



Royal University of Law and Economic

Final Report on

**MALAYSIA FOREIGN POLICY
REFORM (NEW MALAYSIA)**

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International program

Bachelor's Degree in International Relations

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Year of Submission: 2023

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First, we would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude and respect to Dr. Kim Sombath, our supervisor for his attention to ensure the quality of our research. He also guided us which we were not clear about in some parts, he would be given good quality to produce the thesis for us to analyze to be better and helped us gain a deeper understanding of Malaysia Foreign policy reform (New Malaysia).

Besides this, I would like to thank my partner for his support in the process of writing this thesis he usually helped to gain more information and correct some parts and we are working hard together until the process of the thesis ends successfully.

ABSTRACT

The New Malaysia foreign policy reform is a strategic framework designed to guide Malaysia's interactions with the international community during the Pakatan Harapan administration. It consists of four components: foreign policy direction, foreign ministry empowerment, inter-agency coordination enhancement, and public and civil society participation. The framework aims to maintain Malaysia's fundamental interests and principles, such as neutrality, non-alignment, ASEAN centrality, and solidarity with Muslim and developing nations. It also introduces modifications in terms of approach and emphasis on specific matters, such as human rights, democracy, the rule of law, and environmental protection. The framework was unveiled in September 2019 and is overseen by a committee led by the foreign minister. Malaysia's diplomatic approach involves engaging with other nations and international organizations, enhancing bilateral and multilateral alliances, strengthening collaboration with regional and international organizations, and promoting peace and security through nonviolent conflict resolution. The government has also increased defense capabilities in the South China Sea, a consultative framework for foreign policy development, and endorsed the Belt and Road Initiative, the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, and the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership.

Keywords: Malaysia, Foreign policy, Reform.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATION

BN	Barisan Nasional
UMNO	United Malay National Organization
UNGA	United Countries General Gathering
PH	The Pakatan Harapan

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of Foreign policy in Malaysia

Malaysia's foreign policy rests upon the fundamental principles of autonomy, impartiality, and practicality. The objective is to safeguard Malaysia's sovereignty and national interests, while also striving to contribute to a world order that is just and peaceful. The formulation of Malaysia's foreign policy is shaped by three primary factors: the strategic positioning within Southeast Asia, the role as a trading nation, and the distinctive composition of its population. Malaysia boasts a rich tapestry of ethnic, religious, and cultural groups, serving as the abode for a substantial Muslim majority. Consequently, this imbues Malaysia with a vested interest in the affairs of the Islamic world. As a vibrant participant in the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), Malaysia actively advocates for solidarity and cooperation within the Muslim Ummah. Furthermore, regional collaboration constitutes the cornerstone of Malaysia's foreign policy. Pioneering the establishment of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Malaysia has been instrumental in fostering regional integration and stability. Additionally, Malaysia has engaged in various regional and sub-regional endeavors, exemplified by its involvement in the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), the East Asia Summit (EAS), and the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF).¹ Multilateralism and the adherence to international law are core tenets of Malaysia's foreign policy, underscored by its membership in the United Nations (UN) and contributions to UN peacekeeping missions worldwide. Malaysia actively participates in several international groups, including the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), the Commonwealth, the Group of 77 (G77), the Developing Eight (D8),

¹ Ministry of foreign affairs, "Malaysia's Foreign policy." Ministry of foreign affairs, <https://www.kln.gov.my/web/guest/foreign-policy>. Last accessed August 11,2023.

and the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM). Taking a forward-looking and pragmatic approach, Malaysia seeks to facilitate trade, attract foreign investment, and project a positive national image. Diplomatic relations have been established with over 180 countries, fostering friendly and affable ties. Additionally, Malaysia engages in bilateral and multilateral cooperation on matters of shared interest, such as security, development, environment, human rights, education, culture, and tourism.²

1.2. Evolution of Foreign policy

The evolution of Malaysia's foreign policy is the progression of how the nation has altered its objectives, tactics, and actions with regard to other countries and entities around the globe with the passage of time. A range of components like its history, geography, economy, society, culture and politics have had an impact on Malaysia's foreign policy. The major stages of its foreign policy evolution are as follows: The initial years of autonomy (1957-1969): During this period, Malaysia's foreign policy was greatly biased in favor of the West and was in line with the British Commonwealth and the United States. Malaysia had a hand in the development of regional organizations such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB). Security threats from the communist revolt, the Indonesia-Malaysia disaccord, and the Singapore disengagement were encountered by the nation. The period of non-alignment (1970-1980): This era marked an alteration in Malaysia's foreign policy from having an affinity for to non-alignment, as Malaysia looked to adopt an autonomous, principled, and practically-oriented foreign policy. Malaysia assumed a more active role in the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), and the Commonwealth. Malaysia contended for

² MyGovernment, "Malaysia 's Foreign policy." MyGovernment, <https://www.malaysia.gov.my/portal/content/30898>.

the interests of developing countries and backed liberation movements in Africa and Asia. The period of control and activism (1981-2003): This period saw a more aggressive and proactive foreign policy from Malaysia under the guidance of Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad.³ Malaysia embraced a "Look East" policy to learn from Japan and South Korea, a "Prosper Thy Neighbor" policy to expedite regional cooperation and development, and a "Global Malaysian" policy to heighten Malaysia's global reputation and impact. Malaysia also advanced a variety of causes such as the New International Economic Order (NIEO), the East Asian Economic Caucus (EAEC), the Dialogue Among Civilizations, and the Kuala Lumpur War Crimes Tribunal. The era of moderation and practicality (2004-2018): This stage observed a more temperate and judicious foreign policy from Malaysia under the administrations of Prime Ministers Abdullah Badawi and Najib Razak.⁴ Malaysia advanced a "Multilateralism Plus" policy to stabilize its relations with major powers such as China, America, India, and Japan. Malaysia also participated in numerous multilateral efforts such as the East Asia Summit (EAS), the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), and the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). Malaysia also advanced the "Global Movement of Moderates" to counteract extremist and terrorist tendencies.⁵ The era of change and persistence (2018-present): This interval exhibits an ongoing adherence to Malaysia's foreign policy beliefs and priorities under several governments. Malaysia published its very first defense white paper and two foreign policy blueprints elucidating its ambitions and strategy towards external relations. Malaysia both confirmed its loyalty to ASEAN centrality, multilateralism, rule of law, amicable settlement of conflicts,

³ Elina Noor, "Malaysia Policy over the last four year." *Kyoto Review of Southeast Asia* Issue 35, <https://kyotoreview.org/issue-32/malaysia-foreign-policy-over-the-last-four-years/>.

⁴ Sharifah Munirah Alatas, "A Malaysian Perspective on Foreign Policy and Geopolitics: Rethinking West-Centric International Relations Theory." OXFORD, <https://academic.oup.com/isagsq/article/1/4/ksab031/6380107>. Accessed October 01, 2021.

⁵ Ministry of foreign affairs, "Malaysia's Foreign policy." Ministry of foreign affairs, <https://www.kln.gov.my/web/guest/foreign-policy>. Last accessed August 11, 2023.

non-interference, abstention, and inclusive internationalism. Malaysia also launched new focal points such as health diplomacy, cyber security, and cultural diplomacy.⁶

1.3 Statement of Problem

There isn't a definitive answer as to why Malaysia frequently alters its foreign policy, but there are several potential factors at play. Domestic politics exert notable influence over Malaysia's foreign policy, as the ruling coalition or party's preferences and the country's political landscape often come into play.⁷ For instance, the change in government in 2018 and 2020 brought about shifts in Malaysia's foreign policy orientation and priorities, including its stance on China, the United States, and Myanmar. Additionally, the demands and expectations of various domestic groups, encompassing ethnic, religious, and civil society organizations, can shape Malaysia's foreign policy due to their differing perspectives and interests on such matters. Geopolitical dynamics also play a significant role in shaping Malaysia's foreign policy.⁸ As the regional and global geopolitical environment evolves, Malaysia must navigate the challenges and opportunities it encounters. Striking a balance between its relations with major powers like China and the United States, each with competing interests and influence in Southeast Asia, poses a particular challenge. Moreover, Malaysia tackles an array of regional and global issues such as maritime disputes, trade tensions, security threats, climate change, and human rights concerns. Each issue necessitates distinct approaches and responses. The principles of pragmatism and flexibility guide Malaysia's foreign policy, enabling it to adapt

⁶ Lukman Thaib, "The Evolution of the Malaysian Diplomatic Relation with West Asia: Special Reference to Malaysia-Qatar Relations." *Global Journal of Human -Social Science: Interdisciplinary*, https://globaljournals.org/GJHSS_Volume19/1-The-Evolution-of-the-Malaysian.pdf.

⁷ Elina Noor, "Foreign and Security Policy in the new Malaysia." Lowy Institute, <https://www.lowyinstitute.org/publications/foreign-security-policy-new-malaysia>. Accessed November 6, 2019.

⁸ Fikry A. Rahman, "Malaysia's Domestic Political Turbulence Threatens to Derail its Foreign Policy." *The Diplomat*, <https://thediplomat.com/2022/05/malysias-domestic-political-turbulence-threatens-to-derail-its-foreign-policy/>. Accessed May 26, 2022.

to evolving circumstances and challenges in its external relations. Rather than choosing sides between major powers or ideological blocs, Malaysia maintains friendly and cordial ties with all nations regardless of their political system or human rights record. Furthermore, the country actively pursues bilateral and multilateral cooperation on various matters of mutual interest, ranging from security and development to environment, human rights, education, culture, and tourism.⁹

1.4 Research question

What is the new foreign policy in Malaysia (New Malaysia) helped by Mandate Mahathir ?

1.5. Significance of the study

Malaysia's foreign policy transformation holds immense significance due to several factors. Firstly, it exemplifies Malaysia's response to the ever-changing domestic and international landscape encompassing political transitions, economic hurdles, security risks, and global matters impacting the nation's interests and well-being. Secondly, it showcases Malaysia's unwavering dedication to upholding its core principles and values, including independence, neutrality, pragmatism, multilateralism, the rule of law, and human rights, within its diplomatic relations. Furthermore, it signifies Malaysia's desire to bolster its role and influence on both regional and global scales by fostering regional cooperation, facilitating trade and investment, promoting peace and stability, and advocating for the interests of developing nations and the Muslim Ummah. Altering Malaysia's foreign policy is undeniably a challenging endeavor. It necessitates meticulous analysis, extensive consultation, effective coordination, and open communication among various stakeholders and actors, both internal

⁹ Sharifah Munirah Alatas, "A Malaysian Perspective on Foreign Policy and Geopolitics: Rethinking West-Centric International Relations Theory." OXFORD, <https://academic.oup.com/isagsq/article/1/4/ksab031/6380107>. Accessed October 01, 2021.

and external.¹⁰ Furthermore, it entails striking a delicate balance between diverse interests, expectations, and challenges emanating from different partners and issues. Consequently, Malaysia's foreign policy remains far from static; rather, it dynamically evolves to meet the ever-shifting circumstances and obstacles encountered in its external relationships. It also serves as an embodiment of Malaysia's identity, interests, aspirations, and responsibilities within the global arena. Enhancing Malaysia's role and influence in the region and the world: Malaysia has the opportunity to bolster its position and impact by embracing a forward-thinking and practical approach to its foreign policy. This approach will enable Malaysia to facilitate trade, attract foreign investment, and cultivate a favorable perception of the country. Additionally, Malaysia can actively contribute to regional and global harmony, stability, and prosperity by actively participating in numerous multilateral initiatives and platforms, including ASEAN, the UN, the NAM, the OIC, and the ASEM. By championing causes aligned with its interests and values, such as human rights, development, the environment, and moderation, Malaysia can exert a positive influence on a global scale. Balancing Malaysia's relations with major powers: Malaysia can navigate its relationships with major powers by adopting a non-aligned and adaptable foreign policy. This approach allows Malaysia to maintain amicable and cordial ties with all nations, irrespective of their political system or human rights track record. It also presents an opportunity for Malaysia to strike a delicate balance in its dealings with influential actors like China and the United States, who possess competing interests and sway in Southeast Asia. Furthermore, Malaysia can leverage its strategic location, economic potential, and multiculturalism to engage both powers in various areas of cooperation, including trade, investment, security, education, and

¹⁰ Ministry of foreign affairs, “ Malaysia’s Foreign policy.” Ministry of foreign affairs, <https://www.kln.gov.my/web/guest/foreign-policy>. Last accessed August 11,2023.

tourism. By upholding its sovereignty and safeguarding its core interests, Malaysia can avoid being ensnared in their rivalry or conflicts.

Adapting to the evolving domestic and international landscape: Malaysia can effectively respond to changing circumstances and challenges in its external relations by flexibly adjusting its foreign policy. This will enable Malaysia to address political transitions, economic hurdles, security threats, and global issues that impact its interests and well-being. Furthermore, Malaysia can tailor its foreign policy stance to meet the preferences and expectations of diverse domestic constituencies, including ethnic, religious, and civil society groups. In doing so, Malaysia can effectively navigate the ever-changing domestic and international environment, ensuring its continued prosperity and resilience.¹¹

CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1. Theories of Foreign Policy

The realm of international relations comprises the study of foreign policy and endeavors to comprehend the reasoning behind a state's decisions and actions when it comes to their interactions with other nations and global entities. A variety of foreign policy theories exist, each differing in terms of the level of scrutiny, underlying assumptions, methodology, and objectives of the theory. One approach to classifying these theories is based on the level of analysis, which centers on the main unit or actor under consideration.¹² For instance, certain theories concentrate on the individual level, exploring the personalities, belief systems, or

¹¹ Sharifah Munirah Alatas, "A Malaysian Perspective on Foreign Policy and Geopolitics: Rethinking West-Centric International Relations Theory." OXFORD, <https://academic.oup.com/isagsq/article/1/4/ksab031/6380107>. Accessed October 01, 2021.

¹² Gunther Hellmann and Ursula Stark Urrestarazu, "Theories of Foreign Policy." Oxford Bibliographies." Oxford Bibliographies, <https://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/display/document/obo-9780199743292/obo-9780199743292-0104.xml>. Accessed April 01, 2019.

psychological inclinations of leaders and decision-makers shaping foreign policy. Alternately, other theories focus on the state level, examining how political systems, economic circumstances, social structures, or cultural aspects influence foreign policy outcomes. Alternatively, still, certain theories take a wider perspective and concentrate on the system level, considering how the structure, norms, rules, or events of the international system impact foreign policy decisions. Another classification method for foreign policy theories hinges on the assumptions made about the nature and behavior of states and other international actors. Some theories presuppose that states act as rational entities, actively seeking to maximize their security and interests by calculating the costs and benefits of their actions. Conversely, other theories posit that states possess bounded rationality and are swayed by cognitive biases, emotions, or heuristics that impact their decision-making processes. Still, other theories view states as social actors who are shaped by their identities, values, or norms that steer their actions. A third classification criterion pertains to the methodologies employed to elucidate and forecast foreign policy behavior. Some theories employ historical analysis, examining patterns and trends in foreign policy across time frames and regions.¹³ Alternatively, other theories rely on theoretical analysis to apply various frameworks and models to explore how states react to changes in the international system, domestic politics, or norms and values. Lastly, certain theories rely on empirical analysis, employing data and evidence to test and evaluate hypotheses and theories concerning foreign policy behavior. A fourth way to classify theories of foreign policy is by the goals they have for understanding and influencing foreign policy. For example, some theories aim to describe and explain foreign policy behavior as it is, without making any normative judgments or prescriptions. Other theories aim to prescribe and recommend foreign policy behavior as it should be, based on some ethical or moral

¹³ Glenn Palmer and T.Clifton Morgan, "A Theory of foreign Policy." DE GRUYTER, <https://www.degruyter.com/document/doi/10.1515/9781400832644/html>. Accessed 2006.

principles or objectives. Yet other theories aim to critique and challenge foreign policy behavior as it is problematic or unjust, based on some alternative or radical perspectives or agendas. These are some of the ways to categorize theories of foreign policy. Of course, there are many more nuances and variations within each category, and some theories may combine elements from different.¹⁴

2.2. The Foreign policy of Malaysia compare to Singapore foreign policy

Foreign policy embodies the assortment of aspirations, tactics, and measures that a nation pursues in its interactions with other nations and participants in the global network. Various factors shape foreign policy, including historical background, geographical location, economic conditions, societal composition, cultural nuances, and political orientations. Malaysia and Singapore, two diminutive states in Southeast Asia, bear resemblances in their historical roots, cultural fabric, and shared ethnicity. Both were once under the rule of the British Empire and obtained independence during the 1950s and 1960s. For a brief period from 1963 to 1965, they coexisted within the Federation of Malaysia until Singapore decided to separate due to discrepancies in political and economic spheres. Since then, their relations have generally been amicable and congenial. Nonetheless, they have encountered occasional disagreements and confrontations concerning issues like water resources, airspace management, maritime boundaries, and transportation infrastructure. While safeguarding their sovereignty and national interests, expanding economic prospects, and enhancing regional influence rank among the shared foreign policy objectives of Malaysia and Singapore, discrepancies in their approaches, styles, and priorities are evident. These variations stem from their distinct circumstances and perspectives. Several noteworthy dissimilarities can be

¹⁴ Alex Mintz and Amnon Sofrin, "Decision Making Theories in Foreign Policy Analysis." Politics, <https://oxfordre.com/politics/display/10.1093/acrefore/9780190228637.001.0001/acrefore-9780190228637-e-405>. Accessed October 26, 2017.

discerned in Malaysia's and Singapore's respective foreign policy strategies. When it comes to the debate of Regionalism vs Globalism, Malaysia focuses more on regional cooperation as the foundation of its foreign policy. The country takes pride in being one of the original members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and actively contributes to enhancing regional integration and stability.¹⁵

Additionally, Malaysia actively participates in numerous other regional and sub-regional initiatives, including the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), the East Asia Summit (EAS), and the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF). Moreover, Malaysia places great importance on its relationships with immediate neighbors such as Indonesia and Brunei. In contrast, Singapore adopts a more global perspective in its foreign policy. Like Malaysia, Singapore is a founding member of ASEAN and supports its centrality within the regional architecture. However, Singapore also pursues a "Multilateralism Plus" policy, aiming to strike a balance in its relationships with major powers such as China, the United States, India, and Japan. Furthermore, Singapore actively engages in various multilateral initiatives such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), and the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM). Moreover, Singapore seeks to diversify its economic partners and explore markets beyond Southeast Asia. When considering Pragmatism vs Principle in foreign policy, Malaysia takes on a more pragmatic and adaptable approach. The country adjusts its foreign policy stance based on the ever-changing geopolitical landscape and its national interests. Malaysia strives to maintain friendly and amicable relations with all countries, irrespective of their political systems or human rights records. Furthermore, Malaysia actively engages in

¹⁵ THE STRAITS TIMES, "Full speech: Five core principles of Singapore's foreign policy." THE STRAITS TIMES, <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/five-core-principles-of-singapores-foreign-policy>. Accessed July 17, 2017.

bilateral and multilateral collaborations with other nations to address various common concerns, including security, development, environment, human rights, education, culture, and tourism. On the other hand, Singapore adopts a more principled and unwavering approach in its foreign policy. The country strongly upholds the rule of law and international norms in all its external relations. Singapore refuses to compromise on its sovereignty or core interests and advocates for a rules-based international order that upholds the rights and interests of smaller states. Additionally, Singapore actively promotes a "Global Movement of Moderates" to counter the rise of extremism and terrorism. Activism vs Moderation: Malaysia takes a more assertive and proactive approach to its foreign policy, led by Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad. The country embraces a "Look East" strategy, drawing inspiration from Japan and South Korea, while also promoting regional cooperation and development with a "Prosper Thy Neighbor" policy. Additionally, Malaysia strives for an elevated international profile and influence through its "Global Malaysian" policy. It actively supports numerous causes and initiatives, including the New International Economic Order (NIEO), the East Asian Economic Caucus (EAEC), the Dialogue Among Civilizations, and the Kuala Lumpur War Crimes Tribunal.¹⁶

¹⁶ Ng Wei Kai, "Vivian outlines S'pore's 2023 foreign policy priorities amid 'perfect storm of multiple crises.'" THE STRAITS TIMES, <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/politics/s-pore-s-four-key-foreign-policy-priorities-for-2023>. Last Accessed March 28, 2023.

CHAPTER 3 THE NEW MALAYSIA AND DIRECTION OF FOREIGN POLICY

3.1 Philosophies and Goals of Pakatan Harapan (PH) Administration

The philosophies of the Government depend on the ways of thinking and standards of the Government Constitution and the Rukun Negara. Rukun Negara is the National Principles were established on August 31, 1970 to mark Malaysia's 13th anniversary of independence. It was implemented in the wake of the May 13 incident in 1969, which weakened racial harmony in Malaysia. It was established primarily with the intention of creating a solid unity. For the development and stability of the nation, the principles clearly outlined the secret to peace and unity. They likewise draw on the vision of public pioneers, the soul of nonstop change plan and formative thoughts that are moderate and vote based. Critically, they should be cognisant of the real factors of the present day and assist with setting up the nation in countering future difficulties. The Public authority has made plans to be joined in driving the ceaseless change plan to shape a superior future for all in Another Malaysia that is created, prosperous and cheerful. In such a manner, the organization will advocate major widespread qualities that appreciate among others, a vote-based system, harmony, opportunity, regard, nobility, solidarity, mutual respect, straightforwardness, honesty, truth, equity, information, meritocracy and flourishing. This organization is not set in stone to construct a Malaysian country that depends on the soul of trust and fortitude that supports Rukun Negara and Vision 2020. Under the Public authority, an essential reference in graphing the country's improvement methodology is the idea of Maqasid Syari'ah, the objectives or goals set forth by Islamic law for the accomplishment of benefits to humanity are known as maqasid

al-Shari'ah.¹⁷ which can be deciphered as the higher Syari'ah objectives. Under the Maqasid Syari'ah, the essential target of advancement is to convey goodness and reasonableness to all at last. To accomplish this objective, it is significant for improvement projects to embrace and stick to general standards like inclusivity and great administration. The expectation and aspirations of the New Malaysia must be accomplished assuming that the public authority upholds the standards exemplified in the Maqasid Syari'ah. The Arrangement of the Pakatan Harapan, which was endorsed on ninth January 2016 and is repeated in the PH declaration stays the core value of the organization. The Rukunegara, the Federal Constitution of Malaysia, the vision of our founding fathers, continual reform, and ideas of progressive and democratic growth are the foundations of the philosophy of the Pakatan Harapan Government. These are succinctly summarized in the idea of Maqasid Syariah (The Higher Purposes of Syariah), which has as its ultimate goal the achievement of just and blessing-giving national development goals. This foundation will guarantee that we get the Malaysia we want. Pakatan Harapan aims to cooperate with everyone to pursue an ongoing reform agenda in order to build a future that is better and beneficial to everyone - developed, peaceful, and harmonious - and is governed by shared values like knowledge, liberty, truth, social justice, and tolerance. Pakatan Harapan aims to achieve economic justice, pride, civilisation, unity, merit-based society, and democracy in Malaysia. The Arrangement frames that the organization will:

- maintain the Government Constitution, Islam as the religion of the League (while different religions are allowed to be rehearsed in harmony and concordance in accordance with Article 3 of the Constitution), as well as safeguard the situation with

¹⁷ WordPress, "Definition and Maqasid al-Shari'ah in general." WordPress, <https://islamicbankers.files.wordpress.com/2015/08/the-objectives-of-islamic-law-151.pdf>.

the Malays and Bumiputeras of Sabah and Sarawak and the interests of different races (as per Article 153 of the Constitution).

- Responsibility and preserve the role of the Constitutional Monarchy.
- enhance the usage of the Malay Language according to Article 152 of the Constitution. Moreover, PH will attempt to spread the Malay Language as the local language of information and most widely used language. Simultaneously, it will safeguard and fortify the utilization of the primary language, everything being equal. It will likewise advance the authority of the English Language, which is basic for Malaysia's intensity.
- recognize and perceive the situation with Sabah and Sarawak in the Organization of Malaysia in accordance with the arrangements and soul of the 1963 Malaysia Understanding.¹⁸

3.2 The meaning of foreign policy

We already know that foreign policy is a strategy which cooperates or interacts diplomatically with other countries. It is the important role to guide diplomats with external relations. The standards of credibility, consistency, and coherence have guided policymaking and have been in the best interests of the nation. Malaysia's behavior will continue to be governed by the principles of respect for independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and non-interference in other nations' affairs, peaceful resolution of disputes, peaceful coexistence, and mutual benefit in relations in response to the complexity in world affairs and

¹⁸Dapmalaysia, "BUKU HARAPAN REBUILDING OUR NATION FULFILLING OUR HOPES." Dapmalaysia, https://dl.dapmalaysia.org/repository/Manifesto_PH_EN.pdf. Accessed 8 March.2018.

expansion of international relations.¹⁹ In the foreign policy in Malaysia, there are three elements that are direct in foreign policy. Firstly, Foreign policy actions are purposive. Secondly, it is the foreign policy that relates to actors. Third, Foreign policy execution occurs in international environments. Under the Pakatan Harapan government, foreign policymaking has increased engagement with other parties through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, seeking their participation urgently. Malaysia's foreign minister, Saifuddin Abdullah, recommitted to greater engagement within his first few months.²⁰ An early sign that the new government's international strategy would incorporate a few significant strings of progression was contained in a discourse Mahathir made in Tokyo in June 2018, after returning as Malaysia's head of state. In the midst of hypotheses abroad that Malaysia would shift for sure in a challenge for local supremacy among the significant powers, the state head's message was clear: cordial relations with all would stay the backbone of Malaysian international strategy to work with exchange, improvement, and monetary advancement. This message is emphasized all through the Structure, sent off by the state leader in September 2019. The System depends on four directional parts strategy rules contained in Mahathir's 2018 United Countries General Gathering (UNGA) discourse, strengthening of the service of international concerns, more noteworthy between organization coordination, and expanded public support in unfamiliar policymaking. The System frames three components of the public interest supporting Malaysian international strategy: security, financial prosperity, and character. These components are defended at the worldwide level by similar essentials the nation has consistently broadcasted in its direct of unfamiliar relations - open ties, deregulation, and law

¹⁹Prime Minister's office of Malaysia official Website, "Malaysia's Foreign Policy." Prime Minister's office of Malaysia official Website,

<https://www.pmo.gov.my/2019/07/malaysias-foreign-policy/>. Accessed 12 July.2019.

²⁰Elina Noor, "Foreign and Security Policy in the new Malaysia." Lowy Institute,

<https://www.lowyinstitute.org/publications/foreign-security-policy-new-malaysia> Accessed November 6,2020.

and order. This cordiality, in any case, ought not be confused with resignation, particularly under Mahathir's authority. At the UNGA in September 2018, Mahathir took up where he left out 15 years sooner. In 2003, he had bludgeoned a unipolar world, the break of global standards, and control of worldwide associations prompting "monetary tumult, political disorder, vulnerability and dread." In 2018, he regretted a world "far more terrible" than it had been the last time he tended to the UNGA as state leader. In his UNGA address in September 2019, he hammered the rejection force of the five UN super durable individuals, reprimanded "war-like European nations" for inciting and dragging out wars, singled out Israel as the beginning of psychological oppression, and got down on the bad faith of streamlined commerce against the background of biased conditions. Mahathir's outbursts against strong nations from worldwide stages, for example, the UN are frequently reprimanded as being dated, personal, and hostile to Semitic. However, it is his boldness in testing power in words and activity that has not just gained Malaysia appreciation in the creating scene yet additionally added to discernment that the nation fights at a surprisingly high level in the worldwide field.

3.3 Trends and Challenges in the International Environment

First Stage: 1981-1985

In his initial five years in office, from 1981 to 1985, Mahathir used more noteworthy state mediation to advance weighty industrialization and homegrown impersonations of Japanese sogoshas. The trademark of the period was "Look East" to imitate Japan and South Korea. However, this was a troublesome period when the world economy confronted a downturn following oil cost climbs and loan fee increments founded in 1980 by Paul Volcker, recently designated director of the U.S. Central Bank. The Malaysian economy was severely

impacted by falls in essential item costs as interest for produced trades fell. For a year subsequent to becoming top state leader, Mahathir appeared to underwrite Money Pastor Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah's counter-repetitive siphon, preparing endeavors to turn the economy around by expanding public spending. Notwithstanding, subsequent to winning the April 1982 general political race, Mahathir forced an "grimness drive" that diminished government spending and put state-claimed endeavors under nearer examination. Prominently absolved from the somberness drive was the state-supported and HICOM-drove program of weighty industrialization. This program flagged a second round of import replacement. Frequently carried out in joint-adventures with Japanese firms, the HICOM endeavors were principally funded by weighty acquiring from the Japanese government at extremely low financing costs. This blended methodology of switching public area extension while redirecting state mediation was advanced by Daim Zainuddin after he was designated finance serve in 1984. Daim, with Mahathir's underwriting, made critical monetary approach inversions, including backward monetary (expense and spending) changes, more severe public use cuts, privatization, liberation, and monetary progression. The 1985-86 downturn was the finishing monetary emergency of this first period of Mahathir's administration of the economy, for which Mahathir and Daim were accused in the approach the UMNO split of 1987.

Second Stage: 1986-1997

Similarly, as the main stage was not consistently set apart by developing state intercession, government spending, or guideline, the subsequent stage was not a basic head-first rush towards the financial progression moved by the purported Washington Agreement. Mahathir allowed particular monetary and social liberation and halfway privatization. From 1985 onwards, Mahathir and Daim's speculation system decreased

business guideline for between ethnic rearrangement purposes previously expected by the Modern Coordination Act 1975 and the rebuilding objective of the New Financial Arrangement. The Advancement of Speculations Act 1986 pulled in send out situated assembling ventures and decreased the protection between trade arranged and locally arranged creation. The new speculation system fundamentally energized higher worth added trade situated businesses, expertise improvement, and innovation up-reviewing.

Wave of Development

In 1985, the G-7 states, by means of the Square Accord, acted to raise the worth of the Japanese yen against the U.S. dollar. Malaysia's yen-designated sovereign obligation multiplied in ringgit terms. Bank Negara answered the mounting unfamiliar obligation trouble and to the breakdown of product costs by allowing the ringgit to devalue against the U.S. dollar, successfully getting some intensity through depreciation. Among different reasons, the sharp enthusiasm for the yen, then the Taiwanese dollar and the South Korean won, supported the migration of Japanese, Taiwanese, and South Korean ventures to China and Southeast Asia, including Malaysia. This new rush of unfamiliar direct venture assisted with introducing 10 years of primary change and quick development that possibly finished when the "East Asian monetary emergency" ejected in July 1997. In any case's, serious areas of strength for Malaysia recuperation didn't exactly head off the financial emergency developing from the 1980s' downturn, product cost breakdown, and blasting of property and securities exchange bubbles. In 1987-88, very nearly 30% of business bank advances were "non-playing out." The public authority was constrained to manage and direct more rigorously the monetary situation, utilizing the Banking and Monetary Foundations Act 1989 and different guidelines. More reasonable and stricter financial oversight restricted Malaysian openness to (private) unfamiliar acquiring. For instance, confidential interests required Bank Negara's endorsement

to acquire from abroad, eminently by showing that acquired assets would produce unfamiliar trade profit. The monetary recuperation was trailed by monetary progression, particularly in securities exchange improvement. In spite of the financial disappointments and securities exchange breakdown of the last part of the 1980s, Mahathir and Daim persevered with securities exchange advancement but with stricter financial guideline. Be that as it may, as though the issues from the 1980s banking emergency had been neglected, business banks again loaned liberally and again prompted property and financial exchange bubbles. Numerous Malaysian companies, particularly those related with the system's "sidekicks," were profoundly utilized. The results of these monetary and monetary advancements were blended and, as it turned out in 1997, sad.

Third Stage: 1998-2003

During the third stage, Mahathir's monetary administration turned to irregular counter-repeating mediations to animate financial recuperation and support development despite a more unfavorable worldwide climate. At the point when the 1997 emergency ejected, it was generally accused on East Asian debasement, cronyism, and nepotism. Nobody ought to approve these notable maltreatments in the nations that were seriously blasted, specifically Thailand, Indonesia, South Korea, and Malaysia. However, the genuine underlying foundations of the emergency lay in the worldwide patterns of advancement and liberation that abetted predisposition, misuse, and fundamental disappointment in the global monetary framework that arose after the Bretton Woods system of fixed trade rates was deserted in 1971.

At the beginning of the 1997 monetary emergency, Malaysia had lower levels of unfamiliar obligation contrasted with Thailand, Indonesia, and Korea, since Bank Negara had restricted transient unfamiliar borrowings. However, the following "loss of financial backer certainty" in

East Asia caused effectively reversible portfolio speculation, supposed "hot cash," to exit rapidly from the locale. Thus, the Malaysian monetary framework was no less powerless in light of the far more prominent job of unfamiliar interests in the moderately bigger Kuala Lumpur securities exchange.

3.4 Foreign Policy Begins at Home

Foreign policy is intertwined with domestic realities, reflecting a country's concerns and aspirations, influenced by leaders' impressions. It is important that each country's leader needs to focus on the basis of the national interest. It is not the mistake to make an international environment but the mistake needs to focus on the internal. Moreover, Foreign policy aims to protect and promote citizens' well-being. For instance, the two countries balance trade between the US and China. The leader Trump wants China to buy more products from the US and cut the US trade deficit. He thinks that it is the internal interest of the US.²¹ However, Foreign policy outcomes directly impact the domestic environment. Ratifying international conventions requires domestic obligations. Malaysia must create and carry out its own climate action plan in accordance with the 2015 Paris Climate Summit agreement since it is a party to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). If a foreign strategy runs counter to expectations and realities at home, it will be ineffective.

²¹ Jill, Disis, "Trump promises to win the trade war with china. He failed." CNN, <https://edition.cnn.com/2020/10/24/economy/us-china-trade-war-intl-hnk/index.html>. Accessed October 25, 2020.

3.5 Change in Foreign Policy

Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad has outlined a few new paths for the new government's foreign policy since taking office. Specifically in his speech to the UN, the prime minister accomplished this. As previously stated, there will be some consistency in the broad-based national interests that serve as the basis for the general motivations. The underlying concepts that govern Malaysia's foreign policy have not changed at all. However, there will be adjustments made in terms of methods, focus, and emphases. Malaysia keeps on chasing an independent, principled and pragmatic foreign policy established on the upsides of harmony, humankind, equity, and equity. The general push of its international strategy has been to protect Malaysia's power and public interests as well as to contribute seriously towards a fair and evenhanded local area of countries through the direct of successful tact. Malaysia's foreign policy is to a great extent impacted and molded by three key elements, to be specific its essential area in Southeast Asia, its credits as an exchanging country as well as its remarkable demography. While the international strategy approaches might have contrasted throughout the years because of changing homegrown and outer variables, the essential standards of the arrangement have gone on since freedom. Strategy making has been directed by the measures of believability along with consistency and coherency, which have served the nation's wellbeing. ASEAN stays the foundation of Malaysia's foreign policy and the foundation of the ASEAN People group in 2015 has altogether raised Malaysia's methodology and commitment at the provincial level. Simultaneously fortifying reciprocal and multilateral parts of Malaysia's commitment with the world will keep on being a significant concentration. The country's prosperity is established on serious areas of strength for the cordial relations with different nations and its obligation to the multilateral framework. Malaysia keeps on advancing a forward-looking and commonsense foreign policy that works with exchange,

draws in unfamiliar speculation as well as ventures Malaysia as a steady and tranquil country. Malaysia's record in peacekeeping tasks under the UN is a declaration of its commitment in doing the command of the worldwide local area in progressing worldwide harmony and security. At the UN and other worldwide fora, Malaysia will proceed to take part in the considerations and endeavors toward finding answers for different worldwide issues effectively. Malaysia will go on with the standards of commitment and participation instead of neutrality and one-sided activity. As far as specialized collaboration with other emerging nations, Malaysia has worked with different nations through the sharing of its insight and information through different international strategy systems. These incorporate the Malaysian Specialized Collaboration Program (MTCP) and through linkages, for example, the Langkawi Worldwide Discourse, respective helpful help as well as through its public tact programs. As a country with an enormous Muslim larger part, Malaysia likewise gives significance to the fortitude of the Ummah and the soul of collaboration among the Association of Islamic Collaboration (OIC). Malaysia's status as an emerging country makes it basic for the country to connect effectively in the Neutral Development (NAM), the Region, gathering of 77 (G77), Creating Eight (D8), Asia Center East Discourse (AMED), Far East Asia Latin America Collaboration (FEALAC), Indian Sea Edge Affiliation (IORA), Asia Europe Meeting (ASEM) and Asia Pacific Financial Participation (APEC). Malaysia additionally advocates the "Succeed thy neighbor" strategy to improve financial relations and collaboration with its adjoining nations through Brunei-Indonesia-Malaysia-the Phillippines East ASEAN Development Region (BIMP-EAGA), Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Development Triangle (IMTGT) and different elements. In accordance with the goals of advancing and safeguarding Malaysia's inclinations abroad, an organization of 106 strategic missions in 84 nations as well as one companionship and exchange focus have been laid out. The strategic missions include

Government offices, High Commissions, Departments General and Offices. In responding to the complexity in global affairs and extending international relations, Malaysia's direct will keep on being directed by the standards of regard for autonomy, power, regional honesty and non-impedance in the issues of different countries, serene settlement of questions, tranquil concurrence and common advantage in relations.

3.6 Change in Approach Consultation in Foreign Policy Formulation

The era of the patriarchal government, which believed it knew best for the people and had everything in its power, has passed. People are today better educated and, as a result, more aware of their social obligations. The world is extremely connected, and information can freely move across boundaries, raising global awareness of events, problems, and ideas. As a result, more and more governments are coming to understand how crucial it is to obtain consensus from the general public or specific stakeholders through consultation before implementing any policy. So in this change approach to consultation in policy, the government needs to understand policy consultation qualitatively. Any rules for policy consultation must be able to serve as a channel for communication or a tool for managing stakeholders during the policy-making process. It is foolish to implement policy papers that have multiple unresolved problems. Not only does it rob the government of its good intentions, but it also causes resource waste. The fundamental difficulty in resolving this is the lack of thorough documentation of the methods and processes involved in creating policies, which leaves significant gaps in the strategy or approach used. Second, very little is known regarding the volume and quality of the exchanges that took place during the engagement between public officials and other stakeholders. As a result, policy reviewers will find it challenging to comprehend a policy when they examine and analyze it in the future. what

actually happened during the procedure and the reasons behind its creation. The discussion of the aforementioned policy example suggests that the mechanism of the nation's policymaking process is where the conflicts and difficulties of policy formation reside. The engagement procedure inside the policymaking process appears to have a gap. The study also reveals a number of strategies for controlling the stakeholders during the consultation process. Significantly, the research integrates the two key characteristics discussed above into the negotiation-based policymaking framework.

Opening Stage

Two key concepts that were practiced during the sessions were (a) handling people's problems, according to the policy participants. According to the policy participants in the study, there are three main issues that negotiating parties typically encounter. The first is an issue with communication, which the findings recommended using questions to help the other person address and communicate needs and interest. The subsequent issue is dealing with feelings, by which the course of exchange itself might make both good and pessimistic sentiments. Thirdly, figuring out the arbitrator's discernment. In the review, members showed a few techniques in overseeing discernment, to be specific by dealing with their own feelings to be more responsive and open, other than permitting a chance to legitimize the discernment laid out. Furthermore (b) keeping up with relationships. Because they believed it effectively facilitated the interaction, participants seemed to appreciate the value of the relationships established between the parties during the session.

Phase of Discussion

For that reason, two significant standards are embraced, which are (a) distinguishing interest. The participants demonstrated their comprehension of the significance of understanding the interests of other parties in order to improve negotiation, in which both

negotiators must pursue the reasoning and motivations of the other. Also (b) overseeing interest in which one of the partners commented that interest sharing is dependent upon the need of the conversation.

Closing Stage

Two components were removed from the members' inputs at the end stage, specifically (a) assessment of elective arrangement. The members featured the last show where all choices proposed by each gathering were accumulated. Participants stated that the results from each group were almost identical, indicating that they were arguing over the same issues. (ii) arrangement responsibility. The pitch is the understanding that on the off chance that all gatherings honor the responsibilities they have made. This was evident from the participants' responses, which suggested that the government should not only consider but also put their ideas into action.²²In other words, the public authority of New Malaysia will adopt a more consultative strategy in the detailing of its international strategy. That is why new Malaysia was created. The Consultative Council (CCFP) provides its members with an opportunity to express their opinions and contribute to the process of developing foreign policy that is consistent with our national interests and has been set up by agents of assorted foundations. In the process of putting our foreign policy into action, the creation of the CCFP follows a Syura-like open and consultative approach. It is hoped that the CCFP will be able to offer useful suggestions and insights from the various points of view of the stakeholders. MOFA will routinely recognize and connect with important specialists and partners relying upon issues, to guarantee that international strategy choices are taken after careful thought of its conceivable effect on the country. In addition, MOFA will actively engage the media to

²² F, Arifin.N, Othman, "Policy Consultation in Malaysia Public Service." JOSTIP, June 1,2021.60-Article Text-168-126-10-20210628.pdf.

increase public interest in foreign policy issues. These endeavors are taken to build public's mindfulness in international concerns and ideally will energize public talk and cooperation in international strategy definition.²³

– Proactive in Foreign Policy Conduct

The New Malaysia will undertake a more proactive strategy in identifying international issues that have direct impact on the national interests. Further, the country's foreign policy practitioners will endeavor to engage more actively in the processes to shape opinions and build consensus. Such activities can be taken in the following ways:

- to participate by making decisions, including to lead discussions and/or sponsor resolutions in organizations or frameworks where Malaysia is already a member.
- to engage and participate in the discourse to influence decisions, in organizations or frameworks where Malaysia is not a member.
- to participate by shaping the discourse in emerging issues, in which international awareness is still low.

Despite its size, Malaysia can still play an influential role in determining international laws, conventions, rules and norms. For example, Malaysia should strive to be an example for democratic and economic development for other similar countries. The New Malaysia should play an active role in setting and shaping international laws, rules, conventions and structures in areas of international governance whether in politics, security or economy.

²³ “PRESS STATEMENT - FORMATION OF THE CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL ON FOREIGN POLICY.” Ministry of Foreign affairs Malaysia, <https://www.kln.gov.my/web/guest/-/press-statement-formation-of-the-consultative-council-on-foreign-policy#:~:text=The%20Consultative%20Council%20serves%20as,of%20implementing%20our%20foreign%20policy.> Accessed September 3, 2021.

– Non-Alignment

Malaysia will cooperate with all nations to take part on an equivalent premise, without strain from any significant power. Malaysia needs to have great and commonly gainful relations with all nations, including the significant powers. In its relations with these, Malaysia will rehearse the neutral strategy and approach. Malaysia will review its involvement in international organizations and prioritize organizations that can assist the country with achieving its international strategy objectives, in view of its public advantages. The UN will stay the critical association in Malaysia will seek after its international strategy plan. As far as the substance of its approach, more prominent accentuation and noticeable quality will be made in UN associations and worldwide designs that arrangement with issues of good administration, common liberties, environmental change and the SDGs. Malaysia will likewise be more vocal in advocating UN change. In such manner, Malaysia's international strategy will zero in on the best way to make the associations more proficient and viable. For instance, Malaysia recommends that the utilization of blackball should be upheld by no less than two super durable individuals and three non-long-lasting individuals from the Board, as well as a straightforward larger part of the Overall Get together (GA). As one of the founding members of ASEAN, Malaysia attributes to the central role of the regional body in promoting security and peace in the region. The ASEAN Provincial Gathering (ARF), for instance, is a significant part of the local security design. Albeit the Asia Pacific Financial Participation (APEC) and ASEAN + 3 spotlight more on monetary collaboration, they also by implication influence provincial security. This is on the grounds that financial flourishing is essential to the harmony and solidness of the locale. Existing provincial components will accordingly keep on being significant in tending to the conventional dangers going up against Malaysia. Malaysia will continue focusing on ASEAN as the main regional association. Malaysia, as

one of the establishing individuals, will play a rising position of authority in ASEAN. In this association, Malaysia will advance a change plan that would make ASEAN more productive and successful. Significantly, ASEAN can smooth out and lessen the quantity of its roughly 1,200 gatherings yearly to a considerably more reasonable number.

– ASEAN and South-South Cooperation

Inside the ASEAN setting, Malaysia will use the ASEAN Institute of Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR), among others. Malaysia will likewise advance the job of the Southeast Asia Regional Center for Counter-Terrorism (SEARCCT) as an ASEAN project. A more extensive and more profound type of joint effort with different substances inside the district and past would be sought after forcefully via SEARCCT. Also, South Collaboration will be given restored accentuation. The New Malaysia will be more vocal in supporting the privileges of little and less created nations of the Worldwide South and will start to lead the pack on joint efforts among the Southern nations. Malaysia will do this in different multilateral groups of which it is a part, including the UN, the Region of Countries, NAM, and others. Likewise, Malaysia will reexamine its current help programs, for example, the Malaysian Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP), to completely improve its true capacity. In such a manner, Malaysia will hope to make another visitors Program for preparing another age of pioneers from agreeable nations of the South. Connected with the shift towards the advancement and security of common freedoms in its foreign policy, the New Malaysia will likewise be more dynamic in philanthropic missions in post-struggle or post-debacle circumstances all over the planet. The public authority will take on a system to prepare the important Malaysian CSOs with the right abilities and assets to build their abilities to work in post-struggle or post-disaster zones.

– Countering Terror and Violent Extremism

Another exceptionally complicated issue is terrorism, which is intensified by the utilization of complex and state of the art innovation in the spread of its extreme belief system and planning fear assaults. This represents a greater test to states all over the planet in following and dodging fear monger exercises. In their enemy of dread endeavors, a few legislatures face a reaction from their own residents, since they are viewed as being overbearing and conflicting with the assurance of individual freedom and opportunity. Malaysia will keep on being areas of strength for a functioning member in worldwide endeavors to battle psychological oppression and savage radicalism, in the entirety of its structures and signs. Malaysia solidly accepts that psychological oppression has no connection to a particular religion. The danger of radicalism and brutal fanaticism exists in any religion and local area. Settling the issue of terrorism requires solid and certifiable political will. It likewise requires a comprehensive game plan, clear and orderly line of power, the successful contribution of non-state entertainers, as well as the straightforward sharing of data.

3.7 Actors in Foreign policy

As has already been mentioned, globalization has increased worldwide connectivity. While the international arena has historically been the realm of the elite, more and more individuals are now engaging in it and having an impact on their countries' foreign policies. Additionally, this applies to Malaysia. Malaysians have been traveling more recently, whether for work, pleasure, or education. More global markets are being explored by Malaysian enterprises for trade and investment. In the opposite direction, Malaysia has seen an increase in the number of foreign tourists, business travelers, and students. Foreign investments have

increased as well. Foreign affairs are no longer the sole purview of the chosen few in today's digitally connected world.

-Government: The Public power substance insinuates the people who are officially approve to circle back to global procedure. At the astoundingly top is His Excellency the Yang di-Pertuan Agong, the Leader of Malaysia. As the Highest point of the Malaysian Express, the power and position to coordinate relations with various states rests with His Greatness. In a laid-out government system, His Greatness gives the power of the association of the country, which consolidates its external relations, to the Boss, of which the State chief is the Head. In the Official branch or the Department, the Yang di-Pertuan Agong on the direction of the Top state pioneer, names the Minister of Global worries to take care of external endeavors. The Minister of Global worries heads the Help of Worldwide worries (MOFA) or normally known as Wisma Putra in Malaysia. He is helped by a gathering of master government employees or mediators. Among them are Agents or High Justices of Malaysia to countries all over the place, where Malaysia has spread out their tenant key presence. These Delegates and High Bosses are ensured by His Majesty the Yang di-Pertuan Agong as his couriers to those countries. Furthermore, Malaysia moreover approves a part of its capable mediators as representatives to worldwide affiliations like the Bound together Nations. Notwithstanding the authority discretionary specialists portrayed over, the public authority has additionally started new structures inside the public authority framework to expand the support of non-government partners in international strategy plan. The main drive is the Consultative Board on International strategy (CCFP) laid out by MOFA to request perspectives, bits of knowledge and proposition connecting with international strategy from agents of various foundations. Furthermore, MOFA has proposed to set up a Parliamentary Select Council on International concerns. The two systems are supposed to upgrade international strategy

detailing and direction by guaranteeing sees from a more extensive extent of the Malaysian public are viewed as all the while.

-Political: Foreign relations are impacted by political actors as well, particularly when they forge connections with organizations of a similar nature outside. For instance, relationships between political parties can have a significant impact on foreign policy, particularly when those parties' leaders are also in charge of the governments of their respective nations. In these situations, it is simple to translate agreements reached at the party level into the various administrations' policies. Parliamentarians from other nations also create associations, clubs, or caucuses based on certain traits in common. In order to further particular agendas, they can actively participate in some international frameworks. On particular subjects, they can also influence the consensus and ideas in their social groups. In fact, MPs, including those from Malaysia, frequently go to international gatherings and conferences where they interact with others and talk about a variety representative from other nations with interest.

-Civil Society: As previously said, modern communication and media technologies make it simpler for individuals from other nations to band together to address any shared concern. Due to their well-recognized influence on international environmental issues and human rights, organizations like Greenpeace and Amnesty International have gained worldwide significance. Similar to many other regions of the world, Malaysia has experienced positive civil society growth during the past few decades. The Coalition for Clean and Fair Elections, or BERSIH, has been very successful in mobilizing support from Malaysians throughout the world to elevate the prominence of the movement. There are as a matter-of-fact various other Common Society Associations (CSOs), that are dynamic in the Malaysian political and social scenes, and have networks or are dynamic abroad too. Their areas of activism are boundless, from political, strict, helpful to social and human expression. Despite the fact that their

corporations are for the most part at individuals-to-individuals level, they also can possibly affect Malaysia's unfamiliar relations as exemplified by the BERSIH experience.

CHAPTER 4 FOREIGN POLICY REFORM (NEW MALAYSIA)

4.1. Empower of Ministry of foreign affair

Despite the benefits achieved by globalization, especially progress in correspondences and transportation prompting more prominent power between state relations, the viable directness of discretion remains the separating factor that recognizes fruitful nations from unremarkable ones. In that capacity, nations actually append huge need to the proceeded with improvement and upgrade of ability in their particular unfamiliar services, close by guaranteeing satisfactory, reliable and reasonable subsidizing for projects and exercises outfitted towards the advancement and assurance of their public advantages through international strategy. This administration will take the necessary organizational steps to guarantee that MOFA consists of top-tier diplomats. A Knowledge Culture must first be ingrained in the foreign service officers before this can be accomplished. Three guiding concepts serve as the foundation for this knowledge-based culture:

- Knowledge and those who possess it will be given the greatest level of priority.
- The Ministry will prioritize the constant pursuit of knowledge at all levels.
- Decisions and actions will follow the principle of informed decision-making.

It will be done in order to foster the growth of a knowledge culture inside MOFA. Knowledge Management (KM) best practices will be put into action. It will concentrate on three essential elements: people, technology, and processes. The Ministry's explicit and tacit knowledge, including institutional memory, will both be used by MOFA. By putting KM into practice at

MOFA through targeted, all-encompassing, and methodical knowledge management activities, the ministry will be able to grow naturally and eventually turn into a learning organization. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs bears the command and obligation to direct Malaysia's unfamiliar relations with different nations. This incorporates matters connected with political relations, monetary undertakings, security matters, and social and social advancement. The Service is equipped towards satisfying its job and works:

- Maintain, safeguard and advance Malaysia's power, regional honesty and public interests;
- Screen and examine provincial and worldwide turns of events;
- Foster international strategy and exhort the public authority on foreign relations
- Direction and lead the public authority's situation on worldwide issues with different Services and Organizations
- Work with different Services and Offices in their global commitment;
- State and defend the government's positions and foreign policy; what's more,
- Offer consular types of assistance and help.²⁴ The MOFA's human capital development will be given priority by this administration due to the central significance and role played by MOFA personnel in the creation and implementation of Malaysia's foreign policy. The following initiatives will be taken to improve the skills of MOFA officials:
 - train, develop, and nurture foreign policy specialists in specific fields;
 - promote English proficiency and mastery throughout the Ministry;
 - develop proficiency in third languages (Arabic, Mandarin, French, Russian, and Spanish),

²⁴ Ministry of Foreign affairs Malaysia, "Role and Function." Ministry of Foreign affairs Malaysia, <https://www.kln.gov.my/web/guest/role-function>.

- especially for officials posted abroad; and improve and strengthen the officials' negotiating abilities.

The government will increase financing for the Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR) and make it a premier diplomatic training facility in the area to ensure a steady and sustainable supply of qualified diplomats. So, MOFA established The Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations, or IDFR. For short, The Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations, or IDFR was founded in 1991 and has served as the Malaysian Ministry of Foreign Affairs' training division since 2004. The Institute educates Malaysian diplomats in the fields of diplomacy, international relations, soft skills, and foreign languages. It is conveniently located in Kuala Lumpur. Additionally, it provides training in areas including diplomatic training, strategic analysis, and crisis management to diplomats and other officials from recipient nations through the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme as well as the ASEAN Secretariat.²⁵ The notion of outreach or public diplomacy is another crucial component for empowering MOFA. A crucial demand of the contemporary era of digital diplomacy is for MOFA to engage and be seen engaged with all of its partners and stakeholders given the nearly instantaneous reporting of news and events in the internet age. In order to maximize outreach to all facets of Malaysian society as well as outside partners and stakeholders, MOFA will make use of the most recent media technology, including social media platforms. MOFA will improve channels for two-way communication with the public:

- organize frequent dialogues, seminars,
- forums with stakeholders on particular issues, regularly highlight Malaysia's distinctive cultural identity

²⁵ Ministry of Foreign affairs Malaysia, "Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR)." Ministry of Foreign affairs Malaysia. <https://www.kln.gov.my/web/guest/institute-of-diplomacy-and-foreign-relations-idfr>.

-contribution to the international community, increase collaboration with academic and cultural institutions (universities, cultural groups, think tanks)

-engage in sports diplomacy, among other things. Also, Malaysia has Multilateral Memberships to organize the international.

So the Ministry of foreign affairs has involved Multilateral Memberships such as United Nation, ASEAN, APEC, IORA...etc.²⁶

4.2 Economic Diplomacy and the Blue Economy

Malaysia has consistently bought into the approach of progressive trade liberalization. New Malaysia will keep on looking for further developed market access for its labor and products, and simultaneously draw in FDI to support monetary development. The public authority will keep on addressing levy and non-tax estimates in endeavors to additionally work with and advance exchange, as well as to more readily embrace venture and monetary turn of events. The objective keeps on being to improve the seriousness of Malaysia's products and to construct limits in unambiguous designated regions through specialized participation and coordinated effort. As an open economy, Malaysia will keep on supporting endeavors to make a fair and open worldwide exchanging climate. New Malaysia will likewise proceed to take part and contribute effectively to guarantee that exchange guidelines and measures are fair and adjusted for all. The exchange debate between the U.S. also, China has raised as of late. It is normal that most economies, including ASEAN Part States, will be hit by the rising exchange battle between these superpowers, because of the worldwide

²⁶ "MALAYSIA'S MEMBERSHIP IN INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS."
Forum-Asia,
https://hrasean.forum-asia.org/wp-content/uploads/files/documents/Malaysia_Membership_in_International_Regional_Organizations.pdf.

market's interconnected production network. Hence, Malaysia and other ASEAN part states should be ready to deal with the adverse consequences and adjust to change. New Malaysia anticipates the numerous open doors that this worldwide dilemma might bring to the shores of the region. Efforts are expected to maintain rules-based, open, and unbiased stages to guarantee inconsistent exchange connections don't slide into new types of imperialism, as well as to forestall the utilization of exchange by significant economies as an approach to forcing requests on different states.

4.3 Enhancing inter-agency collaboration

Although each ministry and government agency have its own particular area of obligations, their extent of work generally covers. In this interconnected present-day world, government organizations experience an ever-increasing number of cross-cutting issues that require the consideration of a few government offices. This is particularly evident with MOFA, which handles issues of outside undertakings. Predictable with the expansive command shared with MOFA by the Government Constitution in advancing and safeguarding Malaysia's inclinations abroad, MOFA will put forth attempts to reinforce the cooperation between significant services and organizations in the detailing and execution of international strategy, with MOFA assuming the focal part. Basically, MOFA through its different discretionary missions all over the planet organizes and directs all endeavors with the sole motivation behind shielding the public interests, especially in safeguarding the nation's security, monetary prosperity and great name. There are various services and government organizations that have a critical presence abroad like MITI, MINDEF, MOTAC, MATRADE, MIDA, Movement Office, Schooling Malaysia and a couple of others. Every one of the said services and organizations has its own particular command. The presence of these

organizations abroad is under one set up that is the discretionary mission of Malaysia, albeit each has an alternate command to independently accomplish explicit targets. Under Sistem Pentadbiran Kerajaan Malaysia di Luar Negeri - SPKM which was as of late overhauled in 2018, all workplaces of the services and offices abroad are overseen as parts of the political missions of Malays ahead by the Representatives, High Chiefs or Emissaries General. This framework mirrors the solitary reason and principal objective of their presence in the unfamiliar land, which is to secure and advance Malaysia's public advantages in their particular areas of obligations. MOFA joint effort with different services and offices, has begun an activity to survey and defend the portrayal of these workplaces abroad, determined to track down the most practical game plan. The cross-cutting nature of strategic work is particularly obvious in the space of global exchange. With regards to financial discretion, MOFA and MITI will build its coordinated effort and further smooth out their exercises. Likewise, as respect to safeguard and security issues, MOFA will additionally fortify its collaboration and coordination with MINDEF and the Service of Home Undertakings. MOFA will keep on holding the Between Organization Joint Board Meeting (IJCM) consistently to work on the coordination and level of collaboration among services and organizations. Such a coordination system will likewise be laid out at Malaysian strategic missions all over the globe.

4.4 Increasing public and civil society participants

The Government emphatically trusts in the worth of meeting in the detailing of international strategy. This is in accordance with the soul of a majority rules system, by which political pioneers are constantly considered responsible to individuals. Public meeting is a method for guaranteeing great administration since it implies expanding straightforwardness

and responsibility in the dynamic cycle. Hence, under this organization, there will be an organization between the state, business area and common society. This will guarantee that perspectives and experiences of all pertinent partners will be thought about in approach making. As respects international concerns, this organization will start the foundation of a Parliamentary Select Board of trustees. The Parliament, which is a definitive voice addressing individuals, ought to have a body consisting of a select gathering of parliamentarians who are knowledgeable and inspired by international strategy matters, to examine worldwide issues that affect the province's public advantages. Its considerations can give MOFA important experiences in graphing the course of Malaysia's international strategy. Parliamentarians are likewise urged to lay out assemblies and relationships with their unfamiliar partners. This will give Malaysian parliamentarians the chance to trade perspectives and gain global bits of knowledge, especially in regards to worldwide issues of interest. They can likewise use the gatherings to push a specific worldwide plan as per Malaysia's inclinations. As a feature of this organization's procedure to increment public cooperation international strategy - m a ruler, MOFA has laid out the Consultative Board on International strategy in October 2018 following the endorsement given by the Bureau on tenth October 2018. This is a huge step towards laying out an extremely durable consultative system on international strategy, containing specialists in different fields. MOFA will likewise do whatever it may take to advance the improvement of an energetic local area composed of researchers, notice and professionals of international strategy, to empower the free progression of trades of thoughts on international strategy. Toward this end, MOFA will outfit existing formal and casual groupings, for instance, the Relationship of Previous Malaysian Diplomats (AFMA), scholastics in significant fields, corporate individuals with global interests as well as experts with worldwide openness. Every one of them can contribute important bits of knowledge in

light of their own circle of skill and encounters. Malaysia will likewise try to energize commitment from such networks at the ASEAN and worldwide levels. One more helpful discussion to connect with general society is through the UN Relationship of Malaysia (UNAM). MOFA will work together with UNAM and other comparable bodies, for example, understudies and youth associations in working with the exercises of the Model Joined Countries and other worldwide projects among youth and understudies.

Conclusion and Recommendation

The New Malaysia will continue and maintain in order to pursue the core principles of the country's foreign policy with the renewed focus on certain key areas, and some new priorities to take Malaysia forward into ASEAN 2025 and the Fourth Industrial Revolution. Among the other pillars of the frame are strengthening the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; enhancing cooperation and collaboration with other ministries and agencies; and strengthening public participation in foreign policy. What's significant about the frame is that it's intended to be seen through the lens of a developed, progressive, and mature republic. No longer must we be constrained by the impediment of a character for being a kleptocracy. The Foreign Policy Framework commits the New Malaysia to being visionary, rather than reactive, and therefore lays out three confines in which it can contribute proactively and constructively to the global community. Alternatively, where Malaysia does not have such a capacity, Malaysia will play to shape opinions, convert, and influence converse on applicable and salutary issues. And third, on unborn and forthcoming trends, Malaysia will start shaping the converse through allowed leadership, dialogue, and debate, and by contributing ideas through literature and other digital means.

This foreign policy reform is a drive of the new government to explain its international strategy, accentuation and course. It does not imply that this organization is making an update to Malaysia's international strategy. This can not be the case since Malaysia's wide public interests remain generally something similar. Nonetheless, New Malaysia will embrace a few changes in approach and needs, which will convert into specific shifts in strategy course. As far as approach, the New Malaysia under the PH organization tries to assume a proactive role and give authority in supporting specific issues of interest. As far as accentuation, New

Malaysia will focus on issues of imbalance, decency and equity, as well as a vote based system, opportunity, common liberties and law and order. These standards will go about as significant advisers for the bearing of New Malaysia's international strategy. This International strategy change of the New Malaysia is a report on international strategy that is individuals driven. It is ready through a consultative cycle including numerous partners. Hence, this Structure, generally, addresses the goals of individuals who decided in favor of the New Malaysia. This Structure embraces the way of thinking of the PH organization and the soul of its GE14 Statement, especially those that worry straightforwardness, responsibility and great administration. Because of restricted assets, it is fundamental that the public authority select and zero in on some significant issue regions. The international strategy needs of this organization will show a few changes contrasted with that of the past organization. These progressions in need are directed by the ways of thinking of Pakatan Harapan and will decide the shift in course of international strategy of the New Malaysia. The worldwide field, where international strategy execution happens, is a profoundly intricate framework. Late worldwide patterns demonstrate an undeniably difficult global climate, wherein Malaysia's international strategy entertainers need to work. It is consequently fundamental that the nation reinforces its international strategy hardware through better organization coordinated effort and limit working in human and different assets. While the public authority will try to accomplish the country's international strategy targets completely, there are many elements that will impact the degree of its prosperity. As featured, the global framework is exceptionally complicated and has become progressively trying for international strategy entertainers. At last, the achievement can be measured by means of the security of Malaysia's public advantages. This achievement can be comprehensively appeared from the crystals of safety, financial and personality. Progress as far as security implies that the country's regional

trustworthiness is safeguarded and the nation stays tranquil and not at battle with some other country. Progress as far as financial interests is for the most part assessed through development in trades, FDI and other applicable pointers. Outcome in the security and advancement of character interests might be less substantial however can in any case be assessed by means of worldwide impressions about the country through media inclusion, determination of the nation or its agents to significant situations in global fora or bodies, as well as places of the country in esteemed and sound global rankings, among others.

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