

# Human Security Paradox: Between Human Welfare and the Threat of Environmental Damage

Zaihan Harmaen Anggayudha<sup>1</sup> and Jody Imam Rafsanjani<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>1,2</sup> *Research Center for Law, National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN), Indonesia.*

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## Corresponding Author:

Zaihan Harmaen Anggayudha.  
E-mail: [zaih001@brin.go.id](mailto:zaih001@brin.go.id).

**Abstract:** Human security serves as a link between the concept of security and human rights (HAM), and it is considered to overcome the weaknesses of the traditional security concept. The concept makes humanitarian issues into a security domain, such as food, health, economic, environmental, personal, community, and politics, to ensure everyone is prosperous and free from threats and fear. As if it were a paradox, Human Security also takes environmental issues into account. Economic activity is not infrequently one of the causes of environmental damage. This article aims to determine the threat of environmental damage due to economic activity from a Human Security perspective and its paradoxes. Using qualitative methods through a security study approach, human rights, and environmental law were carried out through desk research and then analyzed with analytical description. Poverty is one of the discussions of Human Security. In Indonesia, a decent life is a fundamental right of every citizen protected by the constitution. When economic activity impacts the environment and threatens the environment and humans, this problem becomes a security challenge. The state becomes an important actor and is responsible for providing solutions and has a strategy to substitute these livelihoods with values that are at least almost the same or even exceed them so that in the end, the state is not only an institution that can only issue prohibition instruments but is also able to present solution instruments.

## 1. Introduction

Discussions about human security have become more common since the Covid-19 pandemic hit the world.<sup>1</sup> Human security is of interest because one of the discussion's components is health security. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a broad impact on human social life<sup>2</sup>, causing almost all countries worldwide to fall into a state of emergency. This situation makes the country vulnerable to security threats, for the COVID-19 problem is not just a health issue but has also become a security issue.

<sup>1</sup> Pedro Cárdenas et al., "Big Data for Human Security: The Case of COVID-19," *Journal of Computational Science* 60, no. February (2022), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jocs.2022.101574>.

<sup>2</sup> Anang Sujoko, "Social Scientist's Perspective on the Reaction of the Indonesian Government to COVID-19 in the First Phase," *Cogent Social Sciences* 9, no. 2 (2023), <https://doi.org/10.1080/23311886.2023.2281045>.

Like the right to health, an indicator of environmental security is the right to a healthy environment.<sup>3</sup> The environment is an important factor in determining a human life's viability. It cannot be separated from the various factors that influence it, so humans and the environment influence each other.<sup>4</sup> The environment is so crucial for humans that the contemporary security concept, namely the concept of human security, makes the environment one of the aspects of the concept. The inclusion of the environment as one of the components in the concept of human security indicates how important the environment is to human security in addition to the other six aspects. Problems that previously only touched on environmental issues can escalate into security issues or realms – in other words, keeping the environment safe means keeping humans in an ecosystem safe, too.<sup>5</sup>

As explained in the UNDP Report 1994, which was the beginning of the concept of human security, there are seven components in human security, one of which is environmental security, in addition to six other components. Both environmental security and the six other security components are indeed intended for the maximum good of humans who have been victims for too long on various occasions, including during World War II. At this time, the security concept was still oriented and focused on the state as its center.<sup>6</sup>

The analysis includes components in the concept of human security, especially those related to welfare. Problems occur when one or several components conflict in their implementation. For example, individuals or groups carry out activities that damage the environment and threaten its sustainability to obtain economic welfare. For example, mining activities include coal, oil, and tin mining. All of these are certainly threats to environmental security. There are several studies related to the issues raised in this article: 1) A study conducted by Jorge Nef entitled "Human Security and Mutual Vulnerability: The Global Political Economy of Development and Underdevelopment," which discusses threats to human security and the impacts of shared vulnerability, including environmental damage<sup>7</sup>; 2). David Chandler's study, "The Human Security Paradox: How Nation States Grew to Love Cosmopolitan Ethics," explores the human security framework and paradox in addressing environmental threats and human well-being<sup>8</sup>; 3). Ramesh Thakur's study, "Threats without Enemies, Security without Borders: Environmental Security in East Asia," discusses the paradox in the relationship between environmental security and human well-being in East Asia<sup>9</sup>; 4). Lorraine Elliott's study, "Human Security/Environmental Security," links environmental damage to human security and discusses the threats arising from environmental deg-

<sup>3</sup> Shannon M. Roesler, "The Nature of the Environmental Right to Know," *Ecology Law Quarterly* 39, no. 4 (2012): 989-1048. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.15779/Z38KN9T>.

<sup>4</sup> Thomas Dietz et al., "Environmentally Efficient Well-Being/ : Rethinking Sustainability as the Relationship between Human Well-Being and Environmental Impacts." Published by/ : *Society for Human Ecology Linked References Are Available on JSTOR for This Article/ : Environmentally Ef* 16, no. 1 (2009): 114-23. DOI [10.1088/1748-9326/9/3/031001](https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-9326/9/3/031001).

<sup>5</sup> I. Petrosillo et al., "Use of Landscape Sciences for the Assessment of Environmental Security". (Dordrecht, Netherlands: Springer, 2008).

<sup>6</sup> Mohammad Kamrul Ahsan, "Revisiting the Concept of Human Security," *Philosophy and Progress* 59, no. 1-2 (2016). DOI:[10.3329/pp.v59i1-2.36679](https://doi.org/10.3329/pp.v59i1-2.36679).

<sup>7</sup> Jorge Nef, "Human Security and Mutual Vulnerability: The Global Political Economy of Development and Underdevelopment," 2nd ed. (Ottawa: the International Development Research Centre, 1999).

<sup>8</sup> David Chandler, "The Human Security Paradox: How Nation States Grew to Love Cosmopolitan Ethics," in *International Conference: 'Globalization, Difference, and Human Securities', Graduate School of Human Sciences* (Osaka : Osaka University , 2008).

<sup>9</sup> Ramesh Thakur. "Threats Without Enemies, Security Without Borders: Environmental Security In East Asia." *Journal of East Asian Studies* 1, no. 2 (2001): 161-89. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/23417760>.

radation.<sup>10</sup>; and 5). With his research entitled “Environmental Insecurity and Fortress Mentality,” Rob White discusses the paradox in the exploitation of nature and how the threat of environmental damage can undermine human security.<sup>11</sup>

Based on this, it is exciting to be able to study how the problem can be analyzed and explained further, especially in tracing the results of previous studies that are relevant to the problem that is the topic of this article; it is pretty tricky and minimal research has been conducted over the past five years, especially in the Indonesian context. This article tries to fill the gap and gap. This article discusses the threat of environmental damage due to economic activities from a human security perspective and its paradoxes.

## 2. Method

This research is qualitative. Qualitative is used because, in this research, the data and analysis are not focused on numbers but rather the depth of data and analysis, not the breadth of data. This research uses a literature review<sup>12</sup> and conceptual approach. The data used are secondary data in the form of regulations and other legal documents related to human security, environmental rights, and environmental law. In addition, data is also taken through literature studies in the form of scientific articles on environmental law, environmental rights, and the concept of human security. The collected data is then analyzed and presented descriptively.

## 3. Environmental Issues in the Perspective of Law and Human Rights

### 3.1. Environmental Law

Environmental issues include problems related to human activities impacts on the environment, such as pollution, climate change, loss of wildlife habitat, and exploitation of natural resources.<sup>13</sup> Environmental issues negatively impact human well-being and the environment, with short-term and long-term effects on health, the economy, and quality of life. Because of their significant impacts, it is important to understand and address these issues to protect the future. Laws and regulations aim to protect the environment and ensure that human activities do not harm it. Environmental law also addresses environmental issues and promotes sustainable economic and social development.

Environmental law in Indonesia is implemented through various laws and regulations, including Law No. 32 of 2009 concerning Environmental Protection and Management. This is the fundamental environmental law in Indonesia, which contains regulations regarding the environment, environmental pollution, and environmental management. Government Regulation No. 82 of 2001 concerning Waste Management: This is a regulation on waste management and ensuring that waste does not harm the environment. Regulation of the Minister of Environment and Forest-

<sup>10</sup> Lorraine Elliott, “Human Security/Environmental Security,” *Contemporary Politics* 21, no. 1 (2015). <https://doi.org/10.1080/13569775.2014.993905>.

<sup>11</sup> Rob. White. “Environmental Insecurity and Fortress Mentality.” *International Affairs (Royal Institute of International Affairs 1944-)* 90, no. 4 (2014): 835–51. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/24538200>.

<sup>12</sup> Hannah Snyder, “Literature Review as a Research Methodology: An Overview and Guidelines,” *Journal of Business Research* 104, no. August (2019): 333–39, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jbusres.2019.07.039>.

<sup>13</sup> Ted Munn, Peter Timmerman, and Anne Whyte, “Emerging Environmental Issues,” *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society* 81, no. 7 (2000): 1603–9, [https://doi.org/10.1175/1520-0477\(2000\)081<1603:eei>2.3.co;2](https://doi.org/10.1175/1520-0477(2000)081<1603:eei>2.3.co;2).

ry No. P.20/MENLHK/SETJEN/KUM.1/8/2018 concerning Environmental Impact Assessment Procedures: This regulation determines the procedures for assessing the environmental impact of human activities. Regulation of the Minister of Environment No. 01/PRT/M/2021 on Water Protection and Management: This regulation determines how to protect and manage water not to harm the environment.

It is important to ensure human rights protection that activities that impact the environment do not harm. In Law Number 39 of 1999 concerning Human Rights (HAM Law) in Indonesia, several provisions regulate rights related to the environment. The following are some relevant rights related to the environment based on the HAM Law: Right to a Decent and Healthy Life Article 9 paragraph (3) states that everyone has the right to live in a healthy and clean environment, which is part of the human right to achieve a decent and prosperous quality of life. Right to Environmental Protection Article 65, paragraph (1) of the HAM Law states that everyone has the right to a good and healthy environment as part of the human right to a decent life. This article also requires the state to ensure environmental protection to fulfill human rights.

Right to Obtain Information Article 41 of the HAM Law states that everyone has the right to obtain information about environmental conditions, including the impacts of activities that may harm the environment and public health. Right to Participate in Environmental Management Article 43 of the Human Rights Law gives every individual the right to participate in environmental management. This includes the right to be involved in decision-making regarding environmental policies that may affect their lives. Right to Remedy and Compensation Article 68 of the Human Rights Law states that anyone harmed by violating the right to a healthy environment has the right to receive remedy and compensation. This protects communities negatively impacted by environmental destruction or pollution. These rights strengthen the position of the environment as part of human rights that must be protected and respected by the state, society, and individuals.

The state has the authority to issue various laws and regulations that limit and control activities that have the potential to harm the environment.<sup>14</sup> Litigation can be used to fight for environmental and human rights related to environmental issues. For example, individuals or groups can file lawsuits to ask the courts to stop activities that are harmful to the environment.<sup>15</sup> Alternatively, mediation can address environmental issues by facilitating communication between the parties involved and helping to reach an agreement that is satisfactory to all.<sup>16</sup>

Government agencies are responsible for monitoring and enforcing laws against activities detrimental to the environment. For example, the government can impose administrative, criminal, or civil sanctions on parties who violate environmental regulations.<sup>17</sup> Public education and awareness about environmental issues are important for shaping public opinion and influencing behavior. They help people understand the impact of their activities on the environment and encourage ap-

<sup>14</sup> Nancy Dela Oktora, "Peranan Pemerintah Terkait Kerusakan Lingkungan Hidup Di Tinjau Dari Aspek Administras," *Siyasah Jurnal Hukum Tatanegara* 3, no. 2 (2023). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.32332/siyasah.v3i2.8182>.

<sup>15</sup> Sardjana Orba Manullang, "Eksistensi Citizen Lawsuit Dalam Upaya Penegakan Aturan Lingkungan Hidup," *Bina Hukum Lingkungan* 7, no. 3 (2023): 353-73. <https://bhl-jurnal.or.id/index.php/bhl/article/view/197>.

<sup>16</sup> Marthen B. Salinding, "Dasar Filosofi Mediasi Sebagai Pilihan Penyelesaian Sengketa Lingkungan Hidup," *Journal of Chemical Information and Modeling* 53, no. 9 (2013): 1689-99. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.35334/bolrev.v1i1.709>.

<sup>17</sup> Muhammad Syaiful Anwar and Rafiqah Sari, "Penegakan Hukum Lingkungan Berbasis Asas Tanggung Jawab Negara Di Indonesia," *Progresif: Jurnal Hukum* 16, no. 1 (2021): 112-29. <https://doi.org/10.33019/progresif.v16i1.2336>.

appropriate actions to protect it.<sup>18</sup> These actions can be taken individually or collectively to address environmental issues. It is important to remember that legal action must always be based on the principles of justice and balance between economic, environmental, and human rights interests.

The private sector is responsible for protecting the environment and conducting business with due regard for its impact. They must also ensure that their business activities do not harm the environment and meet the standards set by the government. All parties need to collaborate to address environmental issues. Each must understand their role and responsibilities, working together to protect the environment and ensure human well-being and environmental sustainability.<sup>19</sup> Actions that violate environmental laws, harm the environment and natural resources, or endanger public health and safety are considered violations.

Examples of environmental law violations include<sup>20</sup>: Environmental pollution: dumping waste or hazardous materials into the environment can damage the environment and endanger human health. Illegal logging: cutting trees or clearing forests without proper permits can damage ecosystems and endanger biodiversity. Hazardous waste disposal: dumping hazardous waste, such as hazardous chemicals or radioactive materials, without proper procedures can damage the environment and endanger human health. Illegal mining: conducting without permits or violating proper procedures can damage the environment and endanger natural resources. Water pollution: dumping hazardous materials into water can damage water quality and endanger human health. Violations of environmental laws often have long-term impacts on the environment, natural resources, and public health. Therefore, it is important to ensure that environmental regulations are complied with and that violations are subject to appropriate sanctions for environmental protection.

### 3.2. Environmental Rights in Human Rights

In recent years, a new category of rights has emerged due to the negative impacts of economic globalization on people and the environment. These rights support communities' efforts to achieve healthy and sustainable livelihoods. In the name of 'development' and 'free trade,' governments and transnational corporations continue to seize land, water, forests, and minerals, triggering human and environmental rights violations, such as evictions, pollution, and destruction of natural resources. The presence of authorities, militarization, violence, and intimidation are every day. Women who are fighting to protect their families are most affected by this violence. Environmental defenders, including activists and affected communities, are often intimidated and subjected to violence by political and economic interests.<sup>21</sup>

Environmental rights cannot be entirely subsumed into a single 'generation' of human rights. Human rights can be understood from three perspectives, encompassing all generations of rights.

<sup>18</sup> Kengo Igei et al., "Synergistic Effects of Nudges and Boosts in Environmental Education: Evidence from a Field Experiment," *Ecological Economics* 224, no. June (2024): 108279, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolecon.2024.108279>.

<sup>19</sup> Kanaya Avitadira, Novie Indrawati, and Kata Kunci, "Upaya Mengatasi Permasalahan Sampah Di DKI Jakarta Tahun 2021/ : Tinjauan Collaborative Governance," *NeoRespublica/ : Jurnal Ilmu Pemerintahan* 5, no. 1 (2023): 49–69. DOI:10.52423/neores.v5i1.147.

<sup>20</sup> Penny Naluria Utami and Yuliana Primawardani, "Upaya Pemenuhan Hak Atas Lingkungan Hidup Terhadap Kebakaran Hutan Bagi Masyarakat Riau," *Jurnal Ham* 12, no. 3 (2021). DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.30641/ham.2021.12.367-384>.

<sup>21</sup> Longgona Ginting, "Hak-Hak Lingkungan Hidup Sebagai Hak Asasi Manusia," *Jurnal Hukum Internasional* 2, no. 2 (2005): 311–18. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.17304/ijil.vol2.2.6>.

First, civil and political rights can provide individuals, groups, and NGOs access to environmental information, legal remedies, and political processes. This perspective empowers participation in environmental decision-making and encourages governments to meet minimum protection standards against environmental degradation. Second, a decent and healthy environment can be considered an economic or social right, as the 1966 UN Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights promoted. This approach emphasizes environmental quality as an essential value, on a par with other economic and social rights. However, this right is often progressive and enforced through weak international mechanisms. Third, environmental quality can be viewed as a collective or solidarity right, where communities, rather than individuals, can determine how their environment and natural resources should be protected and managed.<sup>22</sup>

The development of the concept of environmental rights emphasizes that the environment is part of human rights that the state and society must protect. Everyone has the right to a clean, healthy environment that meets safety standards and a decent quality of life. This environmental right is stated in various international and national legal instruments, including the Convention on Human Rights and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. This emphasizes that the environment is an integral part of human rights, and states must strive to protect and improve the environment for society. This concept also emphasizes the importance of public participation in environmental decision-making, the right to information and open access to environmental information. This ensures that people understand the impacts of economic and development activities on their environment and the opportunity to influence decisions that affect the quality of their environment.<sup>23</sup>

Environmental law and human rights are intertwined because both aim to protect and improve people's quality of life. Environmental law focuses on preserving and improving the quality of the environment and protecting natural resources from damage. At the same time, human rights ensure that everyone has the same right to live in dignity without discrimination.<sup>24</sup> Thus, environmental law and human rights complement each other. Environmental law ensures adequate standards of safety and quality of life, while human rights ensure the right of every person to a clean and healthy environment. Therefore, the development and implementation of environmental law must consider human rights. Conversely, the defense of human rights must also consider the environmental impact. This is essential to achieving a just and sustainable improvement in the quality of life. Environmental rights require promotion and advocacy as part of human rights, ensuring that states and societies protect the environment. Environmental rights advocacy involves lobbying, campaigning, and public education to influence public policies related to the environment. In addition, this advocacy ensures that development and economic activities are carried out responsibly, considering environmental impacts. Environmental rights advocacy also plays an important role in recognizing and protecting these rights. Thus, states and societies are responsible for protecting the environment and ensuring a decent quality of life for all.

<sup>22</sup> Alan Boyle, "Human Rights Or Environmental Rights? A Reassessment," *Fordham Environmental Law Review* Vol. 18, No. 3, 18, no. 3 (2007): 471-511. Available at: <https://ir.lawnet.fordham.edu/elr/vol18/iss3/5>.

<sup>23</sup> Edy Lisdiyono, "The Cancellation of Environmental License of PT. Semen Indonesia: A Strategic Environmental Assessment," *HasanuddinLawReview* 3, no. 3 (December 2017): 322-33. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.20956/halrev.v3i3.1148>.

<sup>24</sup> Abdurrahman Supardi Usman, "Lingkungan Hidup Sebagai Subjek Hukum: Redefinisi Relasi Hak Asasi Manusia Dan Hak Asasi Lingkungan Hidup Dalam Perspektif Negara Hukum," *Jurnal Ilmiah Hukum LEGALITY* 26, no. 1 (2018): 1, <https://doi.org/10.22219/jihl.v26i1.6610>.

#### 4. Public welfare

A strong link between the right to an adequate standard of living and a healthy natural environment as a prerequisite for human health and well-being can be established. Article 11 of the ICESCR States recognizes “the right of everyone to an adequate standard of living for himself and his family, including adequate food, clothing and housing and to the continuous improvement of living conditions.” This article also includes ‘the right of everyone to be free from hunger.’ Similarly, realizing the right to health cannot be limited to medical care and assistance but includes protection from environmental hazards such as radioactive contamination, water pollution, and food pollution.

Many human rights conventions embody The right to health, including Article 12 of the ICESCR, Article 24 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, Article 10 of the San Salvador Protocol, and Article 16 of the Banjul Charter. Article 12 of the ICESCR states that it “recognize the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health.” One of the advanced prerequisites for realizing this standard is the ‘improvement of all aspects of environmental and industrial hygiene.’ In General Comment 14 on the right to the highest attainable standard of health, the CESCR provides a broader interpretation of the right to health. This Comment clearly shows that the enjoyment of the right to health depends on environmental conditions.<sup>25</sup>

Social welfare refers to improving the quality of life and providing adequate conditions for the happiness and satisfaction of individuals in society. This welfare covers various aspects, such as the economy, health, education, human rights, environment, infrastructure, and social security and stability.<sup>26</sup> Economic aspects play an important role because income levels, unemployment, and inflation affect an individual’s ability to meet basic needs. Physical and mental health also affect quality of life, where healthy individuals are more productive and can achieve their life goals. Education is key to gaining knowledge and skills that enable individuals to meet their needs and develop their full potential.

In addition, good environmental quality supports human well-being, while a polluted environment can harm health. Environmental protection is essential to supporting a healthy and sustainable life. Human rights also play a significant role in ensuring that every individual has the same right to live with dignity, free from discrimination, and to receive decent education, employment, and health care. Furthermore, adequate infrastructure such as roads, transportation, and public facilities allows easy and safe access to basic needs, enhancing well-being. Finally, social security and stability are essential so that individuals can live and work without fear of violence or uncertainty, supporting social harmony. These aspects are interrelated in ensuring the community’s decent and sustainable well-being.

Community participation is closely related to human well-being, as it influences community understanding and support for programs or projects designed to improve their quality of life. Ac-

<sup>25</sup> Linda Hajar Leib, “Theorisation of The Various Human Rights Approaches To Environmental Issues,” in *Human Rights and the Environment: Philosophical, Theoretical and Legal Perspectives* (Brill, 2011), 78.

<sup>26</sup> Kenneth J. Arrow, “A Difficulty in the Concept of Social Welfare,” *Journal of Political Economy* 58, no. 4 (1950): 328–46. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1086/256963>.

tive community participation ensures that the solutions implemented align with their needs and aspirations, strengthening community support and a sense of responsibility for the program's success.<sup>27</sup> When communities are not involved, individuals can feel marginalized and lose influence in improving their living conditions, leading to dissatisfaction and lower support for welfare-improving efforts. Therefore, Community participation is essential to ensure that policies or projects are genuinely relevant and acceptable to the community. By encouraging active participation, adequate well-being for individuals and communities can be achieved more effectively and sustainably. In addition, a comprehensive understanding of well-being as part of human rights is needed so that everyone feels entitled to participate in processes that affect their quality of life. Welfare rights are often categorized as "positive" rights, in contrast to "negative" rights, such as not being prevented from choosing one's ends (autonomy) and not being interfered with in their pursuit (liberty). Almost all of the classical rights of the 17th and 18th centuries (sometimes called "first generation" rights) were, at least on the surface, negative – except for the right to life. In a positive sense, welfare rights of the mid-20th century ("second generation" rights) appear to have increased not only in number but also in variety. Moreover, if, as many philosophers have thought, the duty not to harm is generally stricter than the duty to help, welfare rights may be a less demanding kind of right - second-rank and second-generation. There are reasons, which I will discuss in a moment, to doubt whether welfare rights can aspire to human rights.<sup>28</sup>

## 5. Environmental Issues and Community Welfare from a Human Security Perspective

### 5.1. Dynamics of the Human Security Concept

The idea of human security has revived debates about what constitutes 'security' and how best to achieve it. Much of the debate concerns how the concept has been defined and pursued by different national proponents. While presented as a global template for fundamentally reframing state security philosophies and policies to reflect the changing conditions and principles of the world order, human security has also become an instrument of national strategic priorities that often have strong domestic roots. As such, human security has been presented variously as a menu for reducing the human costs of violent conflict, as a strategy to enable governments to address basic human needs and offset the inequalities of globalization, and as a framework for providing a social safety net for people impoverished and marginalized by sudden and severe economic crises.<sup>29</sup>

Human security suggests that security policy and security analysis must focus on the individual as their primary referent and beneficiary if they are to be compelling and legitimate. In broad terms, human security is 'freedom from want' and 'freedom from fear': positive and negative liberties and rights that relate to the basic needs of individuals. Human security is normative; it argues that there is an ethical responsibility to reorient security around the individual in line with internationally recognized human rights and governance standards. Therefore, much human security scholarship is explicitly or implicitly underpinned by solidarity commitments, and some

<sup>27</sup> Jo Anne Schneider, "Introduction: Social Welfare and Welfare Reform," *American Anthropologist* 103, no. 3 (2001): 705–13. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/683608>.

<sup>28</sup> James Griffin, "Welfare Rights," *The Journal of Ethics* 4, no. 1/2 (March 2000): 27–43. <https://doi.org/10.1023/A:1009899901413>.

<sup>29</sup> Amitav Acharya, "Human Security: East versus West," *International Journal* 56, no. 3 (2001): 442–60. <https://doi.org/10.2307/40203577>.



are cosmopolitan in their ethical orientation. Some human security scholars also seek to present explanatory arguments about the nature of security, deprivation, and conflict. Furthermore, most scholars and practitioners working on human security emphasize the policy orientation of this approach; they believe that the concept of human security can and should lead to policy changes that improve people's well-being.<sup>30</sup>

The growth of interest in human security since the early 1990s can be seen in a particular historical and social context that has eroded the narrow, state-centered, and militarised national security paradigm in policy and academic circles. This background is well documented elsewhere and need not be examined in detail here. There is no indisputable definition of, or approach to, human security; very few advocates would describe it as a 'paradigm.' Like all non-traditional approaches to security, human security as a starting point challenges orthodox neorealist conceptions of international security.

Human security scholars argue that for many people, perhaps the greatest threats to 'security' come from internal conflict, disease, famine, environmental pollution, or criminal violence. More significant threats may come from their own countries rather than 'external' enemies. Human security thus seeks to challenge attitudes and institutions that privilege so-called 'high politics' over individual experiences of deprivation and insecurity. This is not to suggest that human security is necessarily at odds with state security; the state remains the central provider of security in ideal circumstances. However, human security shows that international security, as traditionally defined by territorial integrity, does not necessarily correlate with human security and that an overemphasis on state security can undermine the needs of human well-being. Thus, the traditional conception of state security is a necessary but insufficient condition for human well-being. Citizens of a country like Bangladesh who are 'secure' according to the traditional concept of security may be personally deeply insecure to the point that it calls for a reassessment of the concept of security.<sup>31</sup>

Different interpretations of human security are not necessarily incompatible, but they give rise to controversy and suspicion in multilateral settings. Reconciling the different meanings of, and approaches to, human security is thus essential to any meaningful attempt to operationalize the concept and make it a powerful instrument of a just and secure world. For advocates of human security in the West, a powerful challenge comes from the 'East' (Asia), which draws on the East's traditional understanding of security, claims of cultural specificity, and relative abundance of illiberal politics. To be sure, Asia hosts some of the strongest proponents of the human security idea. However, the understanding of human security now prevalent in much of Asia differs in important respects from its meaning in Canada and other Western countries. Some Asian governments and analysts see human security as yet another attempt by the West to impose its liberal values and political institutions on non-Western societies. Others question the 'newness' of the concept, claiming that the human security idea's emphasis on a range of non-military threats reflects earlier, home-grown notions of 'comprehensive security' formulated by many regional governments.<sup>32</sup>

Much of the literature on human security can be traced back to the United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) 1994 Human Development Report. However, its roots can be found

<sup>30</sup> Edward Newman, "Critical Human Security Studies," *Review of International Studies* 36, no. 1 (January 2010): 77-94. doi: [10.1017/S0260210509990519](https://doi.org/10.1017/S0260210509990519).

<sup>31</sup> Newman.

<sup>32</sup> Acharya, "Human Security: East versus West."

in the debates about the meaning of security that preceded the end of the Cold War, including the debates about the development-disarmament nexus in various United Nations forums in response to the Cold War arms race.' The work of several independent commissions, such as the Brandt Commission, the Brundtland Commission, and, later, the Commission on Global Governance, helped shift the focus of security analysis from national security and states to security for people.' An increasing recognition of non-military threats in global security debates followed this. The UNDP's approach to human development synthesized earlier representations of human security. The work of the UHDP resulted from innovative scholarship by an Asian scholar, Mahbub ul Haq. It lists seven separate components of human security: economic security (a basic guaranteed income), food security (physical and economic access to food), health security (relative freedom from disease and infection), environmental security (access to clean water supplies, clean air and an unhealthy environment and degraded soil systems), personal security (security from physical violence and threats), community security (security of cultural identity), and political security (protection of human rights and freedoms). There is explicit criticism that the UNDP definition is too broad. However, defenders of the report believe that a broad definition is necessary and desirable, given the broader constituency of the United Nations. Other definitions of human security link it more explicitly to human rights and humanitarian law. This reflects a new international climate marked by a shift in norms of state sovereignty with a particular focus on protecting human rights. One of the critics of the UNDP report is the Canadian government and its foreign minister, Moyd Axworthy. While recognizing the report as the source of the 'special phrase' of human security, Canada criticized it for focusing too much on threats related to underdevelopment at the expense of 'human insecurity resulting from violent conflict.' In Canada, human security is 'the security of peoples,' the UN Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the Geneva Conventions are 'core elements' of human security doctrine. 'The concept of human security is increasingly centered on the human costs of violent conflict.' This understanding of human security is shared by several like-minded middle powers, such as Norway, which joined forces with Ottawa to establish a Partnership for Human Security. The Partnership identified nine human security agendas: landmines, the establishment of an International Criminal Court, human rights, international humanitarian law, women and children in armed conflict, small arms proliferation, child soldiers, child labor, and northern cooperation.

## **5.2. The Concept of Environmental Security as a Component in the Concept of Human Security**

Historically, conventional national security discussions have focused on direct threats from other states to the homeland. However, in the face of globalization, national security priorities have expanded to include non-traditional transnational threats, including cyber warfare, terrorism, violent extremism, and organized crime. More recently, the national security gap has widened to include non-traditional threats emerging from any source. This shift has allowed the security community to engage with environmental security issues.<sup>33</sup>

<sup>33</sup> Amanda Shaver and Sally Yozell, "Environmental Security," The Henry L. Stimson Center 2018. <https://www.stimson.org/2018/casting-wider-net-security-implications-illegal-unreported-and-unregulated-fishing>.

Security here refers to efforts to protect an institution's core or freedom from serious ecological threats.<sup>34</sup> In other words, environmental security can also be interpreted as a series of environmental threats, both anthropogenic and natural, that can harm ecology, humans, communities, or even countries and have the potential to undermine national, regional, and global security. Experts have identified environmental issues, ranging from water scarcity to resource depletion, contributing to economic disenfranchisement, destabilization, and conflict.<sup>35</sup>

Based on the concept of human security put forward by UNDP, the report places the environment as one of seven essential components. The environment is closely related to human survival and is a prerequisite for other components, such as health and economy. A good environment plays an important role in determining a region's public health level. Without a healthy environment, people cannot live properly. Therefore, any threat to the environment can have an impact on human security.<sup>36</sup>

### 5.3. Community Welfare as an Important Component in the Concept of Human Security

Human rights are universal claims that each individual has against others. Thus, the right to liberty guarantees that we all have the right not to be dominated or hindered, and the responsibility for that lies with each individual, group, government, and all other agents. This shows that the right to welfare is an ethical right that a person has as a citizen.<sup>37</sup> Carl Wellman, who has written as informatively on welfare rights as anyone in our time, puts the point this way: The most obvious, and perhaps the most important, lesson to be learned is that one should not conceive of our fundamental ethical rights to welfare benefits as human rights. These are not moral rights that individuals have simply as human beings, for they cannot be grounded in human nature or the generality of human existence. Our most fundamental welfare rights are civil rights, the moral rights of individuals as citizens against their state. Only in this way can the problems of scarce resources and wasteful duplication be solved theoretically, and the responsibility to meet human needs is established in practice.<sup>38</sup> In other words, regardless of whether welfare rights are human rights or not, welfare is one form or category of rights.

Welfare rights can be understood from the perspective of human security, which is one of the main objectives of the concept. Humans are often victims of various rulers' policies and political dynamics, such as war, where security is only seen as a system oriented towards the interests of the state alone. Now, more attention is directed at how humans should be humanized.<sup>39</sup> Therefore, the components of the concept of human security were created to support the goals of human welfare and improving the quality of life.

<sup>34</sup> Michael Mason and Mark Zeitoun, "Questioning Environmental Security," *The Geographical Journal* 179, no. 4 (December 2013): 294–97. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/geoj.12030>.

<sup>35</sup> Shaver and Yozell, "Environmental Security."

<sup>36</sup> T. Legionosuko et al., "Posisi Dan Strategi Indonesia Dalam Menghadapi Perubahan Iklim Guna Mendukung Ketahanan Nasional," *Jurnal Ketahanan Nasional* 25, no. 3 (2019). <https://doi.org/10.22146/jkn.50907>.

<sup>37</sup> Ildus Yarulin and Evgeny Pozdnyakov, "Are Universal Human Rights Universal?," *Politeja* 18, no. 2(71) (2021): 67–77, <https://doi.org/10.12797/politeja.18.2021.71.03>.

<sup>38</sup> Griffin, "Welfare Rights."

<sup>39</sup> Jack Donnelly, "Cultural Relativism and Universal Human Rights," *Human Rights Quarterly* 6, no. 4 (1984): 400–419. <https://doi.org/10.2307/762182>.

The UNDP report clearly states that one component of human security is related to food security, personal security, and environmental security, which can be interpreted as the three components being very closely related to human welfare itself.<sup>40</sup> This means that the concept of human security tries to explain how every human being's access to food and the environment, along with all its potential, must be considered in the security domain. All components must again be viewed as a series of efforts to become human security so that, mentally and physically, they can achieve a certain level of well-being. It is difficult to deny and say that the seven components have nothing to do with well-being, or at least if you say it is only an indirect relationship.

## **6. Conflict in the Implementation of the Concept of Human Security between Welfare and Environmental Sustainability**

The emergence of human security is motivated by the spirit of connecting the conventional concept of security with the concept of Human Rights. As the name implies, 'human' security means that the center of this concept is humans themselves. All values are aimed at the interests of humans and humanizing humans so that the concept of security can be seen as more humane. All potentials that can support the interests of human survival are drawn as one aspect of security. The environment and the economy are among the seven concepts or ideas UNDP offers in human security.<sup>41</sup> These two aspects cannot be separated from human interests and life. The economy serves as a foundation for humans to achieve prosperity, while the environment and all its potential become a foothold for living, living, and avoiding various threats. Several components cover human security. The seven components of human security put forward by UNDP in the 1994 Human Development Report cover various aspects that affect human welfare holistically. These components are economic security, which relates to access to decent income and employment; food security, which ensures the availability of sufficient and quality food; health security, which refers to access to adequate health services and disease prevention; environmental security, which relates to protection against environmental damage that can threaten human life; personal security, which includes protection from physical violence or threats to individual safety; community security, which relates to protection from threats to cultural integrity, language, and identity; and political security, which guarantees individual freedom from political repression, the right to participate in decision-making, and protected human rights. These seven components are interrelated and form the basis of human security, aiming to achieve prosperity and a decent life for everyone. Of the seven components, one aspect that does not escape attention is related to environmental security. The environment is used as one aspect of human security, considering that the environment is one factor and can indicate how security can be achieved. Creating a safe and conducive environment can certainly affect human life. So, when certain conditions can threaten the sustainability of the environment, it can indirectly threaten human security.<sup>42</sup>

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<sup>40</sup> Karen O'Brien and Robin Leichenko, "Human Security, Vulnerability and Sustainable Adaptation.," (New York: United Nations, Report Human Development Program, 2007). 23-26.

<sup>41</sup> Elliott, "Human Security/Environmental Security."

<sup>42</sup> Mumtazinur and Yenny Sri Wahyuni, "Keamanan Individu (Personal Security) Dan Qanun Hukum Keluarga: Tinjauan Konsep Keamanan Manusia (Human Security)," *El-Ussrah: Jurnal Hukum Keluarga* 4, no. 1 (2021). DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.22373/ujhk.v4i1.8504>.

Regardless of how the right to welfare is viewed, whether as one of the Human Rights or not, in Indonesia itself, it is stated in the 1945 Constitution, namely in Article 27 paragraph (2), which states that Indonesian citizens have the right to a decent living. Thus, welfare is one of the rights that every citizen can access, especially since our country's Constitution guarantees this.

According to many formulations, the beneficiaries of the rights that arise are individuals with the right to a 'clean,' 'healthy,' and 'safe' environment necessary for their health and well-being. Rights holders also have the right to economic rights to local natural resources and the economic benefits of development projects. The importance of this right is most clearly seen in developing countries where local communities and indigenous peoples have strong ties to their natural environment and want to maintain sustainable livelihoods based on the use and management of natural resources. Environmental rights can also be extended to protect present and future generations, where short-term economic benefits are sacrificed for long-term ethical commitments to children and future generations, known as the rights of future generations.<sup>43</sup>

However, this right raises the question of what would compel present generations to conserve the environment and sacrifice their economic well-being for the sake of unborn humans and what would compel people to conserve nature for its intrinsic value or worth. In this respect, environmental and mental rights are helpful because they offer a potential solution to this philosophical dilemma. The power of human rights is that they do not depend on the benevolence of states or the moral commitments of individuals; they are potent rights that allow their beneficiaries to escape the unfavorable will of the majority, even if the majority chooses to elevate its interests above those of the environment or future generations.<sup>44</sup>

With these conditions, the biggest challenge is raising awareness and fostering a sense of importance to preserve the environment, which can reduce understanding and gain economic benefits only in the short term. If this fails to be understood, it can be a serious threat no matter how hard the government tries because, in the end, the interest is to gain short-term economic benefits. The impact of not caring about environmental sustainability can be felt in the near term and does not even need to wait for future generations. That may happen in our time. In fact, by protecting the environment, humans become themselves to stay safe. On the other hand, when humans damage the environment, they will only bring threats to themselves instead of gaining prosperity. However, for parties who are proven in their activities to meet their economic needs, they destroy the environment or carry out activities that are contrary to environmental law, the government also needs to act wisely, especially to Indigenous communities or local communities, by providing a kind of replacement for other sources of livelihood by developing capacity or providing business capital so that they still have access to gain prosperity.

## 7. Conclusion

Protecting the environment means protecting human survival. Threats to the environment are threats to humans. Ironically, the greatest threat to the environment often comes from humans

<sup>43</sup> Linda Hajar Leib, "Reconfiguration of the Human Rights System In Light Of Sustainable Development And the Two-Level Conceptualisation of Environmental Rights," in *Human Rights and the Environment: Philosophical, Theoretical and Legal Perspectives*, vol. 3 (Brill, 2010), 154. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/10.1163/j.ctt1w8h1t2>.

<sup>44</sup> Leib, "Reconfiguration of the Human Rights System In Light Of Sustainable Development And the Two-Level Conceptualisation of Environmental Rights."

themselves. Various factors contribute to this problem, but the main factor is human economic activity. Under the pretext of economic needs and welfare, humans often ignore environmental sustainability and sacrifice ecological sustainability. This condition is illustrated by forest fires, land conflicts, poaching, and industrial activities that pollute water and air with pollutants or hazardous chemicals. It is important to understand that human security also includes aspects of poverty. A decent life is a fundamental right of every person protected by the Constitution, although the same provisions also limit it. When economic activity hurts the environment, this threat can become a security issue. In this context, as an important factor in security issues, the state must provide solutions and formulate livelihood substitution strategies with values and results that are at least equal or even better. Thus, the state does not only act as an institution that issues prohibitions but also as a producer of constructive solutions.

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