

Securitization of Local Maritime Governance: The Institutional Role of Poskamladu Tamperan in the Maritime Security System of Pacitan Bay

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Abstract

Maritime security has evolved beyond traditional military concerns to encompass multidimensional non-traditional threats, particularly at the local governance level. This study analyzes the securitization process of the Integrated Maritime Security Post (Poskamladu) at Tamperan Port within the maritime security system of Pacitan Bay. Using a qualitative case study approach, data were collected through in-depth interviews, field observations, and document analysis. The analysis applies the Copenhagen School's securitization framework, focusing on securitizing actors, existential threats, speech acts, and referent objects. The findings indicate that Poskamladu functions as a securitizing actor by framing non-traditional issues—illegal fishing, coastal spatial conflicts, and disorderly port activities—as existential threats to marine sustainability, community stability, and local economic security. Unlike classical securitization models emphasizing formal declarations, securitization at Tamperan occurs through informal, practice-based speech acts embedded in mediation, coordination, and licensing control. However, the effectiveness of this securitization process is constrained by fragmented authority, limited infrastructure capacity, and insufficient preparedness for technology-based threats. This study contributes theoretically by extending securitization analysis to subnational maritime governance and highlighting the role of informal institutional practices in constructing security threats.

Keywords:

Securitization; Maritime Security; Poskamladu; Tamperan Port; Pacitan Bay.

1. INTRODUCTION

Maritime security constitutes a foundational pillar of national resilience for archipelagic states such as Indonesia. Beyond territorial sovereignty, maritime space functions as a strategic domain that sustains economic connectivity, fisheries production, trade routes, and coastal livelihoods. However, Indonesia's maritime domain faces increasingly complex and multidimensional challenges, ranging from illegal fishing and transnational crime to jurisdictional disputes and disorderly port activities (Quran et al., 2024). These threats not only affect state sovereignty but also directly impact the socio-economic stability of coastal communities.

Recent scholarship emphasizes that maritime security has expanded beyond conventional military concerns to include sustainability, governance, and technological vulnerabilities (Babatunde & Abdulsalam, 2021; Li, 2023). In particular, illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing has been framed as a serious threat to Indonesia's marine resource sovereignty and economic sustainability (Dewi & Maarif, 2022; Misbach et al., 2022). Simultaneously, institutional fragmentation and bureaucratic politics continue to weaken port security governance (Samy, 2023). While overlapping authority among maritime institutions complicates coordination mechanisms (Suwardi & Fakhrollah, 2022). Weak inter-agency synergy further reduces the effectiveness of maritime patrols and surveillance (Sitorus & Said, 2023).

Beyond institutional and legal dimensions, contemporary maritime security is increasingly shaped by technological transformation. The integration of digital navigation, maritime communication systems, and port automation introduces cybersecurity vulnerabilities that may disrupt port ecosystems and maritime supply chains (Algarni et al., 2024; Pöyhönen & Lehto, 2023). The need for cybersecurity training and adaptive institutional capacity in maritime governance has therefore become urgent (Oruc et al., 2024). These developments indicate that maritime security governance must be understood as a multidimensional and adaptive process.

Despite this expanding literature, most studies remain focused on national-level institutions and macro-policy frameworks, including Indonesia's vision as a Global Maritime Axis (Ampun et al., 2023; Amri & Zahidi, 2023; Nurhayati et al., 2023). Relatively limited attention has been given to how maritime security is operationalized and constructed at the local governance level, particularly within fishing port institutions that directly interact with coastal communities.

The Copenhagen School's securitization framework provides an analytical lens to examine how issues are transformed into security threats through discursive and institutional processes (Buzan et al., 1998). Securitization involves four key elements: securitizing actors, existential threats, speech acts, and referent objects. Stritzel (2007) further refines this framework by emphasizing the contextual and relational dimensions of securitization, highlighting the importance of audience acceptance and institutional settings.

However, existing securitization studies predominantly examine elite political discourse at national or international levels. Limited research explores how securitization operates in subnational governance contexts, particularly within port institutions where security practices are embedded in daily coordination, mediation, and administrative routines. In Indonesia, studies on fisheries ports such as Tamperan (Noverianto et al., 2016; Nurhalimah & Irianto, 2017) mainly focus on facility utilization and socio-economic impacts, without analyzing how local institutions construct maritime issues as security threats.

This study addresses this theoretical and empirical gap by examining the securitization process within the Integrated Maritime Security Post (Poskamladu) at Tamperan Port in Pacitan Bay. Unlike conventional security institutions operating at the national level, Poskamladu functions as a coordination hub at the port level, integrating roles from the Indonesian Navy, Water Police, and local fisheries authorities. The increasing volume of fishing activities and marine resource exploitation in Pacitan Bay creates structural pressures that necessitate enhanced surveillance and governance mechanisms. These dynamics provide fertile ground for examining how local actors construct non-traditional maritime issues—such as illegal fishing, coastal spatial conflicts, and port disorder—as existential threats.

Accordingly, this study seeks to answer the following research question: How does Poskamladu Tamperan function as a securitizing actor in constructing non-traditional maritime issues as security threats within the maritime governance system of Pacitan Bay? By situating Poskamladu within the securitization framework, this research contributes to the theoretical development of securitization studies by extending analysis to subnational maritime governance institutions. It also offers practical insights into strengthening institutional coordination, infrastructure capacity, and technological preparedness within Indonesia's evolving maritime security system.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

This study employs a qualitative case study design focusing on the institutional role of the Integrated Maritime Security Post (Poskamladu) at Tamperan Port in Pacitan Bay. The case study approach is appropriate for examining contemporary institutional phenomena within real-life contexts where the boundaries between phenomenon and context are not clearly evident (Yin, 2008). Given that securitization involves discursive construction, institutional practices, and audience acceptance, an in-depth qualitative design enables a nuanced understanding of how maritime issues are framed and legitimized as security threats at the local level.

Rather than treating Poskamladu merely as an administrative unit, this study conceptualizes it as a potential securitizing actor within the Copenhagen School framework (Buzan et al., 1998). Therefore, the methodological design is oriented toward capturing discursive processes, institutional routines, and inter-agency coordination practices that reflect securitization dynamics. The research was conducted at Tamperan Coastal Fishing Port (PPP Tamperan), Pacitan Regency, East Java Province, between March and July 2024. This period allowed observation of routine port activities, coordination meetings, and conflict mediation processes, which are central to understanding practice-based securitization.

Informants were selected using purposive sampling, prioritizing actors directly involved in maritime governance and security practices (Creswell & Creswell, 2017). The selection was based on their institutional roles, authority, and frequency of interaction with Poskamladu. A total of 11 informants participated in this study: 1 Poskamladu personnel, 2 Indonesian Navy officers, 1 Water Police officer, 2 officials from the Tamperan Port Technical Implementation Unit (UPT PPP), and 5 local fishermen representing small-scale and medium-scale operators.

Data collection procedures were carried out using three main techniques, namely in-depth interviews, participatory observation, and documentation studies. In-depth interviews enabled researchers to better understand informants' experiences, views, and perceptions. Interview guidelines were designed to explore institutional functions of Poskamladu, perceptions of maritime threats, inter-agency coordination dynamics, conflict mediation practices, and challenges related to infrastructure and technological threats. Observations were conducted in the Tamperan Port environment to capture the institutional interactions between Poskamladu and coastal communities, as well as other maritime authorities. Observation sessions were conducted during port operational hours, inter-agency coordination meetings, and conflict mediation processes between fishermen and local stakeholders. Documentary studies involved the analysis of official documents, institutional reports, and relevant legal regulations. The documents include institutional reports (PPP Tamperan Annual Reports 2023–2024), coordination records, and relevant regulatory documents. Miles, Huberman, and Saldaña (2014) stated that this combination of data collection techniques would strengthen the validity of the research through the principle of triangulation, which is comparing data from various sources and methods to ensure the consistency of findings.

The data analysis method follows the interactive model developed by Miles, Huberman, and Saldaña (2014), which includes three main components: data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion drawing/verification. Data reduction is carried out by sorting data relevant to the research focus, such as institutional roles, coordination challenges, and maritime security strategies. Data presentation is carried out in the form of matrices, narratives, and thematic categories that make it easier for researchers to see patterns of relationships between variables. The final stage, namely drawing conclusions and verification, is carried out repeatedly throughout the research process to ensure the validity of the interpretations produced. Data validity is also strengthened by the member checking technique, which is to ask informants to confirm the preliminary results of the research so that they correspond to the reality in the field.

To enhance credibility and trustworthiness, several strategies were employed (Miles et al., 2014). Data Triangulation: Comparing interview, observation, and document data, Member Checking: Sharing preliminary interpretations with selected informants to verify accuracy, and Peer Debriefing: Discussing coding results with academic colleagues. These procedures were particularly important given that securitization analysis relies heavily on the interpretation of narratives and institutional practices.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1. Results

Pacitan Regency is located on the southern coast of East Java Province, bordering Central Java Province. Administratively, it is divided into 12 subdistricts and 171 villages. The boundaries of Pacitan Regency are: North: Ponorogo Regency; East: Trenggalek Regency; South: the Indian Ocean; West: Wonogiri Regency (Noverianto et al., 2016).

One of the fishing ports in Pacitan Regency is the Tamperan Coastal Fishing Port (PPP). PPP Tamperan is located in Tamperan Hamlet, Sidoharjo Village, Pacitan Regency (Nurhalimah & Irianto, 2017). PPP Tamperan is a specialized port built to serve the operational needs of fishing vessels. The existence of PPP Tamperan has a positive impact on the community's and the regional economy's economic growth, particularly in Pacitan Regency. Based on Pacitan Regent Decree Number: 188.45/25/408.21/2011 dated January 21, 2011, regarding the designation of PPP Tamperan as the core zone for the development of a minapolitan area in Pacitan Regency (PPP Tamperan Annual Report, 2024).

This port has two functions, namely governmental and business functions (Noverianto et al., 2016). The governmental function includes (a) Quality Control and Management of Fishery Products; (b) Collection of catch data; (c) A place for conducting outreach and community activities for fishermen; (d) Implementation of fishery vessel operations; (e) Supervision and control of fishery resources; (f) Implementation of port authority functions; (g) Implementation of fish quarantine; (h) Publication of marine fisheries research results; (i) Coastal area monitoring; (j) Environmental control; (k) Customs; (l) Immigration. Meanwhile, business functions include (a) Fishing vessel mooring and anchoring services; (b) Loading and unloading services (c) Fisheries product management services; (d) Fish marketing and distribution; (e) Utilization of port facilities and functions; (f) Fishing vessel maintenance and repair services; (g) Vessel logistics and supply services; (h) Marine tourism; (i) Provision of other services.

Basic facilities at Tamperan Coastal Fishing Port (PPP) include (1) Port land is an area of land onshore that is used for port purposes and is owned by the port concerned. The port land at Tamperan PPP covers an area of 7.7 hectares. (2) The pier at Tamperan PPP is a multi-functional pier that serves not only as a place for ships to dock but also as a loading and unloading pier and a supply pier. This pier is 360 m long and 11 m wide. (3) There are three breakwaters at PPP Tamperan, namely 765 meters, 241.03 meters, and 168.25 meters. (4) Port basin and shipping lanes. The harbor basin is a place for ships to turn around, wait their turn to dock at the pier, rest, or wait for their next fishing trip. The size of the harbor basin is related to the size of the pier, especially its depth and length. The navigation channel is the most important aspect because it

determines the smoothness and safety of fishing vessels entering and exiting the Tamperan PPP. The harbor basin at the Tamperan PPP has an area of 6.4 hectares.

In addition, PPP Tamperan also has functional facilities, including (1) A port office with an area of 220 m² used for port administration purposes. This office contains rooms for the port manager, the head of the Administration Subdivision, the head of the Service and Shipping Section, the head of the Business Section, an open room for functional positions, and a meeting room. (2) A Fish Auction Site (TPI) with an area of 1,190 m² was built in 2003. Currently, it is still in good condition and undergoing repairs. (3) Electrical installations are a necessity for ports. The electricity at PPP Tamperan comes from PLN with a capacity of 17,700 watts. (4) The clean water installation at PPP Tamperan consists of one water tower as a source of fresh water, which is in fairly good condition. The water tower is 25 m² high with a capacity of 5 tons. (5) PPP Tamperan has one fuel station with a capacity of 8,000 liters of diesel and 8,000 liters of premium gasoline. (6) There are 5 lighthouses near the port pier as a sign of entry to PPP Tamperan. (7) The vehicle parking area available at PPP Tamperan is 1,500 m². (8) The Poskamladu has a building area of 142 m². (9) The IPAL facility covers an area of 74 m².

The East Java Provincial Marine and Fisheries Service has 13 Technical Implementation Units (UPT) as described in East Java Governor Regulation No. 74 of 2018 concerning the Nomenclature, Organizational Structure, Description of Duties and Functions, and Work Procedures of the Technical Implementation Units of the East Java Provincial Marine and Fisheries Service. One of them is the Tamperan Coastal Fishing Port (PPP) UPT. This UPT has the task of carrying out some of the Agency's technical tasks in the field of technical services for coastal fishing ports, business management and services, administration, and community services. The organizational structure of the Tamperan Coastal Fisheries Port Technical Implementation Unit (UPT PPP) consists of the Administrative Sub-Division, the Port Technical Services Section, and the Business Management and Services Section (East Java Provincial Marine and Fisheries Department Performance Report, 2024).

In 2023-2024 at the Tamperan PPP Technical Implementation Unit, the number of vessels operating based on fishing gear table 1.

Table 1. Number of vessels operating in the Tamperan PPP based on fishing gear

Year	Operational Vessel Unit				Total Vessels
	Purse seine	Handline	Rawal Dasar	Gillnet	
2023	198	444	0	194	836
2024	224	398	0	484	1.106

Source: PPP Tamperan annual reports for 2023 and 2024

Based on Table 1, it can be seen that there has been an increase in the number of vessels using purse seine, handline, and gillnet fishing gear. Gillnets are effective for pelagic and demersal fish, while purse seines are efficient for catching large quantities of pelagic fish. Handlines are superior for selective fishing with small capital (Prastanto & Susilowati, 2016). The sustainable potential of Pacitan Regency's marine fishery resources is 2,974,732 tons per year, with the types of fishery resources (Tamperan PPP Annual Report 2024) consisting of (1) Demersal fishery resources, including Layur fish, grouper, snapper, pomfret, Sebelah, Gulamah, Manyung, Pogot, Peperek, and Sewanggi; (2) Large pelagic fishery resources, namely: Tuna, Skipjack, Big Eye Tuna, Mackerel, Marlin, and Layaran; (3) Small pelagic fishery resources, namely: Laura, Kembung, Semar, Selar, Salem, Tongkol Bnayra, Tongkol Pisang Cerutu, Tongkol Pisang Balaki, Tongkol Abu, Layang deles, and Layang Benggol.

The following is fish production data at the Tamperan PPP Technical Implementation Unit based on fishing gear in 2023-2024, table 2.

Table 2. Fisheries Production Data of Tamperan PPP Technical Implementation Unit based on fishing gear

Year	Operational Vessel Unit				Total fish
	Purse seine	Handline	Basic Rawl	Gillnet	
2023	2.968.171	1.404.046	0	73.639	4.445.856
2024	4.251.469	1.175.710	0	961.552	6.394.731

Source: PPP Tamperan annual reports for 2023 and 2024

Based on Table 2, it can be seen that there was an 18% increase in the number of fishes in 2023-2024. Nearly 70% of fish caught in PPP Tamperan are tuna, skipjack, tongkol, and layang, which are high-value commodities oriented for export (PPP Tamperan Annual Report, 2024). With abundant fish potential, good resource management is needed in the PPP Tamperan area.

The management of marine resources is the authority of the region as referred to in Law No. 32 of 2004 Article 18 paragraph (1) which includes: (a) exploration, exploitation, conservation, and management of marine resources; (b) administrative regulation; (c) spatial planning; (d) law enforcement of regulations issued by the region or delegated by the government; (e) participation in maintaining security; (f) participation in defending the sovereignty of the state; and (g) cooperation and conflict resolution between

regions. Furthermore, it is stated that the authority to manage resources in the sea area up to 12 nautical miles measured from the coastline towards the open sea and/or towards the archipelagic waters for provinces and 1/3 of the provincial authority area for regencies/cities.

This is what prompted the East Java Provincial Fisheries and Marine Affairs Agency to establish the Integrated Fisheries and Marine Affairs Security Post (Poskamladu), which coordinates with POLAIR and the Indonesian Navy (Prastanto & Susilowati, 2016). Poskamladu was established as a center for guidance and supervision of the implementation of laws and regulations, prevention and resolution of conflicts between fishermen, as well as a center for integrated supervision activities and assistance to fishing communities in the process of obtaining licensing documents. The following image shows the organizational structure of Poskamladu Tamperan figure 1.



Figure 1. Organizational structure of the Poskamladu Tamperan Port, Pacitan
Source: Poskamladu Tamperan Port, 2025.

Figure 1 shows that the organizational structure of Poskamladu at Tamperan Port in Pacitan consists of a Poskamladu coordinator who is a personnel member of the Indonesian Navy with the rank of Lieutenant and three heads of divisions from Polairut and the Indonesian Navy.

In the securitization theory developed by the Copenhagen School, there are four main elements that determine the success of a securitization process. The first element is the securitization actor, namely, individuals or institutions that have the social and political authority to raise an issue as a security threat. These actors come from the political elite, such as heads of state, high-ranking officials, military institutions, or the mass media, which have the symbolic capacity to influence public opinion (Buzan et al., 1998). Poskamladu Tamperan was identified as the main actor in the securitization process. Poskamladu Tamperan monitors the implementation of laws and regulations, prevents and resolves conflicts between fishermen, and serves as a center for integrated monitoring activities assisting fishing communities in the process of obtaining licensing documents. Poskamladu, together with UPT PPP Tamperan, identifies potential threats to the sustainability of the marine and fisheries sector and is able to mobilize joint efforts to overcome them.

These securitization actors carry out their duties through various forms of communication and policy, which in theoretical terms are referred to as speech acts. These are actions that raise an issue to the realm of security. In practice, Poskamladu monitors fishing vessel activities, assists in resolving conflicts between fishermen, and facilitates the processing of fishermen's licensing documents. Field findings show that Poskamladu, together with the Tamperan PPP Technical Implementation Unit, actively identifies potential threats to the sustainability of the marine and fisheries sector, such as an increase in the number of vessels in operation, the potential for illegal fishing, and conflicts over the use of coastal areas.

Based on PPP Tamperan's operational data for 2023–2024 (Table 1), there has been an increase in the number of vessels in operation, particularly those using purse seine, handline, and gillnet fishing gear. This increase in activity has direct implications for the need for greater maritime surveillance and security, thereby strengthening the position of Poskamladu as a strategic actor in maintaining security and stability in the port and surrounding waters.

The second element is the existential threat, which in the context of securitization is not merely an objective fact, but the result of a narrative construction that depicts an issue as a danger to the survival of a

particular entity, such as a state, society, or cultural identity. The results of the study show that maritime security threats in Pacitan Bay are constructed through narratives that link various non-military issues as existential threats. Conflicts over the use of coastal areas between local fishermen, migrant fishermen, tourism managers, and local governments are perceived as threats to the social stability of coastal communities. Similarly, illegal fishing and fry harvesting practices are positioned as threats to the long-term sustainability of fishery resources and the fishing economy.

In addition, the limited capacity of the Tamperan PPP anchorage and the increasing number of ships operating there pose a risk to shipping safety and maritime order. These threats do not stand alone, but are framed as dangers that could disrupt the economic, social, and ecological sustainability of the Pacitan Bay region. The securitization process at Tamperan Port does not stem from traditional military threats, but rather from non-traditional existential threats constructed through institutional practices and narratives.

The third and most crucial element is speech acts. Ole Wæver asserts that securitization occurs when an actor explicitly declares that an issue is a security threat. This statement is not only descriptive, but also performative, creating a new reality in which the issue is transferred from the realm of ordinary politics to the realm of security, enabling extraordinary measures (Wæver, 1995). Therefore, the success of securitization depends heavily on the persuasiveness of the statement and the audience's acceptance of the claim.

The results of the study show that Poskamladu speech acts are not always manifested in the form of explicit formal declarations, but rather through institutional communication practices, conflict mediation, and cross-actor coordination. In the conflict between fishermen and the managers of the Teleng Ria Beach tourist area, for example, Poskamladu articulated the issues of boat parking and coastal order as matters requiring integrated security measures, rather than merely administrative issues.

The persuasive and dialogical approach taken by Poskamladu in resolving conflicts between fishermen is also a form of speech act that implicitly shifts the issue of social conflict into the realm of security. In this way, Poskamladu creates normative justification for the involvement of security forces and cross-sector coordination in conflict resolution. These findings show that speech acts in the context of Tamperan Port are practical and contextual, adapting to the social dynamics of coastal communities, but still functioning as the main mechanism in the securitization process.

Finally, the referent object refers to the entity that is claimed to be threatened and therefore needs to be protected through the securitization process. This object can be a country, a community, an ideology, the environment, or even universal values such as human rights (Stritzel, 2007). Without a referent object, there would be no moral or political justification for taking extraordinary measures. In the context of the war on terror, for example, the state is often used as a reference object to justify military policies and restrictions on civil liberties.

The results of the study show that the reference objects in securitization at Tamperan Port are multidimensional. The referent object is not limited to the state or territorial sovereignty, but also includes the fishing community, coastal social order, sustainability of marine and fishery resources, and stability of local economic activities. In the institutional narrative of Poskamladu, the protection of small-scale fishermen, the prevention of social conflicts, and the security of port activities are positioned as strategic interests that must be maintained.

3.2. Discussion

The results of the study show that the Poskamladu of Tamperan Port plays a strategic role as a coordination hub for maritime security in Pacitan Bay. These findings are in line with Afpriyanto et al. (2023), who emphasize that maritime infrastructure—both physical and institutional—is a key element in supporting the effectiveness of Indonesia's maritime defense and security system towards becoming a global maritime axis. In this context, the Maritime Security Post is not only understood as a physical facility at the port, but as an institutional infrastructure that enables the integration of the roles of various maritime security actors.

However, field findings also revealed limitations in port infrastructure capacity, particularly at the Tamperan PPP anchorage, which is not commensurate with the increase in the number of ships in operation. This condition reinforces the argument that the effectiveness of maritime security cannot be separated from the adequacy of supporting infrastructure, as also highlighted in the study on fisheries port management and the utilization of basic and functional facilities at the Tamperan PPP.

Research findings indicate that maritime security threats in Pacitan Bay are not narrowly defined as military threats, but rather encompass illegal fishing, conflicts over coastal space utilization, and disorderly port activities. This is in line with the views of Babatunde and Abdulsalam (2021) and Li (2023), who emphasize that modern maritime security is multidimensional and requires an integrated legal, institutional, and policy approach. The illegal fishing practices and fry harvesting found in this study reinforce the findings of Misbach et al. (2022) and Dewi and Maarif (2022) that fisheries law violations pose a serious threat to marine resource sovereignty and the economic sustainability of fishermen. In the context of Pacitan Bay, this threat is constructed as an existential threat to the livelihoods of coastal communities, prompting Poskamladu to position it as a security issue that requires special handling.

The results of the study show that Poskamladu acts as a securitization actor that has social and political legitimacy to raise certain issues in the realm of security. However, the effectiveness of this role cannot be separated from bureaucratic dynamics and overlapping authority between agencies. These findings are in line with Samy (2023) and Suwardi and Fakhrolloh (2022), who identified bureaucratic politics and fragmentation of authority as one of the main causes of weak port security in Indonesia.

In the context of Tamperan Port, Poskamladu functions as a mitigation mechanism against such fragmentation by promoting cross-sector coordination. This supports the findings of Sitorus and Said (2023), which emphasize the importance of synergy between maritime security agencies in conducting maritime patrols and surveillance. Thus, Poskamladu can be understood as an institutional instrument that seeks to bridge the interests and mandates of various maritime security institutions at the local level.

The discussion of the research results shows that Poskamladu speech acts in the securitization process do not always take the form of coercive security statements, but are more often manifested through persuasive approaches, conflict mediation, and institutional communication. This approach strengthens the social legitimacy of Poskamladu in the eyes of the fishing community and local stakeholders.

These findings are relevant to the securitization framework proposed by Buzan et al. (1998) and Wæver (1995), which emphasizes that the success of securitization is highly dependent on the audience's acceptance of the threat claims made by securitizing actors. In the case of Pacitan Bay, public acceptance of the role of Poskamladu can be seen from the successful mediation of boat parking conflicts and coastal space management at Teleng Ria Beach. The results of the study also show that the role of Poskamladu in the future will not only face conventional threats, but also technology-based maritime security challenges. This is in line with Algarni et al. (2024), Pöyhönen and Lehto (2023), and Oruç et al. (2024), who emphasize the increasing vulnerability of port systems and maritime communications to cyber threats.

Although this study has not found a comprehensive cybersecurity system implementation at Tamperan Port, the findings indicate a gap between global threat dynamics and maritime security capacity at the local level. This condition reinforces the arguments of Islam (2024) and Simola et al. (2024) that strengthening maritime security in the technological era must be balanced with increasing institutional capacity, human resources, and ethical use of technology. The findings of this study also support the idea that strengthening maritime security at the local port level is an integral part of Indonesia's agenda as a global maritime axis. This is in line with Ampun et al. (2023), Amri and Zahidi (2023), and Nurhayati et al. (2023), who emphasize that the success of the national maritime strategy is largely determined by the effectiveness of policy implementation at the operational level.

In this context, Poskamladu Tamperan can be viewed as a miniature implementation of national maritime security policy at the local level. Its successes and limitations provide important lessons on how securitization processes, institutional coordination, and social acceptance interact in shaping an adaptive and sustainable maritime security system.

4. CONCLUSION

This study concludes that Poskamladu at Tamperan Port acts as a securitization actor in the maritime security system in Pacitan Bay. Through its institutional legitimacy, the Security Post is able to raise various non-traditional issues, such as illegal fishing, conflicts over coastal space utilization, and disorderly port activities, into the realm of security. This process shows that securitization at Tamperan Port does not stem from conventional military threats, but rather from the construction of existential threats directly related to the sustainability of fishery resources, the social stability of coastal communities, and the safety of maritime activities.

The results of the study also show that Poskamladu speech act practices are contextual and adaptive, manifested more through persuasive communication, conflict mediation, and inter-agency coordination than through coercive security declarations. This approach strengthens the social acceptance of the fishing community towards the role of Poskamladu, which ultimately becomes an important factor in the success of the securitization process. Thus, these findings confirm that the success of securitization is highly dependent on social legitimacy and audience acceptance, as emphasized in the Copenhagen School theoretical framework.

In addition, this study reveals that the reference objects in Poskamladu securitization are multidimensional. Protection is not only directed at state sovereignty or maritime order, but also at fishing communities, the sustainability of marine and fishery resources, and the stability of local economic activities in Tamperan Port. This indicates an expansion of the meaning of maritime security in line with the development of non-traditional threats and the complexity of maritime governance at the local level.

From a policy perspective, strengthening maritime security at the local level requires: harmonization of inter-agency authority and permanent coordination mechanisms; expansion and modernization of port infrastructure to accommodate increasing maritime activity; integration of maritime cybersecurity preparedness into port governance systems; and institutionalization of community-based conflict mediation

frameworks. Such measures are essential to ensure that local securitization processes contribute effectively to Indonesia's broader maritime security agenda.

This study is limited to a single case in Pacitan Bay, which restricts generalizability. Future research may adopt comparative approaches across multiple fishing ports to examine variations in local securitization dynamics, particularly in relation to technological threats and institutional capacity. In sum, this research shows that securitization at the local maritime governance level is not merely a discursive act but a governance process embedded in institutional practice, social legitimacy, and inter-agency coordination. Recognizing this dynamic is crucial for advancing both securitization theory and practical maritime security policy.

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