

## ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini menganalisis implementasi diplomasi kemanusiaan Amerika Serikat dalam menangani buruh anak di sektor pertambangan kobalt di Republik Demokratik Kongo melalui proyek COTECCO (2018–2022). Isu buruh anak di RDK merupakan persoalan hak asasi manusia yang mendesak, dengan sekitar 40.000 anak berusia antara 6 hingga 18 tahun, dilaporkan bekerja di tambang kobalt artisanal skala kecil dalam kondisi yang membahayakan. Studi ini menggunakan pendekatan deskriptif kualitatif dengan metode pengumpulan data yaitu tinjauan pustaka melalui analisis dokumen resmi, publikasi organisasi internasional, buku, serta literatur akademik. Melalui enam instrumen utama yaitu kerangka hukum, advokasi, kampanye publik, pembangunan kapasitas, alih teknologi, dan pendanaan, AS berhasil membangun sistem pemantauan buruh anak (CLMRS), memperkuat kapasitas kelembagaan, serta mendorong perubahan persepsi masyarakat. Hasilnya, program mencatat penurunan 17% pekerja anak di lokasi pilot, reintegrasi 2.418 anak ke sekolah, serta pelatihan bagi 750 aparat lokal. Meski menunjukkan hasil positif, tantangan berlanjut berupa keterbatasan jangkauan wilayah, lemahnya kapasitas lokal, dan keberlanjutan program pasca-pendanaan. Penelitian ini menegaskan pentingnya pendekatan diplomasi kemanusiaan yang adaptif, holistik, dan berkelanjutan untuk memastikan penghapusan buruh anak secara sistemik di RDK.

**Kata Kunci:** diplomasi kemanusiaan; buruh anak; pertambangan kobalt; COTECCO; Republik Demokratik Kongo.

## **ABSTRACT**

*This study analyses the implementation of United States humanitarian diplomacy in addressing child labour in the cobalt mining sector in the Democratic Republic of the Congo through the COTECCO project (2018–2022). Child labour in the DRC represents a pressing human rights issue, with approximately 40,000 children aged between 6 and 18 reported to be working in small-scale artisanal cobalt mines under hazardous conditions. This research adopts a descriptive qualitative approach, employing literature review as the data collection method through the analysis of official documents, publications from international organisations, books, and academic literature. Through six key instruments: legal frameworks, advocacy, public campaigns, capacity building, technology transfer, and funding, the US succeeded in establishing a Child Labour Monitoring and Remediation System (CLMRS), strengthening institutional capacity, and encouraging changes in community perception. As a result, the programme recorded a 17% reduction in child labour at pilot sites, reintegrated 2,418 children into education, and provided training to 750 local officials. Despite these positive outcomes, ongoing challenges remain, including limited geographical reach, weak local capacity, and programme sustainability beyond the funding period. This study highlights the importance of a humanitarian diplomacy approach that is adaptive, holistic, and sustainable to ensure the systemic eradication of child labour in the DRC.*

**Keywords:** humanitarian diplomacy; child labour; cobalt mining; COTECCO; Democratic Republic of the Congo.