

Speech Act Use in Jokowi Political Communication during The Press Conference of The State Visit in Moskow

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Concern about global conditions due to war, famine, and disease prompted President Jokowi to make a state visit to Russia and Ukraine, the two largest exporters of fertilizer and wheat in the world. This study aims to analyze the speech act of Jokowi's press statement during a state visit to Moscow on June 30, 2022. This research is a qualitative descriptive study. The data was obtained by observing the video of Jokowi's press statement during a state visit to Moscow. The transcribed data were then grouped according to the order in which the press conference was delivered. The data were analyzed using Austin's speech act theory (1962) and Searle's (1979). Research shows that there are three types of speech acts in Jokowi's press statement, expressive speech acts, assertive speech acts (affirming and informing), and directive speech acts (influence, invite and convince). Although not explicitly stated, the speech act of Jokowi's press statement has a noble purpose and goal: to encourage countries that are in conflict to resolve conflicts by peaceful resolution.

INTRODUCTION

Global conditions are increasingly uncertain at this time, causing various problems in both developed and developing countries. The problem of the global disease Covid-19 virus has not been completely resolved. New problems arose;

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problems in food, industry, and economy, including the war between Russia and Ukraine. These problems cause massive difficulties in the collapse of the economies of certain countries. In the June 2022 edition of the Global Economic Prospects report, the World Bank cut its projection for world economic growth in 2022 to 2.9% from the previous projection of 4.1% (Worldbank, 2022). The World Bank assessed that Russia's invasion of Ukraine exacerbated the global economic slowdown, which incidentally has not yet fully recovered from the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. The world economy is now predicted to enter a prolonged period of weak growth with rising inflation.

The increasingly difficult global conditions, of course, also impact Indonesia's economic growth rate. It is marked by various realities, such as rising prices of necessities and increasingly difficult to find jobs. Reading this situation, the president of the Republic of Indonesia and his staff made various efforts to suppress inflation, especially to encourage Indonesia not to receive a significant impact due to global issues. One of the efforts is to build mutually beneficial cooperation and partnerships with various countries involved in the conflict.

Referring to the 1945 Constitution, Indonesia adheres to a free and active foreign policy. Indonesia does not side with any country involved in certain conflicts. Therefore, Indonesia continues to build partnerships with the two countries without taking sides in the context of the conflict between Russia and Ukraine. By adhering to a free and active foreign policy, Indonesia, as a sovereign country, should encourage the realization of a peaceful world society, including a peaceful resolution between Russia and Ukraine. President Jokowi's arrival in Russia on June 30, 2022, is a tangible manifestation of the president's efforts to solve specific domestic and global issues.

During the visit, Jokowi interacted directly with the Russian president, ending with a joint press conference. In the press statement, Jokowi delivered a speech with a specific purpose and intention. Austin (1962) states that speech with a specific meaning and purpose is called a speech act. Yule (1996) states that a speech act is an action performed through speech. Searle (1979) confirmed the definition of speech act presented by Austin (1962). According to Searle (1979), speech acts are a form of verbal communication. However, Searle (1979) uses

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different terminology to refer to the three types of speech acts that Austin grouped. Searle (1979) mentions the concept of speech acts, starting with the idea that when a person speaks, he or she performs utterance acts, propositional acts, and illocutionary acts. Speech acts (utterance acts) only utter a series of words. Illocutionary acts consist of pronouncing words in a sentence in a specific context, under certain conditions, and with a specific purpose.

The study of political communication is an essential field in understanding the discourse of political leaders in conveying their messages to the public. In the Indonesian political context, President Joko Widodo (Jokowi) is well-known for his unique style of political communication, which emphasizes his connection with the people through a simple and straightforward approach. According to Searle (1969), speech acts are essential components of language, and they are classified into three categories: locutionary acts, illocutionary acts, and perlocutionary acts. In political communication, speech acts are often used to persuade and influence the audience, which is particularly important for political leaders in achieving their policy goals (Jowett & O'Donnell, 1999).

Previous studies have also shown that the use of speech acts can influence the perception and attitudes of the audience towards the speaker (Fraser & Nolen, 1981; Lakoff, 2004; Dawson, 2015; Lee, Lee, & Chun, 2018; Brown & Matusitz, 2019; Abulof, 2020; Gerstenberg, 2020; Hanna & Richards, 2019; Chejnová, 2021; Human & Sabardila, 2016; Oktavia, 2019; Saputro, 2015; Astiandani et al., 2022). In the Indonesian context, research on political communication has primarily focused on analyzing the language and communication strategies used by political leaders (Abdullah, 2015; Budiawan, 2017; Suyatno, 2018; Mahfud, 2019). These studies have provided insights into the communication style of Indonesian political leaders, particularly in terms of how they convey their messages to the public. Meanwhile, studies on the speech acts of Jokowi's speech have been carried out by several researchers, including; (Saputro, 2015), The Analysis Of Illocutionary Acts In The President Joko Widodo's Speech in presidential inauguration (2014) and second in 9th KTT East Asia, in Nay Pyi Taw , Myanmar (2014), (Sari & Utomo, 2020), Directive speech act in President Joko Widodo's speech related to handling Corona Virus (Covid-19) in Indonesia,

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(Fitriani & Pujiati, 2018), A Pragmatics Study of Indirect Speech Acts in President Joko Widodo's State Address, (Sulistyaningsih, 2021), Speech Acts Analysis On President Joko Widodo's Cinematic Reference Speeches Texts, (Ismail, 2013), The Study of Illocutionary Act: Jokowi's Campaign Speech On "Realizing a New Jakarta", (Edward & Hutahaean, 2018). Analysis of speech acts of President Jokowi at Apec 2014 in China.

Despite the importance of studying political communication, there is a limited amount of research on speech act use in Jokowi's political communication. Specifically, there is a research gap in exploring how Jokowi utilizes speech acts in his political communication during his state visit to Moscow. This research gap needs to be addressed because Jokowi's visit to Moscow was a significant event, as it highlighted Indonesia's efforts to strengthen its relations with Russia.

Furthermore, this study can also contribute to the existing literature on speech act theory by examining its application in the context of political communication. While speech act theory has been widely used in various fields, including linguistics, philosophy, and sociology, its application in the context of political communication is still limited (Sbisà, 2009; Vanderveken, 2014). By analyzing Jokowi's use of speech acts, this study can provide insights into how speech acts can be utilized in political communication, particularly in the context of international relations.

The analysis of Jokowi's speech acts during his state visit to Moscow is crucial because it can provide insights into how Jokowi conveys his messages to the public, particularly in the international context. Moreover, this study can also contribute to the existing literature on political communication and speech acts by examining Jokowi's unique style of political communication.

Moreover, this study will also contribute to the existing literature on Indonesian-Russian relations by examining the communication strategies used by Jokowi during his state visit to Moscow. Indonesia and Russia have a long history of diplomatic relations, which have been strengthened in recent years through various cooperation agreements, particularly in the economic and defense sectors (Kamal, 2019; Rizqo, 2019). By analyzing Jokowi's communication strategies during his state visit to Moscow, this study can provide insights into the dynamics

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of Indonesian-Russian relations and how they can be further strengthened through effective communication strategies.

METHOD

To achieve the research objectives, this study adopted a qualitative research method, specifically discourse analysis, to analyze the speech acts used by Jokowi during his state visit to Moscow. Discourse analysis is a widely used method in studying language in social contexts, particularly in examining how language is used to convey meaning and social action (Fairclough, 1992; Gee, 2005; Wodak & Meyer, 2017). By adopting a discourse analysis approach, this study can provide a detailed analysis of Jokowi's use of speech acts, which can provide insights into his communication style and strategies.

This study focuses on the press statement of President Jokowi during a state visit to Russia on June 30, 2022. The data were obtained by observing the video of the press conference. The video is accessed on youtube via the link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-T7QDAwdjyw&t=527s>. In order to understand Jokowi's speech acts in his press statement, the researcher watched the video several times. The press statement was then transcribed to get a complete understanding of Jokowi's speech acts in the press statement. The transcribed data were then grouped into five groups based on the sequence of speeches delivered by Jokowi at the press conference. The researcher argues that the speech act theories of Austin (1962) and Searle (1979) can be used to analyze the types of speech acts and the intent and purpose of Jokowi's statements in press conferences. The data that have been grouped is then analyzed using the interactive analysis model proposed by Miles and Haberman (1992), which consists of data collection, grouping, verification and conclusion drawing.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

This section describes the types of speech acts and the intent and purpose of President Jokowi's speech in a joint press statement with the Russian president on June 30, 2022. President Jokowi uses Indonesian language in his press statement, which is then translated by the interpreter so that listeners can

understand. Based on the results of data analysis, the speech acts in Jokowi's press statement are as follows:

Expressive Speech Acts

Astiandani et al. (2022) stated that expressive refers to expressing the psychological state of a speaker's or interlocutor's action. Referring to the definition of the expressive speech act, President Jokowi expressed his gratitude for President Putin's willingness to accept Jokowi's visit to Moscow. The statement was delivered at the beginning of the press statement as a form of appreciation for Russia's existence as a good and mutually beneficial partner for Indonesia. The following is Jokowi's speech which contains expressive speech acts:

"Pertama-tama, saya ingin menyampaikan terima kasih yang sebesar-besarnya kepada Presiden Putin yang sudah menerima kunjungan saya di Moskow".

"First of all, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to President Putin for welcoming me to Moscow."

In the context of communication, gratitude is an expression that must be conveyed for a certain kindness that the speaker has received. The expression of gratitude shows the speaker's feelings as a result of certain speech or actions received. In the context of this research, Russia's willingness to accept Jokowi's visit needs to be appreciated. It is not without reason. For a country involved in a conflict, a visit from another country to that country is difficult to accept. There are several underlying considerations, such as the security and safety of the visitor and the conflict of interest. Therefore, it is very appropriate for President Jokowi to express his gratitude to the Russian president. Gratitude is also a form of Jokowi's appreciation and respect for Russia. This appreciation and respect fostered sympathy and mutual trust between the two countries which were represented through the two state leaders.

Assertive Speech Acts

The assertive speech act is a speech act that expresses the State of the speaker (Hanna & Richards, 2019). One type of assertive speech act aims to state or assert something. President Jokowi reaffirmed Indonesia's position on a free and active foreign policy in the first five-part press statement. Whereas in a conflict between countries, Indonesia prioritizes peaceful resolution by

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emphasizing the fulfillment of global human needs and rights to live in peace. The following are Jokowi's assertive speech acts:

“Yang pertama, bahwa isu perdamaian dan kemanusiaan selalu menjadi prioritas politik luar negeri Indonesia. Konstitusi Indonesia mengamanatkan agar Indonesia selalu berusaha berkontribusi bagi terciptanya perdamaian dunia. Dalam konteks inilah, saya melakukan kunjungan ke Kyiv dan Moskow”.

“The first is that Indonesia's foreign policy has always prioritized the issue of peace and humanity.” The Indonesian constitution requires that the country always strive to contribute to establishing world peace. It was in this context that I visited Kyiv and Moscow.”

Affirming a free and active foreign policy position refers to the Indonesian constitution. The position needs to be conveyed to the audience. Implicitly Jokowi's speech can be understood that one of the objectives of the state visit of the President of Indonesia, Jokowi is to encourage the realization of a peaceful resolution between Russia and Ukraine.

In addition to affirming Indonesia's foreign policy position, Jokowi also informed the audience about the topics discussed between President Jokowi and President Putin when the two were in the meeting room.

“Kelima, tadi kami berdiskusi panjang mengenai kerja sama antara Rusia dan Indonesia baik di bidang investasi, di bidang perdagangan, maupun di bidang turisme, yang akan kita tindaklanjuti dengan membentuk tim agar bisa mem bahas nya secara detail”.

“Fifth, we had a long discussion about cooperation between Russia and Indonesia both in the investment sector, in the trade sector, and in the tourism sector, which we will follow up by forming a team so that we can discuss it in detail.”

Information about the topics discussed between President Jokowi and President Putin needs to be conveyed to the audience so that the audience understands that President Jokowi's state visit has several objectives that explicitly need to be known by the public. Meanwhile, this goal is a manifestation of mutually beneficial cooperation between Indonesia and Russia that has been built for a long time. There are three issues discussed, including investment, trade and tourism. These three issues align with the efforts of the Indonesian

government, which is currently struggling for economic recovery due to the Covid-19 virus.

Directive Speech Acts

Directives are speech acts influencing the listener to take a particular action (Hanna & Richards, 2019). There are several types of directive speech acts, one of which is conveying speech intending to influence the interlocutor or listener to think, behave or act according to the speaker's goals. In the context of this research, President Jokowi is very careful in delivering the directive speech. Although not explicitly stated, the speech implicitly influenced the Russian president and listeners about the importance of peaceful resolution in resolving conflicts. Jokowi delivered the directive in the second part of his press statement:

“Yang kedua, sebagaimana yang saya sampaikan di Kyiv, walaupun situasi saat ini masih sangat sulit namun saya tetap menyampaikan bahwa penyelesaian damai penting untuk terus di kedepankan dan juga ruang-ruang dialog terus bisa dibuka”.

“Secondly, as I stated in Kyiv, while the current situation is still very difficult, I believe it is critical to continue to promote a peaceful settlement and that spaces for dialogue can be opened.”

The directive's speech was delivered by considering the various global impacts that are currently being experienced. In the third part of his press statement, President Jokowi also delivered a directive to politely influence President Putin and listeners about the global problems that are currently being experienced various problems such as the Covid-19 problem, including the conflict between Russia and Ukraine. These problems have caused new problems such as food and fertilizer and other humanitarian problems. President Jokowi emphasized the issue of food and fertilizers because these two issues are directly related to Russia and Ukraine as the largest exporters of fertilizers and wheat in the world.

“Yang ketiga, saya tadi banyak berdiskusi dan menekankan bahwa pangan dan pupuk adalah masalah kemanusiaan, merupakan kepentingan masyarakat dunia, dan ratusan juta orang terdampak dengan terganggunya rantai pasok pangan dan pupuk terutama di 135 nergy-negara berkembang”.

“Thirdly, I had a lot of discussions and emphasized that food and fertilizer are humanitarian issues, are in the interest of the world community, and

hundreds of millions of people are affected by the disruption of food and fertilizer supply chains, especially in developing countries.”

Therefore, in the fourth part, President Jokowi emphasized his support for the United Nations’ efforts to reintegrate Russian, fertilizer, and Ukrainian food commodities to re-enter the world supply chain.

In addition to directive speech which aims to influence the interlocutor and listener, President Jokowi also conveys directive speech which aims to invite the audience to do something positive to restore global conditions:

“Saya mengajak seluruh pemimpin dunia untuk bekerja sama kembali menghidupkan semangat multilateralisme, semangat damai, dan semangat kerja sama. Hanya dengan spirit itulah perdamaian dapat dicapai”.

“I kindly request that all world leaders join forces to revive multilateralism, peace, and cooperation spirits. The only way to attain peace is with that attitude.

President Jokowi invites listeners, both directly and through various channels of information and technology, to work together to build and restore conditions in the world, which is currently facing various problems. According to Jokowi, some spirits that can bring about world peace include the spirit of cooperation, multilateralism, and the spirit of peace. Peace shows that every human being respects one another.

The press statement then ends with a directive speech act to convince the speech partner and listener. In a convincing directive speech act, the speaker attempts to convince the listener about what he is conveying. In the press statement, President Jokowi reassured the Russian president and the audience about Indonesia’s interest in coming to Russia. The purpose of Jokowi’s arrival is to encourage the realization of a peaceful resolution so that the supply chain of food, fertilizer, and energy returns to normal for the lives of hundreds of millions of people worldwide.

“Sebagai penutup, dapat saya sampaikan bahwa Indonesia tidak memiliki kepentingan apapun, kecuali ingin melihat perang dapat segera selesai dan rantai pasok pangan, pupuk, dan energy dapat segera diperbaiki karena ini menyangkut kehidupan ratusan juta orang bahkan miliaran manusia”.

“In closing, I can say that Indonesia has no interest, except to see that the war can be ended soon and the supply chain of food, fertilizer and energy

can be repaired because this involves the lives of hundreds of millions of people, even billions of people.”

The use of speech act which aims to convince is seen through the repetition of the phrase “Indonesia has no interest whatsoever, except to see the war can be ended soon. This repetition also reaffirms Indonesia’s foreign policy position in a conflict situation and confirms the purpose of Jokowi’s state visit to Russia.

DISCUSSION

Based on the results of data analysis, it was found that there were three types of speech acts in Jokowi's press statement; expressive speech acts, assertive speech acts (affirming and informing), and directive speech acts (influence, invite and convince). The three speech acts are placed in different parts in the sequence of Jokowi's press statements.

The study of pragmatics, a branch of linguistics, focuses on how language functions as a medium of communication between speakers and listeners and a source of language signs for discussions on "extra-lingual" topics (Fitriani & Pujiati, 2018). Good communication is formed when the speaker and interlocutors understand each other, even though the speaker conveys a message or intent in a form that varies. The ongoing communication with good will help achieve the purpose of the speech act. To determine whether a speech act is good, speakers can see from the reactions and responses that their opponent shows (Nagari, 2019). As a subfield of pragmatics, understanding speech acts should be considered by involving the three aspects of speech acts; speakers and opponents, context of speech and speech objectives.

One of the speech acts used by president Jokowi in his pers statement is an expressive speech act. According to Green, statements in particular and expressive speech acts, in general, handicap: they are signals "that can only be faked with extreme effort since they are costly to create (Green, 2009). In intentional communication, self-expression is the sincere signaling of one's introspective mental states. First, in some cases, what the communicating agent expresses is the same as what she means as a speaker. Second, regardless of whether the speaker

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intends it, what is expressed may contribute to determining what is said. Third, many speech acts have a characteristic expressive dimension that plays a role in illocutionary communication, for example, sincere assertions express beliefs, promises intentions, and sincere apologies and regrets (Witek, 2021).

By referring to the construction of self-expression (Green, 2009; Witek, 2021; Astiandani et al., 2022), it can be seen in the expression of gratitude conveyed by President Jokowi to the Russian president, Vladimir Putin is the implementation of expressive speech act. An expressive speech act is used to show feelings of pleasure and pride because President Jokowi's state visit is still received in a warm atmosphere even though Russia is in a conflict situation. It can also be seen that President Jokowi wants to show high appreciation to President Putin for this acceptance. Therefore, Jokowi's expressive speech act is delivered using a positive politeness strategy. Brown & Levinson (1983) stated that positive Politeness is a phenomenon that is needed by every individual to be appreciated as a person. Further, Yeomans, Kantor, & Tingley (2019) stated that Positive Politeness entails actively enhancing the listener's self-image (expressing gratitude, identifying as an in-group member, paying compliments) while not undermining it (complaints, cursing, informal titles, and so on). The knowledge and awareness need to be possessed by speakers so that the interlocutor feels valued and appreciated. What else, the interlocutor, in this context, is the leader of a country. According to Katz (2015), as cited in (Maros & Rosli, 2017), Politeness is concerned with the impact a speaker wishes to have on a listener's self-image or face. Speakers make numerous choices when speaking and delivering intention, including the politeness level of their utterances (Coulmas, 2006).

In the first part of his press statement, Jokowi uses assertive speech acts. Assertive denotes what the speaker believes in circumstances (Hanks, 2018). In his press statement, Jokowi emphasized Indonesia's foreign policy in a conflict situation. This affirmation was stated at the beginning of his press statement with the intention that the interlocutor and listeners fully understand Indonesia's position and the purpose of Jokowi's arrival in Russia. The interpretation of the intent and purpose of the speech is influenced by the context and situation (Austin, 1962). Therefore, this affirmation aims to prevent erroneous interpretations.

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President Jokowi also conveyed assertive speech acts to inform the audience about the topics discussed in the meeting with President Putin. It is important to inform about the cooperative relations that have been, are being and will be built between Russia and Indonesia. The purpose of Jokowi's visit to Russia is to implicitly strengthen the cooperative relationship in addition to the stated objectives.

Jokowi also uses directive speech acts. The directive refers to what the speaker wants in a situation, getting the interlocutors to do something (Hanks, 2018). Jokowi used a directive speech in the second part of the press statement by saying that although the situation is very difficult, peaceful resolution and dialogue are still prioritized to resolve conflicts. Furthermore, in the third part, Jokowi emphasized how crucial the issue of food and fertilizer is as a humanitarian problem in the interests of the world community and hundreds of millions of people. The statement was then extended by inviting all world leaders to work together to rekindle the spirit of multilateralism, peace, and cooperation. According to Jokowi, all of this is a spirit to create peace.

The use of a directive speech act in the press statement can be interpreted as an effort to influence and invite the interlocutor and listeners to put forward dialogue efforts in resolving conflicts. The directive's statement was motivated by concerns about the difficulty of the international community in getting supplies of fertilizers and food. It is known that Russia is the largest supplier of fertilizers, and Ukraine is the largest exporter of wheat. The conflict between the two countries causes new problems for countries that rely on the two countries in conflict.

In the closing section, Jokowi delivered a directive speech act that aimed to convince the interlocutor and the audience that the purpose of his visit to Russia was purely aimed at realize a free and active Indonesian foreign policy. Indonesia has no interest except wanting peace between Russia and Ukraine so that the world's food and fertilizer needs can be met. The directive speech act needs to be done so as not to cause a misinterpretation of the intent and purpose of Indonesia's speech and attitude, which is represented through Jokowi's state visit.

From the entire contents of Jokowi's press statement, there are noble intentions and goals to be conveyed to the interlocutors and listeners, namely that the conflict between Russia and Ukraine is expected to be resolved through a peaceful resolution. It is in line with what Green (2015) stated: One can make a statement that implies or requests that the listener perform an action that the speaker did not explicitly state. The audience cannot be expected to complete the intended action if the situation is unclear, and the audience's reaction to the action is based on what they believe the speaker means rather than what the speaker says (Gumperz, 1982), as cited in (Brown & Matusitz, 2019). Yazdanfar and Bonyadi (2016) also stated that speech acts, in general, and requests, in particular, are highly susceptible to misinterpretation. Thus, a speaker attentively conveys the intended message to the listeners, and vice versa. The context of Jokowi's state visit and press statement is to read the global situation, including Indonesia, which is struggling to face various problems due to the Covid-19 pandemic, supply of fertilizers and food and war.

Jokowi assured the Russian president and listeners that Jokowi's presence carries a free and active Indonesian political mission to continue to work with all countries in the world without being limited by political interests. However, implicitly the use of these directive speech acts intends to encourage peace between Russia and Ukraine on the basis of consideration of the need for fertilizer, food and energy by many people in the world.

CONCLUSIONS

The study concludes that there are several types of speech acts used by President Jokowi in press statements, including expressive, assertive, and directive speech acts. Jokowi delivered the press statement in a structured manner from the first to the fifth section. The three speech acts are used in different parts of the speech. Expressive speech expresses gratitude to the Russian president, who is willing to accept Jokowi's state visit. Assertive speech acts express Indonesia's free and active foreign policy position. Meanwhile, directive speech acts aim to influence and invite the interlocutor and listener to prioritize peaceful resolution in resolving the conflict between Russia and Ukraine. At the end of his

speech, Jokowi uses directive speech acts to convince the interlocutor and listeners about Jokowi's interest in making a state visit to Russia, encouraging the realization of a peaceful resolution.

The results of this study indicated that the use of speech acts by public officials is important in order to build effective communication in accordance with the intent and purpose of the speech. In the context of Jokowi's speech, the use of speech acts that are appropriate to the context and situation can help awaken the spirit of brotherhood and enhance the long-standing cooperation between Indonesia and Russia and promote a peaceful settlement of the conflict between Russia and Ukraine.

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