, digital audits and activity log systems provide accurate digital trails for every bureaucratic transaction and decision, thereby significantly enhancing the accountability of state officials.

By combining service efficiency, information openness, and digital citizen engagement, digital government transformation is not merely a technical innovation but also a structural reform in how the state interacts with its citizens. The government is no longer a closed and hierarchical institution but becomes an open, adaptive, and collaborative actor in addressing governance challenges in the digital era. Therefore, digital transformation is a crucial foundation for building inclusive and globally competitive governance.

The following is a breakdown of the key aspects of digital transformation in government:

1. Technology Infrastructure
The success of digital transformation in government greatly depends on the availability of adequate technology infrastructure, especially a stable and evenly distributed internet network throughout Indonesia. Without a reliable internet connection, the digitalization of public services will not run optimally, particularly in frontier, outermost, and underdeveloped areas. Therefore, investment in the development of broadband networks, national data centers, and cloud systems becomes a top priority to create inclusive and sustainable connectivity.

2. Strengthening Regulation
Digital transformation requires a strong legal framework to protect the digital rights of citizens. Regulations regarding personal data security, public information protection, and the governance of digital systems need to be strengthened to prevent data misuse and information leaks. The government must also adjust regulations to support interoperability between systems, technology certification, and cybersecurity standards that can be trusted by both the public and international partners.

3. Human Resource Capacity
Human resources are a vital foundation in realizing a digital government. Civil servants must be equipped with skills in information and communication technology so that they are capable of managing digital systems professionally and sustainably. Training programs, certifications, and the enhancement of information and communication technology capacity need to be integrated into the human resource management system so that digitalization does not stop at the devices but is also reflected in the bureaucratic work culture.

4. Digital Literacy
A digitally literate society is key to the successful implementation of electronic-based government services. To achieve this, the government must carry out massive, inclusive, and continuous education and digital literacy campaigns so that all layers of society understand how to access, utilize, and ensure security in using digital services. This effort will increase public trust in the digital government system while also expanding the reach of online service use.

5. Government Service Connectivity System

In order to facilitate the automatic and secure exchange of data and services among various institutions, a national integration platform called the Government Services Connectivity System has been implemented. This system is the backbone of the government's efforts to remove the barriers that ordinarily exist in the communication between agencies so that the delivery of public services is more efficient and less redundant. Going forward with the implementation of this system, citizens no longer have to keep filling in the same information, as the data is being integrated nationally and can be accessed across institutions.

6. E-Government System

The E-Government System is an innovative government program that emphasizes the use of digital technology to support the governance and public administration domains. Because of this system, all government services—whether internal or public—are transitioning to a more integrated, effective, and transparent digital framework. In addition to increasing productivity. This approach also sets important standards for building a contemporary, open, and service-oriented government.

More than just implementing new technology, e-government changes in Indonesia are the result of efforts that involve many aspects. The community will ultimately be the recipient of this service, the private sector, which is the source of information, and the government must also be fully committed to it. To move forward a secure, sustainable, and inclusive digital ecosystem, the collaboration between these groups is crucial to the success of this digitalization project. Indonesia is in a good position to realize more efficient, transparent,

responsive, and participatory governance through the optimal use of digital technology that is supported by robust infrastructure, sensible laws, and improved digital literacy, as well as human resource capabilities.

Implementation and Strategy of Smart Diplomacy

Smart diplomacy is a concept in modern diplomacy that embodies the integration of soft and hard strategies to achieve external political goals effectively and sustainably. In the era of globalization and the growing complexity of international relations, the conventional approach of diplomacy—relying solely on military strength or persuasive power—is no longer considered sufficient. Smart diplomacy has emerged in response to the need to balance these two approaches within a more adaptive, flexible, and intelligent diplomatic framework suited to today's geopolitical challenges (Brown, 2009).

On the one hand, soft power plays a crucial role in building a country's positive image in the eyes of the world through instruments such as cultural diplomacy, educational cooperation, capacity building, and persuasive influence (Deri, 2024). A country that is able to disseminate positive values such as democracy, human rights, and technological innovation will gain trust and influence without resorting to coercion. For example, Indonesia, through cultural diplomacy programs and technical assistance to developing countries, has successfully strengthened its regional role and improved bilateral relations based on mutual trust.

However, in certain contexts, hard power remains necessary, especially to protect strategic interests and national security. Hard power includes the use of

military force, economic sanctions, or political pressure to influence the behavior of other states. In the smart diplomacy approach, hard power does not mean domination or aggression but rather prevention and stabilization in situations that threaten national interests. Therefore, its use must be proportional, measurable, and supportive of broader diplomatic efforts (Yani & Lusiana, 2018).

What distinguishes smart diplomacy is its ability to choose the most appropriate approach depending on the context and specific objectives. Diplomats skilled in smart diplomacy are not only capable negotiators and network builders but also possess sharp geopolitical insights and the ability to read the dynamics of global power. They can combine pressure and persuasion in a unified strategy that enhances their country's bargaining position without causing prolonged conflict (Whiton, 2013). With the rise of digital technology, smart diplomacy also adopts new tools such as social media, digital platforms, and data analysis to monitor global public opinion and influence international narratives. This indicates that smart diplomacy does not rely solely on state actors but also utilizes innovation and digital communication as part of a global influence strategy.

The implementation of smart diplomacy can be carried out through several methods, such as:

- Traditional Diplomacy

Effective diplomatic practices mainly rely on traditional diplomacy, which fundamentally involves bilateral and multilateral talks, negotiations, and the signing of international agreements. Such a channel makes it possible for countries to exchange formal strategic issues like economic cooperation, human rights, climate change, and regional security. Traditional diplomacy is still very important today because it not only enables the direct expression of views and interests but also strengthens diplomatic relationships, and thus, the negotiating results become legally binding contracts.

This method is very important in the context of smart diplomacy, as it allows soft power to be used as a tool for improving the image and gaining trust from various parts of the world. Traditional diplomacy continues to be the focal point of smart diplomacy since it offers the possibility of smooth incorporation of modern methods like the use of IT and media in the global arena. For example, public diplomacy initiatives and media campaigns, most of the time, go along with today's international negotiations to strengthen the negotiating positions and influence public opinion globally. Furthermore, the impact of traditional diplomacy on a country's reputation and the formation of long-term friendships is as important as the agreements used, so while traditional diplomacy is still a powerful tool in the technological age, it is now accompanied by a more agile, diverse, and data-driven approach.

- Persuasion

Building a good perception of a country is the basis of persuasive diplomacy. Persuasive diplomacy involves non-violently influencing people using soft power. Effective strategies include highlighting important national achievements and advancing ideals such as democracy, human rights, culture, and education. Countries with large financial resources, solid reputations, and strong universal values can easily influence the policies of other countries. Some examples of such influence include global campaigns, media-based cultural promotions, diplomatic speeches, and

strategic partnerships in international forums.

Although the influence may be modest, it has a lasting impact on the political atmosphere and public sentiment of the target country. Because it helps them avoid the harsh reactions that an aggressive approach might provoke, they avoid the harsh reactions that a more aggressive approach might provoke. Persuasion is preferred by many parties. For example, Indonesia can use inclusive democracy, education, or wise Islamic diplomacy to interact with developing countries. This persuasive technique emphasizes not only influence but also the essential components of actual influence, such as encouraging positive behavior, showing compassion, and creating mutually beneficial relationships.

- Capacity Building

An important component of smart diplomacy is capacity building. One of the best examples is when a partner country gets the resources it needs through development projects, technical assistance, technology exchange, and training. This strategy increases the influence of the area by building a solid partnership. In addition, this strategy presents the donor country as a responsible participant in world development. Countries that invest in the economy, health, education, and good governance build political trust and improve relations with other countries.

Through providing technical assistance and training to poor countries in Africa and South Asia. Indonesia has implemented Triangular Cooperation and South-South projects. Indonesia has improved its diplomatic and economic relations and strengthened its position in the world as a result of these efforts. A new approach to advancing diplomacy is this capacity-building strategy. While the recipient country benefits, the donor country can improve its reputation and expand its geopolitical influence.

- Use of Military Force

The most popular tool in foreign policy is still military force, which is often used as a last resort after attempts at negotiation have failed. However, soft power is still a major component of successful diplomacy. In addition to engaging in acts of aggression, the military also contributes to regional stability, peacekeeping, and the protection of sovereignty. Together with diplomats, the armed forces are used to demonstrate a country's commitment to defending its strategic interests. Among these interests are the eradication of major threats such as border violations, terrorism, and the possibility of armed conflict. Military action must be proportionate and in accordance with international law to stop conflicts from escalating.

Military action can greatly enhance a country's standing abroad when combined with strong diplomacy and effective public relations. The involvement of the Indonesian National Army in UN peacekeeping operations, for example, demonstrates Indonesia's capacity to use non-violent military force. This shows that the use of the military is no longer limited to establishing dominance. Instead, it is now a deliberate and calculated component of diplomatic strategy.

Furthermore, a well-thought-out and flexible approach is required because of the dynamic and complex nature of international relations. A well-thought-out plan ensures that diplomatic initiatives can address the world's most pressing issues today, including migration, cybersecurity, climate change, and geopolitical conflicts. Rather than promoting a reactive strategy, prioritize a

proactive strategy. A country can successfully combine its resources of both soft and hard power to protect its interests without triggering international conflict if it has a well-thought-out plan. By doing this, a country can use economic, social, cultural, and technological tools to enhance its reputation, expand its influence, and foster close relationships with other countries. However, without a clear plan, diplomacy can easily become ambiguous and difficult to make an impact on the world stage. Therefore, the author presents a number of smart diplomacy strategies as follows:

1. Situation Analysis—Assessing Which Are Our Strengths and Why, and Weaknesses, and Which Are Our Opportunities and Threats (in the World)

Step One: Analyzing the Situation The first and most important step in crafting a smart diplomatic plan is analysis. When a country introspectively looks at itself, there are all kinds of things that one can measure—military capability, economic power, quality of the workforce, and political stability are but a few. At the same time, it is important to be on the lookout for potential suitors, external threats, domestic maladies, and changes in the sun of world geopolitics. This is crucial since it impacts a country's diplomatic initiatives. For example, a country with a strong economy and less military capability may only engage in economic and cultural diplomacy. A country, on the other hand, that is interested in addressing a neighbor's threat through peaceful means may need to rely on both diplomacy and security alliances. Without an accurate read of the situation, diplomatic maneuvering can backfire and degrade the country's global position.

2. Choice of A Tool: Choosing The Right Instrument To Meet National Objectives

Next comes seeking the right diplomatic tool to help as we pursue our national interests. These instruments can range from soft power tools such as international aid, cross-educational undertakings, and cultural exchanges to hard power measures such as military intervention and economic sanctions. The type of problem, the quantity and type of diplomats involved, and how the situation is perceived internationally all impact which tools are selected. For example, pursuing an economic diplomacy approach through the utilization of free trade agreements, rather than using political pressure, could, in some cases, prove more efficacious when building relationships with trading partners. It is still necessary for a nation with a territorial dispute to send unequivocal diplomatic signals and to conduct occasional military patrols if that nation's goals are to be achieved. The bottom line is to choose the right policies that reduce the risk of violence but still enable a nation's diplomacy to succeed.

3. Tool Box: The Method of Employing Instruments Simultaneously for Strengthening Diplomacy

A state can indeed reinforce its position in the domain of smart diplomacy and enhance the effectiveness of its foreign policy by means of employing various instruments of diplomacy. Look at the situation in the South China Sea. Indonesia might also combine military modernization, international media appeal, ASEAN cooperation, and maritime diplomacy. This hundred-front attack forces all the other groups to realize there are more than just a few different ways to do business and deal with issues, as well as

showing how strong the country really is on a variety of fronts. Employing a mixture of tools also demonstrates how flexible and nuanced a country's diplomatic strategy can be. In the increasingly interconnected and technological world of today, a single approach is often not adequate to solve complex global problems. For optimal and lasting results, nations need to combine digital diplomacy, international public relations, and strategic alliances, as well as legal and security frameworks.

4. Assessment and Adaptation to Decide on the Implementation and Adjusting the Process as Necessary.

Evaluating the efficacy or need for a shift in the current diplomatic policy should be discussed. This requires constant evaluation of the results of various diplomatic initiatives. "It takes into account who the partner countries in question are, how those partners respond, how those actions are viewed by the host country, and whether they achieve the national objectives set for them. In other words, a country can ensure the effectiveness and relevance of its diplomacy under global changes as long as it constantly considers these factors.

Adjustment is a consideration that comes after evaluation and is a new step in the process. This process involves reshaping diplomatic style in accordance with surveillance data and the evolution of the world situation. It may be about time we started resorting to cultural or defense diplomacy if a country's economic diplomacy isn't enough to make others see things their way on a given issue. This is what characterizes smart diplomacy, which is a flexible policy based on empirical evidence and which can effectively respond to changes in the global landscape.

Smart diplomacy Jakarta's smart city is one of the most interesting examples of smart diplomacy, focused on the role of urban diplomacy for city government. This project serves as an example of how local municipal governments can also act as important players in international diplomacy by operating their city through digital means. To enhance city utilities, strengthen citizen participation, and enhance public services, the Jakarta government adopts big data, IoT, and e-platforms. Not only is the plan aimed at showcasing Indonesian values and new developments to the world, but it is also a blueprint to tidy up our city and elevate our quality of life as citizens of Jakarta.

In the field of diplomacy, Jakarta Smart City has allowed us to collaborate in smart city technology with other big cities such as Seoul, Tokyo, and Singapore. Jakarta is also forging international connections by sharing what's worked, exchanging tech know-how, and attending large gatherings such as the Smart City Expo World Congress. It also further establishes Indonesia as a pioneer in urban technology. Diplomacy itself is impacted by this kind of urban diplomacy. Local governments became more than mere administrative jurisdictions: they are now important national advocates of sustainability, urbanization, and technology.

As well, Jakarta's urban diplomacy model is an alternative way of conducting international relations, one based on cooperation and involvement. City-to-city networks are a way of decentralizing diplomacy. With it, local innovations can take on global problems. Here, Jakarta Smart City stands as an interesting example of the way in which modern-day diplomacy is moving beyond the traditional state-to-state talks.

The Relationship Between Digital Governance and Smart Diplomacy with State Governance on the International Stage

The success of Indonesia doing smart diplomacy, which is transparent and can have an impact on its digital diplomacy. By including the ICT sector, Indonesia develops a modern and efficient governance system and full transparency model. This development propels digital diplomacy, which means the application of new technology in diplomacy to the diplomatic efforts, the international relations, the global digital debate, and the rapid flow of information. Relations can be easily instituted in diplomatic terms through formal digital channels between the governments by the route of e-government to meet the global community. At the same time, Indonesia pursues its national interest globally through clever diplomacy, like observing bilateral as well as multilateral cooperation and involving itself in public discussion. Indonesia can utilize digital technologies to demonstrate its soft power through cultural, educational, and technological exchanges.

Online dialogue facilitates wider participation by the diaspora and international community in internal affairs. Digital diplomacy, interlocked with smart diplomacy, reinterprets how states relate and, in so doing, rebalances roles in world affairs. Digital democracy is the application of information technology and communication technology in the provision of government services, the improvement of interactions between governments and non-governmental organizations, between governments and citizens, the processes of governance, and the relationship between citizens and their elected representatives. The concept of smart diplomacy embodies an agile diplomatic concept that integrates the use of soft and hard power measures with the aid of information technology. We live in a very exciting time, as there is a revolution in many key fields of science:

- The Modernization of Services and Public Administration

Bureaucracy in the digital era is the old, slow, and open bureaucracy. The development of e-government, application-based administrative services, and information sharing among government agencies has simplified the public administration process. Aside from being time- and cost-efficient, transparency and convenience in service management will lead to increased trust in the government. Nations with well-run digital systems and automation for coordination can more rapidly respond to global problems, from pandemics to natural disasters. They also facilitate evidence-informed policy, including emerging innovations such as AI or big data analysis. And well-functioning digital bureaucracies are better primed for international cooperation, which improves the legitimacy and image of the administration abroad.

- Improvement of Image and Soft Power through Digital Diplomacy

Digital diplomacy can have broader implications for a country's international image and power. Countries can send strategic messages, promote their culture and values, address urgent global challenges, and engage with the world, all through social media, official diplomatic webpages, and other digital instruments. This methodology makes it possible for international participants to connect and take part, bringing diplomacy to another level of levelness amidst a more interactive experience. It also democratizes the use of soft power, providing wider access to it for all. Digital diplomacy facilitates cultural,

economic, and educational dialogues from afar. Indonesia, as a country, for instance, has the opportunity to use its rich cultural history to boost its global credentials and tell a positive story. In this way, Indonesia could derive enormous benefits from multilateral and bilateral trade negotiations.

- Integrating Technology through International Collaboration

Transformation is the process that is occurring increasingly rapidly now. But many changes are still in store. One of the places that is touched by these changes is governance. In this context, "digital governance" includes all the ways technology has changed government services and the interactions among stakeholders, or even created new ones. Simultaneously, the digital cooperative will drive national policies by establishing new international norms. Indonesia's involvement in global programs such as the Group of Twenty (G20) Digital Economy Task Force, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Smart Cities Network, and major international tech conferences is also crucial. These mediums contribute to the realization of Indonesia's national policies and position the country as a reliable digital partner." And in the end, this is also going to provide a rock-solid base for a globally connected and supportive digital development ecosystem.

- Enlarging the Space for the Non-State and Global Cities

Cities are becoming more than just administrative spaces as they get involved in global diplomacy, a phenomenon called urban diplomacy. Jakarta Smart City is an excellent case in this new wave of digital diplomacy. It showcases a city's creativity in public service, data use, and cooperation with other cities. This project

demonstrates how cities can address shared challenges, such as transportation, waste management, and climate, through collaboration. "The significance of cities assuming diplomatic functions is that they increase the number of routes countries have to project themselves abroad, outside of traditional diplomatic scripts," he said. This change is driving inclusivity and innovation in Indonesian diplomacy in ways that go beyond traditional channels of interaction, as local actors such as city governments, community organizations, and tech firms are being drawn in.

For one, Indonesia's technological diplomacy can adopt the successful Smart City projects in the likes of Jakarta to magnify its global clout. Finally, city diplomacy links digital diplomacy and the development of contemporary government. By combining their digital capacity and smart diplomacy, state administrations become stronger, more flexible, and more responsive players in a dynamic world.

Furthermore, digital governance enhances the efficiency and transparency of services, while digital diplomacy expands the scope of diplomacy through technology and flexible approaches. The Indonesian government will navigate the digital globalization era efficiently and with smart diplomacy to create a global competitive advantage by having a national digital transformation plan on a large scale to create inclusive smart diplomacy. If it works, Indonesia should achieve significant goals around the enhancement of its own geostrategic position, create goodwill internationally, and set an example for other emerging countries.

Conclusion

The digitalization of Indonesia's government is one of the approaches to enhancing effective, open, accountable, and inclusive government through technology. The government wants to cut through red tape, improve public services, and get more people involved in growth plans by establishing strong digital systems, implementing tough laws, upskilling staff, raising public awareness of technology, and simplifying services with e-government and public service platforms. "We are not just trimming bureaucracy; we are making a big leap in the form of a transformation to establish a nation-based government, a globally competitive government that is in line with our goal in 2045."

And the idea of "smart diplomacy," with its interconnectedness of the nation's various instruments of power, is just new in the annals of international relations. Rather than simply attaining military power or persuasive sleights of hand, the emphasis is on balancing one and the other in a strategy of global problem-solving. For Indonesia, considering itself as a support for an independent and active foreign policy, smart diplomacy contributes to strengthening Indonesia's global posture via cultural diplomacy, development cooperation, strategic defense, and digital diplomacy. If Indonesia begins to have a well-prepared approach to diplomatic negotiation based on the situation and tools of diplomacy and to position Indonesia on the global stage, then the bargaining power can be better. The combination of clever diplomacy and digital governance has made Indonesia's administration all the rage around the world. Using ICT, Indonesia would be able to achieve a more efficient, transparent, and e-government stake administration and management, which will help the country in promoting itself to the international realm.

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