Budapest International Research and Critics Institute-Journal (BIRCI-Journal)
Humanities and Social Sciences
ISSN 2615-3076 Online)
ISSN 2615-1715 (Print)
www.bircu-journal.com/index.php/birci
Budapest Institute

The Competitive Intelligence Analysis of Indonesian National Resilience in the Competition of Alternative Energy Resources

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Abstract

Mastery of energy resources cannot be separated from the state's efforts to strengthen its defense. The shift in the use of fossil energy into alternative and renewable energy sources has created new competition between countries in the world. Again the US has an important role in the competition, but this time the main competitor is the PRC. Using a qualitative approach with a literature study method, this paper tries to provide an analysis from the point of view of competitive intelligence in looking at the context of great power competition on the issue of mastery of alternative energy resources, as well as its impact on Indonesia's position as a country that has a wealth of energy resources. The results of the discussion show that the shift in energy use in the future is strongly influenced by the issue of climate change, investment factors from developed countries in the development of alternative energy resource technologies and industrial factors that have begun to prioritize the use of resources other than fossils. Competition or competition between the US and China will still determine the continuity of alternative energy development in the future. Meanwhile, Indonesia as a country that has reserves of resources needed in the development of new energy will play a strategic role in the competition for mastery of energy resources, especially electricity.

Keywords
competitive intelligence; great power competition; energy; competitive advantage; National defense

I. Introduction

The potential of Indonesia's defense forces in 2022 is very interesting. Based on the GFP Annual Ranking (2022) Indonesia is in 15th position on the Global Firepower Index ('PwrIndx') of countries around the world, with categories ranging from military strength, economy to logistical and geographic capacity (GFP, 2022). However, military power that relies on the use of the Main Equipment of the Indonesian Armed Forces (Alutsista) cannot be separated from the availability of energy as the main driver. Without the availability of sufficient energy, it can be said that Alutsista cannot carry out its function in national defense.

Seeing the importance and vitality of the existence of energy in today's global competition, it becomes an energy resource as the main material for the occurrence of "war" or competition between countries in the world. This competition has been going on for a long time, starting from the mastery of mineral energy to now developing into mineral energy for the needs of electrical resources. The competition map cannot be separated from the world power pole which involves the superpower United States (US). The difference lies in the US competitors in the energy “war”. Where global power competition in the cold war era in the

70s, the Soviet Union (Russia) was the main competitor of the US, currently global competition is colored by the presence of the power of the People's Republic of China (RRC). With an amazing increase in the national economy, accompanied by huge demographic potential and national pride, making China position itself as the main challenger to the US in the current great power competition.

The issue of energy is certainly no stranger to competition between countries in the world. Starting from the wars that occurred in countries such as Iraq, Libya, Afghanistan and other countries that cannot be separated from the issue of controlling fossil energy resources. Until now, it has shifted to competition to develop renewable energy or the concept of green energy that is happening today. Many countries in the world today are starting to switch and adopt the concept of fossil energy into this new energy concept. For example in 2021, Queensland, Australia inaugurated a new project worth over US$1 billion to double the World's green hydrogen production capacity (Hosier, 2021).

Other facts also show a shift in energy development, as reported by BloombergNEF, in 2020 the world has allocated US$ 501.3 billion for the transition of energy to renewable energy such as electric vehicles and the development of other technologies that support reducing dependence on the use of fossil energy.(Sustainable, 2021). Interestingly, this shift in energy use eventually resulted in a new "war" over the mineral energy resources needed by this new energy which was called more environmentally friendly. Meanwhile, Indonesia, with its huge reserves of energy resources, certainly has a strategic position in the midst of global power competition in the mastery of green energy.

Based on this background, this paper discusses several issues related to energy control competition as follows:

1. How is the great power competition of the United States (US) vs. the People's Republic of China (PRC) in the competition for energy resources?
2. How is Indonesia's competitive advantage in the midst of competition for control of the world's energy resources (minerals)?

II. Review of Literature

2.1 Competitive Intelligence (CI)

Competitive Intelligence (CI) is often identified with industrial espionage or espionage activities, in a simple sense there is nothing wrong with this thinking, but it doesn't actually mean CI properly. CI refers to the search for knowledge and pre-knowledge of the overall business/market environment or competition that influences how further action is taken (Sharp, 2009; Amir et al., 2017). By definition, CI is a process in a dynamic and competitive situation in a business environment. Some definitions state that CI is a process by which an organization collects information about competitors and their competitive environment, with the aim of making the most appropriate plans and decisions related to efforts to improve performance (Wright et al., 2009). According to this definition CI can make better decision making and reduce the risk of bad decision making (Herring, 2007).

Other opinions are more or less the same in defining CI as an activity that actually involves developing a program systematically to capture, analyze and manage information and knowledge related to the external (and internal) environment in order to improve organizational decision making. Some argue that the focus of CI activities is more on understanding/viewing the external environment, but other opinions also say that CI includes an internal perspective as well (Liebowitz, 2006).

Furthermore, when it comes to processes, CI is an integrated and continuous series of activities (Bulley et al., 2014; Amir et al., 2017), activities or processes from CI include steps and structures that are implemented sequentially (De Pelsmacker et al. ., 2005; Amir et al., 2017). The stages or processes of CI activities generally include focus and planning, data collection, data analysis, communicating the results of the analysis, strengthening organizational awareness, and ending with the formation of organizational culture (Dishman & Calof, 2008; Saayman et al., 2008; Amir et al. al., 2017).

In the context of a country, like profit organizations in market competition, CI is also needed so that countries can prepare themselves from the concept of global power competition, which greatly affects the resilience of a country. CI is an important element in developing, monitoring, and adapting strategies based on internal and external factors(Liebowitz, 2006). So it can be said that CI analysis is very important in formulating strategic policies in the context of a country's international relations.

2.2 Great Power Competition

The concept of great power is based on the idea that in an international relationship (between countries) there will be an unequal distribution of power among sovereign countries. This unequal distribution of power causes differences between these countries in their ability to project that power over other countries (Efremova, 2019). Given this difference in the distribution of power, it is assumed that the global international system and its regional subsystems are formed due to interactions between large countries, which have their respective national interests, while at the same time small countries must accept the resulting balance of power and enforced rules of the game. by this great country.

Likewise in the context of energy control, competition for "control" and cooperation in energy resources has long been happening in the world. In the context of this research, the competition between the great powers in the world has shifted from the dominance of fossil energy to energy that is considered more environmentally friendly (green energy) which in this era is filled with the concept of electric power.

III. Research Methods

This article is a research with a qualitative approach and uses a literature study method. Literature study is a research method with a series of research activities through collecting library data, reading and taking notes, and managing research materials (Zed, 2008). Therefore, the data collection technique in this paper is to use secondary data in the form of documents and related literature. Then the object of research that becomes an observation is how Indonesia's position in the competition for energy resources is in the midst of the competence of superpowers in recent years.

IV. Discussion

4.1 External Factors: The Shift towards the Use of Alternative World Energy Resources

Considering that the CI approach in viewing competition is a continuous process in finding and managing information about competitors and the competitive environment (Wright et al., 2009), in this case the main information that needs to be understood relates to how the paradigm shift in the use of fossil energy resources towards use of alternative energy resources or renewable energy. Renewable energy is emphasized globally because of its potential to contribute greatly to economic development and sustainable energy development, as well as mitigation of climate change issues (Cai, et al., 2021). Many developed and

developing countries have begun to turn to the use of renewable energy instead of using fossil energy, which is exacerbated by environmental problems.

The issue of climate change and the transition to using more environmentally friendly energy has developed into a central issue that plays an important role in international politics. The importance of this issue for society is clearly seen in the failure of Donald Trump in the US Presidential election in 2020. Where in his political campaign that year, Trump several times stated that the climate change issue was a "hoax" or a trick by the PRC to defeat US supremacy. Trump's attitude or statement actually has a strong reason considering that the US is aware of the movement of PRC dominance in the control of critical mineral resources in the world to support alternative energy industries such as cobalt, nickel and other important minerals.

Although the attitudes and issues raised by Trump in his campaign have received support from oil business actors in the US, this issue has also become a weapon by his political opponents in the presidential election campaign. The US Democratic Party, which carries the former US Vice President, Joe Biden, actually used the issue of climate change to defeat Trump, which led to Biden's victory which was announced on November 11, 2020. Looking at Biden's stance on the use of alternative energy, it is certain that the policies of the elected US President will change, especially regarding the issue of climate change and will rejoin the Paris Charter to prioritize the use of environmentally friendly energy.

In addition to the issue of climate change, which encourages the acceleration of the shift in the use of fossil energy to alternative and renewable energy, there are several other factors that can be a catalyst for competition for alternative energy (electricity) and renewable energy in the future.

First, the large investments made by developed countries in the development of alternative energy technologies. As with other areas of life, technology is used to make changes, so also with the legal system as technology in making changes (Hartanto, 2020). Several developed countries have shown their seriousness in adapting renewable energy resources which of course are expected to provide great benefits in the future. As stated in the introduction, one example of a major investment in changing energy resources occurred in 2021, when Australia inaugurated a new project worth over US$1 billion to double the world's green hydrogen production capacity (Hosier, 2021).

Meanwhile, the PRC government in recent years has been aggressively promoting a revolution in energy production and consumption. The government and/or states in the PRC China are directing the adoption of clean energy through the so-called “Innovation Mission” program which cost about US$ 3.8 billion in 2015, and increases significantly to around US$ 7.6 billion in 2020(Zhang, Lv, & Xu, 2018).

Then, based on other sources from the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources (ESDM) Indonesia also mentioned an increasing trend of investment from developed countries to develop new energy. Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources of Indonesia, Arifin Tasrif said that the value of investment in renewable energy globally has increased by up to 8 times by 2020 (Gift, 2021). The large investment value of these developed countries in developing energy resources other than fossils shows a high level of optimism that energy other than fossils that are more environmentally friendly is a form of energy that will be used in the future. The logic is, these developed countries will certainly not spend billions or even trillions if there is no great interest that they hope for in relation to these future energy resources.

Second, the paradigm shift of the world's major industries using alternative energy such as electricity as the main driver. One of the important stimuli for the shift in energy use, especially electricity, is the automotive industry which is increasingly showing seriousness in working on their products that are no longer fossil fueled. The birth of Tesla, which is called

the main brand of the electric-powered automotive industry, followed by other automotive brands that innovate and give birth to electric-driven vehicles, is a sign of the transition to the use of non-fossil energy.

Data shows that in 2021, sales of electric vehicles (EV) based on BNEF data, sales of electric vehicles experienced a very significant increase reaching 160% compared to the same period in the previous year. Furthermore, Bloomberg predicts that by 2040, more than 300 million new electric vehicle charging ports will be needed in homes, public spaces and fast charging stations globally, where currently the existing figure is less than 6 million (Mayasari, 2021).

Third, the availability of alternative energy resources which are considered more abundant than fossil energy resources. Based on the research of Cai, et al., (2021) stated that renewable energy resources are very abundant, especially in China, the US, and Russia. Each of these great countries has its own resource advantage. As in China currently has abundant renewable energy resources, but still needs to accelerate the innovation of renewable energy technology as has been done in the US. Lastly, China continues to seek policy makers to accelerate the penetration of renewable energy (Cai, et al., 2021).

Citing the statement of an energy industry analyst with the China National Oil Company (CNPC) Economic and Technological Research Institute, Liu Chang in Gholizadeh, Gong, & Huang, (2019) mention that development. The world's energy sector has entered a stage of transformation and diversification where it is prioritized to be lower-carbon, cleaner, more efficient and safer. He further stated that the entire energy industry has witnessed rapid technological development, steady improvement in energy efficiency, and continuous reduction of new energy costs. If viewed from a short-term perspective, it may be very difficult to change the pattern of supply and demand in the energy market, but in the long term it will be very difficult to avoid replacing fossil energy with renewable energy. As urbanization and electrification continue to advance, the prospect of developing electricity is very good.

So, it can be said that based on the available information, the shift in the use of energy resources seems to be just a matter of time. This transfer of energy resources also indirectly creates a new competitive map in the control of the resources needed for development. Such as electrical energy, which of course is very dependent on certain minerals that are abundant in only a few countries. This is what then becomes a new competition between developed countries that have great power over other countries.

The impact will certainly be a new color for global competition, especially between the US and China in the control of mineral sources for electrical energy as a substitute for fossil energy. It is possible that the US will again sharpen its strategy to be able to compete with the PRC which has preceded the US in terms of mastering the world's electrical energy mineral raw material sources. In contrast to the PRC, the liberal system in US business and economy has placed US business actors as independent parties and free from government influence.

4.2 External Factors: Great Power Competition Energy Resources

The current era of global power competition is very different from the world's bipolar conditions in the cold war era of the 70s. During the cold war, the competition that took place was purely about the domination of world ideology between the Soviet Union, which supported the communist ideology, and the liberal democracy promoted by the US. Changes have occurred in the current form of global competition, with the presence of China as a global power that has emerged in the midst of the single US domination with the capital of an amazing improvement in the national economy as well as the demographic potential of the PRC and national pride, which has succeeded in positioning itself as the main challenger for the US.

The US Global Strategic Policy which still maintains the old pattern during the cold war by prioritizing efforts to instill the values of democracy, equality and freedom is currently facing an asymmetrical opponent, namely the PRC. Meanwhile, the PRC's National Policy does not prioritize ideological values, but rather focuses on global economic domination. The PRC can be said to have succeeded in making the US in its comfort zone, namely the military approach as a hardcore power by providing space for conflict, namely the South China Sea. This policy made the US focus on a defense superiority strategy in Asia by forming the Indopacific Command (Indopacom) accompanied by the formation of other regional defense cooperation such as the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD) between the US, India,

The Asian region, especially Central Asia is a region rich in energy resources, especially fossil energy such as oil, this is the reason global and regional powers are interested in economic investment, providing/receiving military assistance and creating influence in the region (Hu & Cheng, 2010). This is the basis for US involvement in Central Asia, especially strategic ones not only related to energy access but also efforts to democratize the region. In this context, the reason or basis for US policy in the 'war on terrorism' is the effort to control the region's oil resources. FurtherHu & Cheng, (2010) explained that the US is using a strategy in this region as a way to fight Russia and/or the PRC.

On the issue of switching fossil energy resources into renewable resources, it can be said that the US has special pressure. The withdrawal of the United States from the Paris Charter in 2017 showed that the then US President Donald J. Trump did not want the issue of climate change as an effort to limit the use of fossil energy potential, especially petroleum. The policy is understandable because the US has very large oil reserves, both domestic reserves and those located abroad such as the Middle East, South America and Asia. On the other hand, as previously explained, the shift in energy use outside of long-term fossil energy can be said to be inevitable. This seems to be the PRC's advantage that can be utilized in the competition for control of future energy resources.

While the US puts forward a military strategy in controlling the economy and energy resources, on the other hand, the PRC focuses on controlling its global economy through the OBOR (One Belt One Road) Initiative strategy which turned into BRI (Belt and Road Initiative). The concept of economic control has a broad scope such as investment, funding system (debt), banking to the management of Natural Resources/SDA (Gholizadeh, Gong, & Huang, 2019). The control of energy sources carried out by the PRC is to prioritize an economic approach to the target country. The PRC realizes that the disclosure of information and the era of globalization that leads to global interdependence at this time has raised the understanding and awareness of energy source countries, which are mostly poor, to develop their countries to maximize their national potential.

BRI's strategy seeks to accommodate this phenomenon by focusing on the infrastructure, soft loans and investment sectors. China uses the principle of “you need money to make money” in its economic control strategy. This turns out to be more acceptable to target countries who are struggling to build a strong economic foundation, including infrastructure development. Another strength is the demographic capital with abundant cheap labor that makes China's domestic products very abundant and the PRC's global economic expansion strategy has been able to answer the market needs of the national products produced.

China's economic expansion strategy is also inseparable from China's centralized government system under the sole authority of the Central Communist Party (CCP) of China. The communist system implemented in the country has succeeded in controlling the business and business sectors in China to be in the corridor of a solid and strong national strategy.

Meanwhile, in carrying out its business battles in the global region, China follows a capitalist global climate in order to compete with its competitors. The application of this hybrid ideology in the global strategy of the economic sector seems quite effective so far. In terms of global security strategy, China chooses to stay within the world norms by playing an active role in world security issues in the context of global and regional cooperation.

4.3 Internal Factors: Indonesia's Competitive Advantage Amid Competition for Mastery of World Energy Resources (Minerals)

Based on data released by the US Geological Survey (USGS) McKinsey's Future Mobility Initiative that the trend of increasing extreme cobalt demand in the period 2018 to 2025 is around 60% due to an increase in consumer demand for world electric vehicles which is estimated to reach 18 million units in 2025. Renewable energy (green energy) will now lead to the need for storage systems, namely batteries made with basic materials including cobalt and nickel. The world's largest cobalt granary is on the African continent, especially in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). In this country the PRC has controlled the Cobalt mining investment, where 70% of the Cobalt products produced there were purchased by the PRC. Interestingly, China currently holds almost 70% of the world's lithium-ion battery production.

If the policy of the US government is to rejoin the Paris Charter, the US will enter into a battle for the mineral materials for battery manufacture, most of which have been controlled by the PRC. Recognizing the PRC's current position, it is likely that the US will take a collaborative and transactional route with the PRC regarding efforts to ensure the availability of mineral materials for making batteries. Besides that, military pressure with the issue of the South China Sea will also continue to be carried out and as a justification for efforts to disrupt the PRC's strategic sea lanes that connect mineral supply countries with them. Geographically, the mandala of US sea denial efforts against this route is mostly in the Andaman Sea, and the waters of the Malacca and Natuna Straits, which makes Indonesia unable to escape the impact of the competition between the two countries.

If we look at Indonesia's position from the point of view of the producer of the "contested" commodity, it can be said that Indonesia can take this momentum for the national interest. Based on data from the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources in 2019, Indonesia's nickel reserves are the largest in the world at 32.7% of the world's nickel reserves, followed by Australia at 21.5%. Cobalt and nickel are one of the mineral materials for making lithium-ion batteries to support environmentally friendly renewable energy sources. With the potential of rich natural resources and potentially profitable demographic bonus factors, Indonesia must not lose this momentum. In order to avoid being forced to choose the "simalakama fruit" between the pressures of the two big countries, Indonesia must immediately prepare its national strategy in a complete and sustainable manner.

Several main factors must of course be taken into account by Indonesia in determining a strategy so that competitive advantage as a mineral producing country that is vital in the development of new energy can generate benefits for the national interest. Indonesia must be able to find opportunities by continuously increasing the value of national potential such as the national natural resources owned, especially Nickel and Cobalt. By de-facto China has dominated mining and mineral investment in Indonesia, including for nickel mines where China and Korea have expressed interest in investing up to US$20 billion. Meanwhile, the US electric vehicle company Tesla had expressed interest in investing in the electric vehicle industry in Indonesia in early 2020.

Some of the US investment options related to Nickel are in the downstream industry in the form of making electric vehicles, but even this is still facing a "distance tyranny" which always hinders US investment in the downstream industry so that the Asian region is very

much controlled by the PRC, even to Australia. Indonesia cannot refuse and avoid the influence of the two big countries, the US and China. Indonesia must be able to be among global competitors by prioritizing Indonesia's national interests.

From the consideration of the factors of cooperation with the US, Indonesia at least needs to consider the impact on the development of technology and capacity of human resources (HR) in the long term. As is known, the United States is still said to be a country that has strength in technology development such as the defense industry, even the electrical energy development industry with many large industrial companies originating from there. So it can be said, if Indonesia prioritizes

Meanwhile, if you look at the negative side, the US still sees it as a "half-half" country in the development of non-fossil energy. As previously mentioned, the US in the era of President Trump had brought the US out of the Paris Charter in 2017 which showed that the US did not want the issue of climate change as an effort to limit the use of fossil energy potential, especially oil. This is also supported by the fact that there are still many big powers in business in the US who have a big interest in the petroleum industry. This fact shows that the US is still not completely separated from the industrial interest factors related to fossil energy. Plus the fact that the US has huge oil reserves, both domestic and overseas.

Meanwhile, from the PRC side, it can be said that it is more focused on the transition of this energy use. As seen from the research results Gopal, Pitts, & Li, (2018) which concludes that there are differences in the investment strategies of the PRC and the US in energy development. The PRC has invested heavily in the extraction and power generation sectors, while the US has invested in many segments of the supply chain including pipelines, transmission and distribution and manufacturing. Meanwhile, the PRC's seriousness in non-fossil energy is also seen in the changes made in terms of policy. It is deliveredLi, Meng, Zheng, & Zhang, (2021) That China and India, which have been consuming fossil fuels (coal and oil) in the past, will inevitably have to shift their market share to renewable energy and natural gas significantly in the future as an effort to improve their energy consumption structure where possession is more favorable to the US (Li, Meng, Zheng, & Zhang, 2021).

The PRC Government's energy policy emphasizes the main role of renewable energy policy and standardization of management and formulates plans to develop this renewable energy-related industry. So from the point of view of the PRC's national interest, it seems that renewable energy, especially the development of electrical energy, will be prioritized compared to the internal national interests of the US. So from this point of view, it seems that Indonesia's competitive advantage as a producer of resources supporting the development of non-fossil energy will be deemed more appropriate if it is "closer" to the strength of the PRC. However, the negative value that may be obtained is of course related to technological innovation or human resource capacity development related to future technology, where the US can still be said to be superior to China.

However, behind the choices or decisions that will be taken by Indonesia in the competition for mastering alternative world energy resources, Indonesia needs to prepare value added. One of the efforts that have been made by the Government of Indonesia, such as stopping the export of nickel and cobalt raw materials and the construction of smelters, as well as investment cooperation with electric car manufacturing companies as a downstream industry, are vital in this global competition.

Like a business competition, Indonesia is like a startup that is contested by two or more large companies/investors, so Indonesia must be able to continue to increase its value in the eyes of investors. Including preparing a strategy to prevent the possibility of investors who previously paid great attention to Indonesia to change their minds and finally meet to discuss the division of tasks together to "work on" this potential startup or even turn to other startups. So, Indonesia must take the initiative and control in offering investment and increasing the

value of its national potential for the welfare of the Indonesian people and nation in accordance with Indonesia's national ideals.

V. Conclusion

Based on the analysis described previously, several conclusions can be drawn regarding how the competition for mastery of alternative energy resources and electrical energy resources in the future and its impact on Indonesia as a country that has a strategic position in producing mineral resources can be drawn.

First, the shift in energy use in the future will increasingly urge the use of alternative energy such as electricity compared to energy sourced from fossil resources. Factors such as the issue of climate change which demands the use of more environmentally friendly energy are the main catalysts for this shift. In addition, the large investment factor that has been made by developed countries in the development of alternative energy technologies is the next catalyst. Because the investment they (developed countries) spend must of course generate profits in the future, so that they will use political factors and diplomatic policies in order to bring about the expected benefits.

Industrial factors that have begun to prioritize the use of alternative energy such as electricity are also the main drivers of the shift in energy use. The transportation industry, such as cars and other vehicles, has massively developed technology and infrastructure to support the use of electrical energy. And finally, of course, the availability of alternative energy resources which are considered more abundant than fossil energy resources.

Second, competition or competition between the US and China will still determine how sustainable the development of this alternative energy will be in the future. The interests of these two countries with strong economic power will still have an impact on other countries, especially for countries that have mineral resources as the main raw material for the development of new energy technology and infrastructure.

Third, Indonesia as a country that has the largest nickel reserves in the world (which is 32.7%) will play a strategic role in the competition for control of electrical energy resources. Indonesia's diplomatic relations with the US and China are also a strategic factor that Indonesia must take advantage of. Indonesia's strategic position must be balanced with the ability to position itself with the right strategy among global competitors by prioritizing Indonesia's national interests. The rich potential of natural resources and the demographic bonus factor have the potential to benefit Indonesia, so it must be used as a good momentum to participate in developing domestic energy. Finally, efforts to increase value (value added) must always be carried out by the Government of Indonesia in a sustainable manner, starting from the mining sector, technology development preparation of regulations to infrastructure development that will be utilized in the long term.

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