

The principle of self-determination in West Papua's case

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Abstrak

The right of people to self-determination has been a contentious issue in international law. Debates on this right concern with the different interpretations of 'people' or of what the rights entail. Do they refer to the population of a state. Colony or groups of individuals, ethnic, race linked by a common language? Such vague criteria enable a wide variety of groups within sovereign state to claim the right to self-determination. Consequently, they do not only generate instability within the state but can also threaten international peace and security. In the case of West Papua, the question is more about the process of self-determination held by Government of Indonesia under the assistance of UN based on the New York agreement of 1962 in the framework of the Act of Free Choice 1969