

RUSSIAN INTEREST ON DEVELOPING TRAIN STATION PROJECT IN EAST BORNEO 2015

ABSTRACT

Railway construction project in East Kalimantan by Russia is the largest project ever undertaken by Russia and Indonesia. Russia is willing to facilitate this project financially, technology, and provide an opportunity for Indonesian students to study about railways in Russia. Russian's focus of cooperation usually in the fields of defense and security or political, but this time Russia chose cooperation with Indonesia in the field of infrastructure. This becomes an interesting discussion to find out Russia's interests in infrastructure development cooperation with Indonesia.

After a long time Russia is only focused on the European region, Russia realize considerable potential that Asian country has and began to change its direction. Russia has interest on strategic and economic advancement owned by Asian region, to show its influence in Asia, which is often called Pivot To Asia. Indonesia as the informal leader of ASEAN made Russia interest to build a good relations with Indonesia. In addition, Indonesia has strategic location and has a wealth of natural resources and huge energy resources, making Indonesia as the right cooperation partners to strengthen its influence in Southeast Asian region.

Keywords: Railway, Russia, Indonesia, Asia, Pivot to Asia