

## ABSTRAK

Skripsi ini menganalisis alasan di balik penguatan aliansi pertahanan Jepang-Amerika Serikat pada era pemerintahan Fumio Kishida dengan menggunakan teori *Balance of Threat* Stephen M. Walt. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa Jepang memandang China sebagai ancaman utama terhadap keamanan nasionalnya karena meningkatnya kekuatan agregat, kedekatan geografis terutama di Laut Cina Timur, kapabilitas ofensif melalui modernisasi PLA, serta intensi agresif yang tercermin dalam aktivitas militer dan perubahan status quo secara paksa. Persepsi ancaman tersebut mendorong Jepang melakukan strategi *balancing* baik secara internal melalui peningkatan anggaran pertahanan hingga 2% PDB, pengembangan *counterstrike capability*, modernisasi sistem persenjataan, serta penguatan komando operasi lintas domain, maupun secara eksternal melalui pendalaman kerja sama pertahanan dengan Amerika Serikat mencakup interoperabilitas militer, keamanan siber, ruang angkasa, dan keamanan maritim. Penelitian ini menyimpulkan bahwa transformasi keamanan Jepang di era Kishida merupakan respons rasional terhadap dinamika geopolitik yang semakin kompleks sekaligus memperkuat posisi aliansi Jepang-Amerika Serikat sebagai pilar stabilitas di Indo-Pasifik.

**Kata kunci: Jepang, Amerika Serikat, Fumio Kishida, *Balance of Threat*, aliansi pertahanan, China.**

## **ABSTRACT**

*This thesis analyses the reasons behind the strengthening of the Japan-United States defence alliance during Fumio Kishida's administration using Stephen M. Wait's Balance of Threat theory. The results of the study show that Japan views China as the main threat to its national security due to its increasing aggregate strength, geographical proximity, especially in the East China Sea, offensive capabilities through PLA modernisation, and aggressive intentions reflected in military activities and forced changes to the status quo. This perception of threat has prompted Japan to pursue a balancing strategy, both internally through increasing its defence budget to 2% of GDP, developing counterstrike capabilities, modernising its weaponry system, and strengthening cross-domain operational command, and externally through deepening defence cooperation with the United States, including military interoperability, cyber security, space, and maritime security. This study concludes that Japan's security transformation in the Kishida era is a rational response to increasingly complex geopolitical dynamics while strengthening the Japan-United States alliance as a pillar of stability in the Indo-Pacific.*

**Keywords:** *Japan, United States, Fumio Kishida, Balance of Threat, defence alliance, China.*