

JOE BIDEN'S EXTRAORDINARY MEASURES TOWARDS THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AS A SECURITY THREAT IN THE UNITED STATES

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ABSTRAK

Fenomena pandemi COVID-19 di Amerika Serikat telah memantik perhatian serius Joe Biden. Amerika Serikat sebagai negara adidaya telah mengalami kewalahan dalam menghadapi pandemi COVID-19, dimana jumlah kasus terkonfirmasi COVID-19 meningkat secara signifikan dan angka kematian akibat COVID-19 melonjak tajam. Hal ini memicu rasa keprihatinan Joe Biden. Oleh karena itu, Joe Biden membingkai fenomena pandemi COVID-19 sebagai sebuah ancaman keamanan di Amerika Serikat. Pasca melakukan konstruksi ancaman keamanan pandemi COVID-19 melalui serangkaian pidato dan mendapatkan respons penerimaan dari audiens. Presiden Joe Biden kemudian mengesahkan tindakan luar biasa untuk penanganan pandemi COVID-19 di Amerika Serikat. Prioritas tinggi ditempatkan Joe Biden terhadap isu pandemi COVID-19 di Amerika Serikat. Penelitian ini hendak menganalisis sejauh mana kebijakan Joe Biden dalam menanggapi permasalahan pandemi COVID-19 di Amerika Serikat. Penelitian ini mengumpulkan teks kebijakan Joe Biden terhadap permasalahan pandemi COVID-19 di Amerika Serikat tepat pasca menduduki kursi kepresidenan AS ke-46. Metode penelitian digunakan adalah pendekatan kualitatif dan deskriptif. Kerangka pemikiran dalam penelitian ini menggunakan teori sekuritisasi dari Copenhagen School of Security Studies (CSS). Hasil penelitian ini adalah dalam menanggapi pandemi COVID-19, Joe Biden secara drastis melakukan tindakan secara cepat, darurat, dan menabrak aturan politik normal dalam bentuk Strategi Nasional Penanganan COVID-19 dan Kesiapsiagaan Pandemi, dan Perintah Eksekutif.

Kata kunci: Joe Biden, Kebijakan Luar Biasa, Pandemi COVID-19, Ancaman Keamanan, Amerika Serikat.

ABSTRACT

The COVID-19 pandemic in the United States has sparked serious attention from Joe Biden. The United States, as a global superpower, has been severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The number of confirmed cases has increased significantly, and the death toll has soared. This has triggered Joe Biden's concern. Therefore, Joe Biden framed the COVID-19 pandemic as a security threat to the United States, having constructed this narrative through a series of speeches, and received a response from the audience. President Joe Biden then passed extraordinary measures to handle the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States. Joe Biden places a high priority on addressing the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States. This research aims to analyze the extent to which Joe Biden's policies have responded to the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States. This research collects Joe Biden's policy texts regarding the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States right after

assuming the 46th US presidency. The research method used is a qualitative and descriptive approach. The framework for this research uses securitization theory from the Copenhagen School of Security Studies (CSS). The results of this research show that in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, Joe Biden took swift and urgent action, also breaking with standard political rules through the National Strategy for the COVID-19 Response and Pandemic Preparedness and Executive Orders.

Keywords: Joe Biden, Extraordinary Measures, COVID-19 Pandemic, Security Threats, United States.

INTRODUCTION

The United States recorded its first case of COVID-19 on January 21, 2020, announced through a press release by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2020). Later on February 29, 2020, the CDC announced the first death from COVID-19 in the US (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2020). On March 31, 2020, the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in the US surpassed those in Italy. According to a report by The Washington Post, the number of cases in the US reached 161,807, while Italy had 101,739 cases. Previously, Italy was considered the epicenter of the COVID-19 pandemic due to its high number of confirmed cases. Then, the US was referred to as the epicenter of the COVID-19 pandemic (Washington Post, 2020).

The United States Census Bureau, in its economic surveys, stated that the COVID-19 pandemic had an impact on the economic downtrend across all major sectors of the country's economy, including services, retail trade, wholesale trade, and manufacturing (United States Census Bureau, 2022). In addition, the economic impact can be seen through the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities report in the Special Series COVID Hardship Watch (2021) that the economic downturn due to the COVID-19 pandemic impacted the difficulties in obtaining food, inability to pay for housing rent and job losses in low-income industries (Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 2021). According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics report, COVID-19 contributed to a 6 million increase in unemployment in February 2020, rising to 23 million in April 2020 (United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2020).

In its reports, the Center for Applied Social and Economic Research at NYU Shanghai stated that the COVID-19 pandemic has also impacted society. In which trust in the federal government decreased by 56.19 percent, trust in state governments tended to decline by 33.02 percent. At the end of October 2020, as many as 61.59 percent of Americans had a negative view of the Trump administration's response to the COVID-19 pandemic (Center for Applied Social and Economic Research, 2020).

The Trump administration is considered to have failed in responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic in the US (CNN, 2020). The epicenter of the COVID-19 pandemic in the US is regarded as a mistake by President Donald Trump. In addition, President Donald Trump underestimated

COVID-19, opposed the WHO, stopped funding for the WHO, and withdrew from the WHO. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, Joe Biden has taken a different approach from President Donald Trump, delivering a series of speeches that consider COVID-19 a security threat. During the 2020 US Presidential Election campaign, he made a political promise to take strategic steps to combat COVID-19. Joe Biden's rhetoric regarding the COVID-19 pandemic was delivered in the form of claims (Rev, 2020) and orders (Rev, 2020) and has received various resonances from several parties, including NPR (NPR, 2020), Voice of America (VOA, 2020), and ABC News (ABC News, 2020). Then, when elected as the 46th US Presidential Candidate, the Joe Biden Administration made a promise in the first 100 days of his leadership to overcome the COVID-19 pandemic (NPR, 2020).

Reflecting on the deep concern over the problems and threats of insecurity caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the US, after taking office as the 46th US President, Joe Biden drastically prioritized policies for handling the COVID-19 pandemic (The White House, 2021). As conveyed on the official website of the White House government with the title "COVID-19: The Biden-Harris plan to beat COVID-19", the COVID-19 pandemic was made a priority by the Joe Biden Administration. This research will examine Joe Biden's policy response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The objective of this research is to investigate Joe Biden's extraordinary measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States. This research is essential to see that the COVID-19 pandemic has entered the realm of security threats in the United States. This research will provide an opening for further studies in international relations on the issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic, which has entered the realm of security and presents political implications for a country.

LITERATURE REVIEW

This research uses a literature review to support the issues that will be discussed. Previous studies are used as a comparison. This research draws on several examples that can be used as references. First, a paper by Venisa Yunita Sari, entitled "Analysis of the Chinese Government's Response in Handling COVID-19." This study examines the policy responses implemented by the Chinese government during the Xi Jinping era in response to the spread of COVID-19. Specifically, this study focuses on the policy responses issued by the Chinese government to address the COVID-19 pandemic, utilizing securitization theory. The results of this study indicate that China is attempting to handle the COVID-19 pandemic in order to regain the world's trust. The Chinese government's response to handling COVID-19 involves creating three stages of containment strategy, which include implementing self-isolation, mobilizing the masses, and utilizing technology (Sari, 2020).

Second, a paper by Kai-Chun Wang entitled "Securitization of Public Policy and Pandemic: Taiwan's Case Against Covid-19". This study explains the response to the COVID-19 pandemic in Taiwan. Specifically, this study examines Taiwan's success in securitizing the COVID-19 pandemic. The results of this study indicate that Taiwan responded relatively well to the COVID-19 pandemic by

rapidly mobilizing and restructuring government institutions to combat the disease. When the COVID-19 pandemic occurred, the Taiwanese government immediately acted by establishing and enforcing laws and regulations related to the control of infectious diseases. Thus, Taiwan has the legal authority to enforce regulations and effectively combat the COVID-19 pandemic. Some Taiwanese people then obeyed government regulations by being aware of the control of infectious diseases (Wang, 2021).

Third, a paper by Tegar Ongky Heri Nugroho Wahyudiono and M. Dziaqie Aulia Al-Farauqi entitled "The Securitization Process of the COVID-19 Pandemic in Indonesia". This study explains the handling of the COVID-19 pandemic in Indonesia. Specifically, this study examines how the Indonesian government addresses COVID-19, as informed by securitization theory. The results of this study show that the extraordinary actions taken by the Indonesian government to minimize the threat of the COVID-19 pandemic have led to the implementation of PSBB (Large-Scale Social Restrictions) and PPKM (Enforcement of Community Activity Restrictions) policies (Wahyudiono et al., 2022).

Based on the scientific literature above, a relevance was found between previous studies and the research topic, examining how the policy for handling the COVID-19 pandemic is implemented. However, the previous studies mentioned above focus on China, Taiwan, and Indonesia. Given that there has been no specific research that explicitly discusses the United States' COVID-19 pandemic policy, this study will contribute to the literature by analyzing Joe Biden's extraordinary measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This research is interesting to discuss because the United States under the previous administration, considered the COVID-19 pandemic as something ordinary and did not show any specific priorities and policies to overcome it. However, in the Joe Biden administration, the COVID-19 pandemic is viewed as a security threat, necessitating the implementation of extraordinary measures, including national strategies and executive orders.

ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK

The framework of thought used in this research is the Securitization theory from the Copenhagen School of Security Studies (CSS). This research will analyze Joe Biden's policies on the COVID-19 pandemic, as outlined in the National Strategy for the COVID-19 Response and Pandemic Preparedness and Executive Orders. After being dissected using the securitization theory, it will be determined whether it falls under the category of extraordinary measures.

Securitization Theory

Securitization Theory was pioneered by Copenhagen School academics including Barry Buzan, Ole Wæver, and Jaap de Wilde. The Copenhagen School introduced a new perspective on security. In *Security: A New Framework for Analysis*, Copenhagen School renewed the perspective on

security studies in post-Cold War international relations (Buzan et. al., 1998). The Copenhagen School offers a framework for providing an open understanding of various security threats. The Copenhagen School offers a distinct perspective in security studies by examining threats to specific reference objects.

The Copenhagen School argues that there is a need to deepen and broaden security studies. The term 'deepening' in the CSS refers to the level of actors involved, which not only focuses on state actors but also encompasses non-state actors, expanding from the international system to individuals. The term 'widening' in the CSS refers to the threats that affect actors or objects in international relations, not only from the military field but also from other fields of life, such as health, economics, technology, and others.

The Copenhagen School then has a more interesting idea of examining a process of creating security dynamics that can frame an issue as a security issue within a specific context. Buzan, Waever, and Wilde offer the Concept of Securitization theory. Securitization is a process of constructing a public issue into a security issue by an actor, who precedes it by stating a public dynamic as a security threat or existential threat to a certain referent object. If the response is accepted by the audience, the actor then takes extraordinary action.

The primary concern of the Copenhagen School is how security is then socially constructed in international politics and the extent to which political actors view and construct specific issues as security threats. The main contribution of the Copenhagen School to securitization theory is to analyze the process by which actors declare certain issues as existential threats to specific objects. Existential threats are understood as something that can legitimize the government's taking extraordinary action. The existence of an existential threat then causes this securitization. If accepted by the audience, the securitization process allows the state to postpone normal political methods and use emergency and/or extraordinary measures in responding to crises (Buzan et. al, 26: 1998). Extraordinary measures are understood as extraordinary actions that meet three criteria: they must be fast, urgent, and unconventional, violating normal political rules.

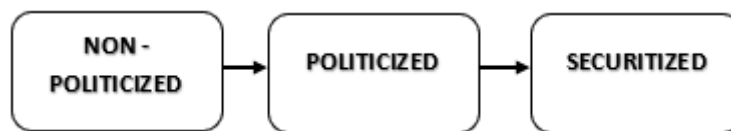
The opposite of securitization is desecuritization, understood as a process by which actors move certain issues out of the security realm and back into the realm of everyday politics. When an issue is desecuritized, it is no longer treated with security logic and is no longer represented as a threat; instead, it is returned to the ordinary public sphere. Desecuritization can be achieved by refraining from discussing an issue as a threat, managing the problem in a way that prevents securitization, and reintegrating it into everyday politics.

The core of securitization theory is how the actions of political leaders or rulers of a country, in following up on a threat that was previously considered less significant, can become an existential

threat through a series of securitization and persuasion actions directed towards the public. Securitization shows the rhetorical structure of decision makers when framing an issue and trying to convince the audience to raise the issue above politics through speech acts using language and/or saying words and giving the impression that something has been done such as betting, making promises and claiming that the state needs to use whatever means necessary to block a threat (Eroukhmanoff, 2017).

An issue becomes securitized when society collectively agrees on the nature of the threat and supports taking extraordinary measures. Any security issue can be presented on a spectrum, ranging from non-politicized (the issue has not yet reached public debate) to politicized (the issue has raised public concern and is on the agenda) to securitized (the issue has been framed as an existential threat). An issue that has entered the securitization spectrum can be characterized by how the government handles it, with the issue being given high priority.

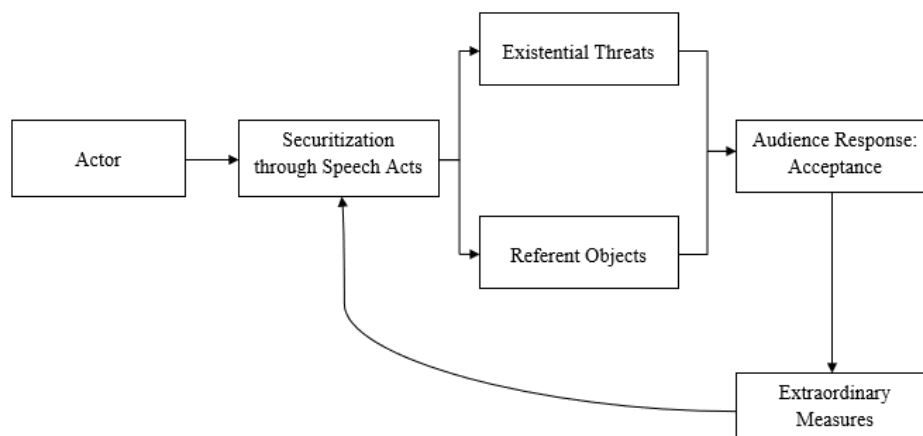
Figure 1: Securitization Phases



Source: (Buzan et. al., 1998).

Figure 1 above contains the stages of securitization. First, an issue moves from non-political; the problem begins in the technical or private realm, and it remains outside the public political debate. Second, political issues have entered the public political discussion. Third, securitization, an issue, enters the extreme stage of politicization when an actor carries out a speech act stating a problem as an existential threat, prioritizing it with the view that if not addressed, it will be threatened. Therefore, this securitization then legitimizes the use of extraordinary measures against this existential threat.

Figure 2: Operational Framework of Theory



Source: (Buzan et. al., 1998).

Based on Figure 2 above, within the operationalization framework of the theory, it can be observed that the securitization process begins when an actor carries out securitization actions on a particular issue through speech acts that portray the issue as an existential threat to a specific referent object. An issue is presented as high priority and urgent to overcome, and a shared understanding is built of what should be considered and collectively considered an existential threat, if the audience accepts that something poses an existential threat to a particular referent object. The final stage involves taking extraordinary measures to overcome the existential threat.

The operationalization of securitization theory in the US case can be identified as the securitization process began with Joe Biden as an actor carrying out securitization actions against the COVID-19 pandemic issue through speech acts that positioned the COVID-19 pandemic as an existential threat to particular referent objects in the US. Then, the speech act by the actor emphasized that the COVID-19 pandemic is a high priority and urged overcoming it, building a shared understanding of what should be considered regarding the dangers of the COVID-19 pandemic. Furthermore, the COVID-19 pandemic issue was accepted by the audience. The final stage involved extraordinary measures. After occupying the presidential seat, Joe Biden was deeply concerned about the COVID-19 pandemic and immediately ratified a policy to address it as an existential threat.

The selection of this theory was based on several considerations. First, in the COVID-19 pandemic response plan, Joe Biden has politicized the COVID-19 pandemic issue by stating that the pandemic poses a threat to the US. Furthermore, President Joe Biden issued a policy in the form of the National Strategy for the COVID-19 Response and Pandemic Preparedness. In addition, President Joe Biden signed executive orders to follow up on the COVID-19 pandemic as a threat, address the public, and manage the COVID-19 pandemic in the US. In this research, the Securitization theory will be used to see specifically whether Joe Biden's policies reflect extraordinary measures. In this case analysis, it will be examined whether Joe Biden's policies regarding the COVID-19 pandemic were implemented quickly, in an emergency, and broke the standard political rules.

METHOD

This research employed qualitative and descriptive research methods. Qualitative research is a form of descriptive research that tends to use analysis and aims to improve the understanding of writers and readers regarding phenomena, activities, and/or social processes (Bakry, 2019). Then, descriptive research is a type of research that explores a social phenomenon by describing various variables related to the problem and unit being studied, aiming to provide an overview of the object to be learned and report on the findings (Mas'ood, 1990).

The reason for choosing qualitative and descriptive research is that it is related to research analysis techniques, on explaining "how", then to answer the problems raised, it cannot fully use primary data but uses secondary data that is available and relevant to the existing situation so that it can be analyzed accurately and produce answers to Joe Biden's policies in handling the COVID-19 pandemic. This research will describe the conditions in the United States regarding Joe Biden's policies for handling COVID-19, providing a more in-depth analysis.

This research employs triangulation techniques to validate data by comparing various sources obtained from different documents, including journal articles, government and international agency reports, e-books, internet sites, and print and online media. Concerning this research, primary data in the form of Joe Biden's policy texts, totaling 15 policies related to the COVID-19 pandemic, were published on the government's official website.

This research will use the Copenhagen School of Security Studies (CSS) Securitization theory to analyze Joe Biden's policies related to the COVID-19 pandemic. After the data on Joe Biden's policy texts related to the COVID-19 pandemic is collected, it is analyzed to determine whether it reflects extraordinary actions. First, Joe Biden's policies will be examined to see whether they were passed quickly. Second, Joe Biden's policies will be analyzed to see whether they were passed as an emergency. Third, Joe Biden's policies will be analyzed to see whether they break the standard political rules.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Joe Biden's Extraordinary Measures on the COVID-19 Pandemic

Joe Biden's policies regarding the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrate a strong emphasis on prioritizing response efforts. In contrast, the previous administration did not implement specific measures to address the COVID-19 pandemic. This research examines 15 policy texts issued by Joe Biden concerning the COVID-19 pandemic following his inauguration as the 46th President of the United States.

Table 1: Joe Biden's Policy on the COVID-19 Pandemic, 2021.

No	Date Approved	Policy
1.	20 January 2021	Letter to His Excellency António Guterres.
2.	20 January 2021	Executive Order 13987 on Organizing and Mobilizing the United States Government to Provide a Unified and Effective Response to Combat COVID-19 and to Provide United States Leadership on Global Health and Security of January 20, 2021.
3.	20 January 2021	Executive Order 13991 on Protecting the Federal Workforce and Requiring Mask-Wearing of January 20, 2021.
4.	21 January 2021	National Strategy for the COVID-19 Response and Pandemic Preparedness.

5.	21 January 2021	Executive Order 13994 on Ensuring a Data-Driven Response to COVID-19 and Future High-Consequence Public Health Threats of January 21, 2021.
6.	21 January 2021	Executive Order 13995 on Ensuring an Equitable Pandemic Response and Recovery of January 21, 2021.
7.	21 January 2021	Executive Order 13996 on Establishing the COVID-19 Pandemic Testing Board and Ensuring a Sustainable Public Health Workforce for COVID-19 and Other Biological Threats of January 21, 2021.
8.	21 January 2021	Executive Order 13997 on Improving and Expanding Access to Care and Treatments for COVID-19 of January 21, 2021.
9.	21 January 2021	Executive Order 13998 on Promoting COVID-19 Safety in Domestic and International Travel of January 21, 2021.
10.	21 January 2021	Executive Order 13999 on Protecting Worker Health and Safety of January 21, 2021.
11.	21 January 2021	Executive Order 14000 on Supporting the Reopening and Continuing Operation of Schools and Early Childhood Education Providers of January 21, 2021.
12.	21 January 2021	Executive Order 14001 on a Sustainable Public Health Supply Chain of January 21, 2021
13.	21 January 2021	The White House, Memorandum for the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Homeland Security: Memorandum to Extend Federal Support to Governors' Use of the National Guard to Respond to COVID-19 and to Increase Reimbursement and Other Assistance Provided to States.
14.	21 January 2021	The White House, National Security Directive: National Security Memorandum on United States Global Leadership to Strengthen the International COVID-19 Response and to Advance Global Health Security and Biological Preparedness.
15.	22 January 2021	Executive Order 14002 on Economic Relief Related to the COVID-19 Pandemic of January 22, 2021.

Source: Adapted from Joe Biden's Policy.

Based on Table 1 above, the research results found that there were 15 Joe Biden policies in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Opposite to China, which adopted a containment strategy (Sari, 2020); Taiwan, which enforced stringent regulations and controls (Wang, 2021); and Indonesia, which implemented a restriction policy (Wahyudiono, et. al. 2022), the United States, under the Joe Biden administration, formulated a national strategy and issued executive orders encompassing comprehensive extraordinary measures. These extraordinary measures by President Joe Biden include America's rejoining of the WHO membership, enforcing a national mask mandate, and providing assistance to affected groups.

Rejoin the World Health Organization and the National Strategy on the COVID-19 Pandemic

On his first day in office, January 20, 2021, Joe Biden signed a series of policies after being inaugurated as the US president, including a policy to halt the US withdrawal from the WHO. Through the White House website entitled "Letter to His Excellency António Guterres", Joe Biden acted immediately on the first day of his presidency to restore US membership to the WHO. Through this letter, Joe Biden conveyed the US government's revocation of the US withdrawal from the WHO. Joe

Biden also emphasized that the WHO plays a crucial role in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic (The White House, 2021). Thus, the US will also participate in the COVAX collaboration, an international initiative to develop and distribute COVID-19 vaccines. Other countries, such as China, have joined the Covax collaboration (Reuters, 2020), but the United States initially chose to leave, and this letter marks the United States's policy rejoining of its membership in the WHO and its active participation in overcoming the COVID-19 pandemic.

On his second day in office in January 21, 2021, President Joe Biden released a national guideline to counter the COVID-19 pandemic in the US by implementing the National Strategy for COVID-19 Response and Pandemic Preparedness, containing a letter from the President of the United States, a summary of plans and goals, and executive actions (The White House, 2021). With this national guideline, the federal government will work in collaboration with local governments, communities, and private industry to manage the COVID-19 pandemic. This national guideline is based on seven goals, including the following.

The first goal is to restore public trust. The first goal indicated that the federal government must be the public's source of truth for clear, accessible, and scientifically accurate information about the COVID-19 pandemic. To restore public trust, the federal government, as stated in the first goal, will be transparent with the American public, communicating openly with the public and all stakeholders. Then, this first goal has the following key policy actions, including establishing a national COVID-19 response structure where decision-making is driven by science and equity, conducting regular, expert-led, science-based public briefings, sharing data publicly on key response indicators, engaging the American public, and leading a science-first public health campaign.

The second goal is to conduct a safe, effective, and comprehensive vaccination campaign. The second goal indicated that the federal government will aggressively execute a vaccination strategy with a focus on the immediate actions needed to vaccinate, including increasing allocation, distribution, administration, and tracking. The second goal has the following key policy actions, including ensuring the availability of safe and effective vaccines to the American public, accelerating vaccination and getting vaccines to communities that need them most, creating as many sites as required for people to be vaccinated, focusing on hard-to-reach and high-risk populations, Fairly compensate providers, and state and local governments for the costs of administering vaccines, Promoting equity throughout the vaccination campaign and broader pandemic response, launching a national vaccination public education campaign, supporting data and transparency systems for vaccination, monitoring vaccine safety and efficacy, and encouraging health workers to support vaccination efforts.

The third goal is to mitigate the spread through expanded masking, testing, treatment, data, workforce, and clear public health standards. The third goal indicated that the federal government will

be partnering with states and localities to implement a cohesive strategy to immediately reduce the spread of COVID-19 and provide clear public health guidance on what to do and when, including implementing mask mandates, expanding testing; strengthening the public health workforce; modernizing data collection and reporting capabilities for COVID-19 and future epidemics; and providing equitable access to treatment and clinical care. The third goal has the following key policy actions, including implementing nationwide masking in partnership with governors, mayors, and communities, scaling and expanding testing, prioritizing therapeutics and establishing a comprehensive and integrated COVID-19 treatment discovery and development program, developing actionable, evidence-based public health guidance, expanding the U.S. public health workforce and increase clinical care capacity for COVID-19, and improving data to guide the COVID-19 response.

The fourth goal is to extend emergency assistance and invoke the Defense Production Act immediately. The fourth goal indicated that the country would immediately address supply gaps and strengthen supply chains while directing the distribution of supplies to areas. The fourth goal also indicated that the President will immediately expand emergency aid and provide it to states and localities. In doing so, the President will take action to vaccines, tests, personal protective equipment, and other critical supplies available, using all statutory authorities including the Defense Production Act, instructing departments and agencies to expand the availability of critical supplies, to build up stocks so that personal protective equipment is available for use in the safe manner recommended, and to fill any supply gaps. This fourth goal has the following key policy actions, including increasing emergency funding for states and strengthening FEMA's response, filling supply gaps by implementing the Defense Production Act, identifying and addressing urgent COVID-19-related supply gaps and strengthening supply chains, securing pandemic supply chains and create a manufacturing base in the U.S, and increasing distribution and expand availability of critical materials.

The fifth goal is to safely reopen schools, businesses, and travel while protecting workers. The fifth goal indicated that reopening schools, businesses, travel, and reviving the U.S. economy will require federal investment in rapid testing, a rapid public health response, an expanded workforce, and clear guidance and protections to stop the spread of COVID-19. The fifth goal has the following key policy actions, including implementing a national strategy to support the safe reopening of schools, supporting the safe operation of childcare centers, supporting an equitable reopening of higher education, protecting workers and issuing stronger worker safety guidance, providing guidance and support to reopen businesses safely, and promoting safe travel.

The sixth goal is to protect those most at risk and advance equity, including across racial, ethnic, and rural-urban divides. The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed and worsened health conditions and widened inequities across communities. The sixth goal indicated that the federal government will address disparities in infection and death rates. The sixth goal has the following key policy actions, including establishing a COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force, improving data collection

and reporting for high-risk groups, ensuring equitable access to personal protective equipment, testing, therapies, and COVID-19 vaccines, expanding access to high-quality health care, expanding the clinical and public health workforce also community-based workers, strengthening the social service safety net to address unmet basic needs, and providing support to communities most at risk from COVID-19.

The seventh goal is to restore U.S. global leadership and build better preparedness for future threats. The U.S. withdrawal from the world stage has hampered progress in the worldwide response to the COVID-19 pandemic and left the U.S. more vulnerable to future pandemics. The seventh goal indicates that the Biden administration will restore the U.S. role in leading the world in addressing global crises, advancing the global health security agenda, including supporting international pandemic response, providing global humanitarian assistance, and health assistance, as well as building resilience to future epidemics and pandemics. The seventh goal has the following key policy actions, including restoring the U.S. relationship with the WHO and working to strengthen and reform it, enhancing the international public health and humanitarian response, restoring U.S. leadership in the international response to the COVID-19 pandemic and advancing global health security and global health diplomacy, and build better biological preparedness and expand resilience to biological threats.

Executive Orders on the COVID-19 Pandemic

President Joe Biden immediately signed several executive orders after taking office. The ratification of an executive order is a special authority granted by the US president to take action in urgent circumstances and was signed outside the standard political rules, bypassing the normal negotiation and legislative process carried out in the US Congress. These executive orders include extraordinary measures in the fields of public health, economy, education, and tourism. The following is a series of executive orders related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

a. Health Sector

Executive Order 13987 on Organizing and Mobilizing the United States Government to Provide a Unified and Effective Response to Combat COVID-19 and to Provide United States Leadership on Global Health and Security of January 20, 2021 (The White House, 2021). This executive order aims to require the federal government to act quickly and aggressively in combating the COVID-19 pandemic and creates the position of COVID-19 Response Coordinator and Presidential Advisor to take steps to organize the U.S. government in preparation for future biological threats and pandemics.

Executive Order 13991 on Protecting the Federal Workforce and Requiring Mask-Wearing of January 20, 2021 (The White House, 2021). This executive order aims to prevent the spread of COVID-19 through science-based public health measures, including wearing masks around others,

maintaining social distancing, and taking other precautions on federal lands as recommended by the CDC.

Executive Order 13994 on Ensuring a Data-Driven Response to COVID-19 and Future High-Consequence Public Health Threats of January 21, 2021 (The White House, 2021). This executive order aims to respond effectively and in an integrated manner to the COVID-19 pandemic using the best available science and data, by rebuilding a better public health infrastructure whereby the heads of all departments and agencies facilitate the collection, sharing, and publication of COVID-19 data in coordination with the COVID-19 response coordinator and presidential advisors, and collaborate on data collection on high-consequence public health threats such as the COVID-19 pandemic with the Secretary of Defense, the Attorney General, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Secretary of Education, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the Director of National Intelligence, the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), and the Director of the National Science Foundation.

Executive Order 13995 on Ensuring an Equitable Pandemic Response and Recovery of January 21, 2021 (The White House, 2021). This executive order aims to achieve health equity by identifying and eliminating health and social inequities that result in disproportionately higher exposure, illness, and death for communities of color and other underserved populations.

Executive Order 13996 on Establishing the COVID-19 Pandemic Testing Board and Ensuring a Sustainable Public Health Workforce for COVID-19 and Other Biological Threats of January 21, 2021 (The White House, 2021). The executive order aims to control COVID-19 by employing an integrated approach across the government and establishing a Pandemic Testing Board, chaired by the COVID-19 response coordinator and a presidential advisor.

Executive Order 13997 on Improving and Expanding Access to Care and Treatments for COVID-19 of January 21, 2021 (The White House, 2021). This executive order aims to increase the capacity of the health care system to respond to COVID-19 and accelerate the development of new therapies to treat COVID-19, as well as improve access for all Americans to quality, affordable health care by involving the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the heads of other relevant agencies.

Executive Order 13999 on Protecting Worker Health and Safety of January 21, 2021 (The White House, 2021). This executive order aims to protect the health and safety of workers from the COVID-19 pandemic by having the federal government take swift action to reduce the risk of workers contracting COVID-19 in the workplace by issuing science-based guidance to help keep workers safe from exposure to COVID-19, as well as coordinating the Secretary of Labor to act on occupational safety and health.

Executive Order 14001 on a Sustainable Public Health Supply Chain of January 21, 2021 (The White House 2021). This executive order is intended to combat the COVID-19 pandemic by taking immediate action to secure supplies necessary to respond to the pandemic, so that those supplies are available and remain available, to the federal government, state, and local authorities, and by coordinating inventory of supplies and emergency needs with the Secretary of State, Secretary of Defense, Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS), Secretary of Homeland Security, and the heads of relevant executive departments and agencies.

The White House, Memorandum for the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Homeland Security: Memorandum to Extend Federal Support to Governors' Use of the National Guard to Respond to COVID-19 and to Increase Reimbursement and Other Assistance Provided to States (The White House, 2021). This memorandum is intended to support operations or missions to prevent and respond to the spread of COVID-19 in the United States by mandating the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Homeland Security to direct all state and territorial governors to order National Guard troops to perform tasks to address the COVID-19 pandemic.

The White House, National Security Directive: National Security Memorandum on United States Global Leadership to Strengthen the International COVID-19 Response and to Advance Global Health Security and Biological Preparedness (The White House, 2021). This memorandum aims to reverse the US decision to withdraw from the WHO by reassuming US leadership, working with partners to lead the COVID-19 response, and participating internationally to advance global health, health security, and the prevention of future biological disasters.

b. Economic Sector

Executive Order 14002 on Economic Relief Related to the COVID-19 Pandemic of January 22, 2021 (The White House, 2021). This executive order is intended to assist individuals, families, small businesses, and local, tribal, and territorial governments with all executive departments and agencies (agencies) immediately identifying actions that authorities can take to address the economic crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

c. Education Sector

Executive Order 14000 on Supporting the Reopening and Continuing Operation of Schools and Early Childhood Education Providers of January 21, 2021 (The White House, 2021). This executive order aims to ensure that students receive a high-quality education during the COVID-19 pandemic and supports the safe reopening and continued operation of schools, childcare providers, and higher education institutions.

d. Tourism Sector

Executive Order 13998 on Promoting COVID-19 Safety in Domestic and International Travel of January 21, 2021 (The White House, 2021). This executive order aims to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the U.S. by travelers and those entering the U.S. from abroad. It takes immediate action to require masks on domestic transportation and to show proof of a recent negative COVID-19 test, as well as to comply with CDC guidelines.

CONCLUSION

This research aimed to analyze President Joe Biden's policies towards the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States from the outset. This research demonstrates that President Joe Biden, as the President of the United States, has rapidly implemented policies in emergencies, breaking with standard political norms through the National Strategy for the COVID-19 Response and Pandemic Preparedness, as well as through Executive Orders. To what extent do these policies reflect the status of a security threat? This research identified that various security policies for handling the COVID-19 pandemic in the US were signed immediately, within three days of Joe Biden's inauguration as the 46th President of the United States, by issuing emergency orders for handling the pandemic without going through negotiations in the US Congress, thus reflecting the extraordinary measures. At the same time, China and Taiwan are implementing containment and law enforcement strategies in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Also, Indonesia is implementing restriction strategies to reduce the spread of COVID-19 cases. Joe Biden's policies on the COVID-19 Pandemic included re-engaging with the World Health Organization (WHO) and assuming a global leadership role in addressing the COVID-19 pandemic.

Additionally, the US federal government took swift action by mandating mask usage nationwide, enforcing social restrictions, implementing structured data collection and testing, and providing assistance to affected communities. The contribution of this research is limited to examining how President Joe Biden's policy addresses the COVID-19 Pandemic. There are trigger research questions such as, how is the implementation of President Joe Biden's extraordinary measures of handling the COVID-19 Pandemic in the US? To what extent is the US involved in the world to combat the threat of the COVID-19 pandemic? Those aspects have not been discussed and are interesting areas for further research.

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