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# INDONESIA DEFENSE MAGAZINE



INTERVIEW

## INTERVIEW WITH CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE INDONESIAN AIR FORCE, AIR CHIEF MARSHAL FADJAR PRASETYO

HISTORY

## TRACES OF THE LEGIUN MANGKUNEGARAN'S GLORY IN THE INDONESIAN ARCHIPELAGO

SPECIAL REPORT

## THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA DEFENSE UNIVERSITY (RIDU) – BACHELOR'S DEGREE (S-1)

## PRABOWO'S STRATEGIC ENDEAVOR TO BOLSTER INDONESIA'S DEFENSE

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Dear Readers,
Welcome to our Twenty-First Edition

As Indonesia's defense-oriented periodical publication enters its fourth year, we wish to extend to our many readers a warm welcome, and an expression of appreciation for your interest and participation – particularly those Indonesian military figures in TNI who have so generously shared their time and wisdom with us, through many issues.

This 21st edition of Indonesia Defense Magazine is packed with numerous original articles and reports which should interest a broad range of experts, military analysts, defense contractors and students of Southeast Asian dynamics.

A Special Report on the young and vital Defense University of the Republic of Indonesia (Unhan RI) elaborates extensively on the establishment of S-1 (Bachelor's) Degrees at Unhan and how the institution is intended to deliver a vital contribution to national development and society at large, with emphasis on the vibrant and growing defense sector.

Unhan RI's quest aims to turn out graduates armed with a strong national identity, state defense attitude and competitive advantage in what is known as "Defense Science". That is embodied in the mission statements of Defense University of the Republic of Indonesia (Unhan RI), central to achievement of its vision by 2024: to become a world-class research-based defense university that champions national values.

We zoom in for a closeup, visiting cadets from different parts of the Indonesian archipelago, dedicated to become "spearheads" of state defense. Student cadets from different regions attend Unhan RI and share their backgrounds, and how their life journeys have led them to a course of study at Unhan.

An in-depth interview with Chief of Staff of the Indonesian Air Force, Air Marshal Fadjar Prasetyo, (KSAU) looks at ways to build a "regionally respected air force", on a limited budget, considering that social considerations often take priority over spending on pricey imported defense hardware.

We are asked why TNI AU picked the Rafale, from France. One consideration is that this largest nation in Europe has veto rights and historically pursues a more independent decision-making path, attempting to steer clear of superpower domination. A mature military technology is embodied in the Rafale, whose competitive advantages, among others, is that it has been conceived and designed as an *omnirole* – instead of multirole, air platform. Air Marshal Fadjar Prasetyo explains the versatility of an aircraft carrying out a ground attack suddenly having to respond to an aerial threat; the Rafale can immediately switch roles, adroitly.

We also share energetic exchanges on today's rapid advancement of military technology, and how it will impact an increasingly unpredictable security situation. The introduction of hypersonic missiles is a fine example of this.

Indonesia Defense Magazine periodically devotes attention to the rich history of our land, and this issue expostulates on the glory of Kanjeng Gusti Pangeran Adipati Arya (KGPAA) Mangkunegara I Raden Mas Said (or Prince Sambernyawa), with his elite armed forces, called the *Legiun Mangkunegaran Palace*, dating from 1757, in the warrior history of our Archipelago.

Our Defense Minister greets crowds of local people in eastern Indonesia: Indonesian Defense Minister Prabowo Subianto, accompanying President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo made working visits to several regions, including Papua in the eastern part of Indonesia. Jokowi and Prabowo inaugurated the Papua Youth Creative Hub (PYCH) building, inspected the food estate in Keerom Regency and monitored food prices in Youtefa Market. Read about this in our Insight I rubric.

As Indonesia's National Defense Industry arouses interest in many unknown markets, Indonesian Defense Minister Prabowo pursues defense cooperation opportunities with a number of friendly countries. In May 2023, Prabowo held bilateral meetings



with Minister of Defense and Veterans of the Democratic Republic of the Congo H.E. Mr. Jean Pierre Bemba Gombo on Thursday, 11 May. We cover the essence of this exchange, where H. E. Jean Pierre states that his country is interested in weapons and aircraft manufactured in Indonesia. He also asks Indonesia to accept young Congolese officers and cadets in the Indonesian military academy or Republic of Indonesia Defense University (RIDU).

The roots of the ongoing Russia-Ukraine War and the involvement of NATO is examined, as this conflict between Russia and Ukraine did in fact begin long before the Russian invasion on February 24, 2022. Conflicts between these two nations, formerly the USSR, are more complicated than they first appear, and are influenced by a variety of elements including internal culture and geopolitics. The Americans obvious intention to maintain its hegemony as a superpower is behind the conflict.

The La Fayette, an anti-submarine warship, or "stealth frigate" of the French Navy, the general-purpose stealth frigate of the French Navy (Marine Nationale) docked at Tanjung Priok, Saturday (25/3). Its four-day port visit to Indonesia, continuing its journey around the world on the Jeanne D'Arc 2023 mission, was an opportunity for Indonesia Defense Magazine (IDM) to take a closer look at La Fayette.

Capt. (Retd.) Dedi Junaedi, a tough warrior who served as Prabowo Subianto's former bodyguard, is interviewed in this warm talk. "Pak Prabowo asked my unit commander to nominate several soldiers to be his bodyguards. I was chosen along with Pak Sutar, Ketut, Joko and two drivers," said Dedi, astounded at the honor.

The Jupiter Aerobatic Team, showcasing Indonesian Air Force flying skills, performs with aerobatic grit, guts and gusto, at many high-profile events and celebrations both at home and overseas. Indonesia Defense Magazine (IDM) enjoyed a rare opportunity to get up close and personal with "The Jupiters," as the JAT pilots are affectionately known. Read about it here.

We hope you enjoy reading our magazine.

**Irawan Ronodipuro**
Editor-in-Chief

# CONTENT




SPECIAL REPORT
THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA DEFENSE UNIVERSITY (RIDU) — BACHELOR'S DEGREE (S-1)
**PRABOWO'S STRATEGIC ENDEAVOR TO BOLSTER INDONESIA'S DEFENSE**
S-1 UNIVERSITAS PERTAHANAN RI
**UPAYA STRATEGIS PRABOWO MEMBANGUN PERTAHANAN INDONESIA**
06 - 23

NATIONAL DEFENSE
PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICE OF THE INDONESIAN ARMY (DISPSIAD)
**TAKING MILITARY PSYCHOLOGY TO THE NEXT LEVEL**
DINAS PSIKOLOGI ANGKATAN DARAT
**MENGEMBANGKAN LAYANAN PSIKOLOGI BERBASIS DARING**
24 - 29

FASHARKAN JAKARTA
**KEEPING NAVY VESSELS IN TOP SHAPE AND OPERATIONALLY READY**
FASHARKAN JAKARTA PENJAGA
**KAPAL TNI AL AGAR SIAP BERLAGA**
30 - 35

JUPITER AEROBATIC TEAM
**SHOWCASING BRILLIANCE OF THE INDONESIAN AIR FORCE WITH GRIT, GUTS, AND GUSTO**
JUPITER AEROBATIC TEAM
**HARUS PUNYA KONSENTRASI TINGGI DAN NYALI YANG BESAR**
36 - 43

INTERVIEW
**BUILDING A REGIONALLY RESPECTED AIR FORCE**
**MENJADIKAN ANGKATAN UDARA YANG DISEGANI DI KAWASAN**
48- 57

PHOTOSTORY
**PROVIDING ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER TO BETTER THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE OF NTB**
**SUMBER AIR BERSIH UNTUK KEHIDUPAN MASYARAKAT NTB YANG LEBIH BAIK**





82 - 89

TECHNOLOGY
LA FAYETTE
**THE VERSATILE, CUTTING-EDGE STEALTH FRIGATE OF THE FRENCH NAVY**
LA FAYETTE FREGAT
**SILUMAN CANGGIH ANGKATAN LAUT PRANCIS**
110 - 115



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**Suherman Tanjung**
**Iwan**
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+6221 22717577 (business)





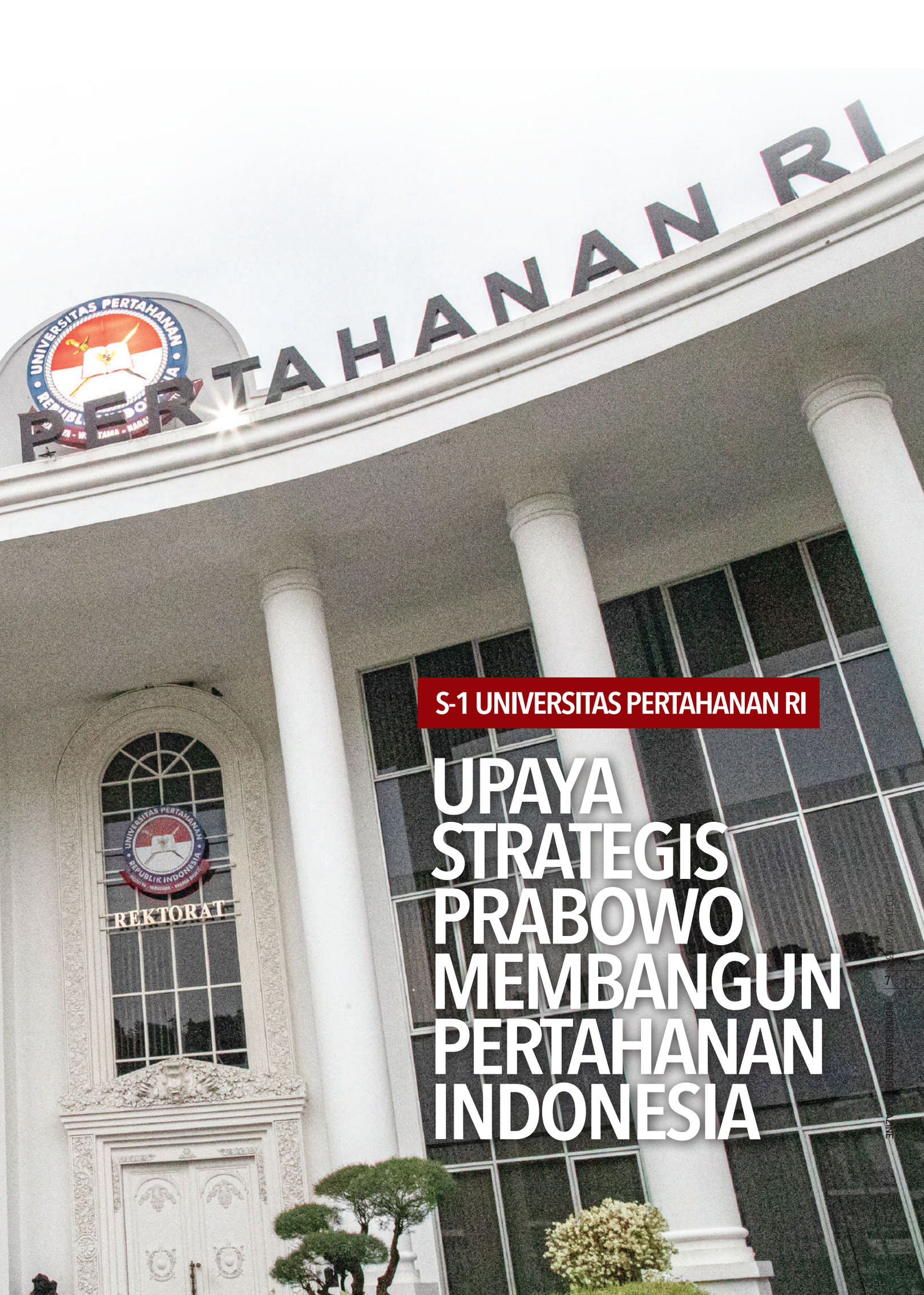
Defile of Indonesia Defense University's undergraduate student cadets.
Photo: IDM/Bachren

IDM/FAISAL RAMADHAN

Menghasilkan lulusan yang memiliki jati diri kebangsaan, berkarakter bela negara, dan berdaya saing keilmuan pertahanan sesuai bidang. Demikian salah satu misi yang diemban Universitas Pertahanan (Unhan) RI dalam menjalankan visinya yaitu menjadi universitas pertahanan kelas dunia (*world class defense university*) pada 2024, yang berbasis riset dengan melestarikan nilai-nilai kebangsaan.




Gedung Rektorat Universitas Pertahanan Republik Indonesia.




S-1 UNIVERSITAS PERTAHANAN RI

# UPAYA STRATEGIS PRABOWO MEMBANGUN PERTAHANAN INDONESIA

Sejak diresmikan tahun 2009 Unhan RI yang terletak di Sentul, Jawa Barat ini, hanya menyediakan pendidikan Strata 2 (S-2) bagi mahasiswanya. Namun pada 2020 atas prakarsa Menteri Pertahanan Prabowo Subianto, dibentuklah program Strata 1 (S-1) untuk melengkapi jenjang pendidikan yang sudah ada lengkap dengan sejumlah fakultas dan program studi yang fokus pada ilmu eksakta.

Pendirian S-1 ini tidak lepas dari kebutuhan negara untuk memenuhi sumber daya manusia di bidang pertahanan yang unggul dan berkualitas. Beragam dinamika tantangan serta ancaman di masa depan harus diantisipasi sejak jauh hari. Hal ini juga ditegaskan oleh Prabowo yang mengatakan bahwa kesiapan pertahanan suatu negara tidak hanya dilihat dari alutsista yang dimiliki, tetapi aspek sumber daya manusia pertahanan juga menjadi barometer kuat bahwa negara tersebut kuat dan disegani.

Keberadaan universitas ini disebut Prabowo sebagai bagian strategis dalam upaya membangun pertahanan Indonesia. "Saya melihat Unhan RI ini strategis dan bisa kita jadikan aset. Kita cari anak terpintar dan terbaik, tanpa melihat latar belakang orang tua, ras, suku, dan agama. Putra-putri terbaik bangsa," kata dia.

Fauzan Malufti pengamat pertahanan dari Semar Sentinel menilai pendirian S-1 di Unhan RI dapat memberi kesempatan bagi masyarakat yang ingin mendapatkan pendidikan, terutama yang fokus pada dunia kemiliteran. "Secara umum Unhan RI akan membantu memperbaiki persentase masyarakat untuk mengenyam pendidikan tinggi karena hingga saat ini angkanya masih sangat rendah, apalagi S-1 maupun S-2 dibiayai penuh oleh negara, sehingga dari sisi ekonomi sangat membantu mahasiswanya," ujar Fauzan.

Dalam rubrik *Special Report* kali ini, *Indonesia Defense Magazine* akan mengupas lebih dalam mengenai kehadiran S-1 Unhan RI. Di usianya yang masih sangat belia, program pendidikan ini diharapkan dapat mencetak manusia-manusia unggul sehingga mampu memberikan kontribusi signifikan bagi negara khususnya di bidang pertahanan. Selamat membaca! **(nhn/yas)** ***

