



SECTORAL  
DIPLOMATIC  
CHANNELS



# HUMANITARIAN DIPLOMACY

Development of  
Sectoral  
Diplomacy



## STRATEGIC VISION DOCUMENT

# HUMANITARIAN DIPLOMACY

### “Development of Sectoral Diplomacy”

Humanitarian diplomacy is the strategy to influence states, non-state actors and civil society members simultaneously who are a side of armed conflicts. Humanitarian diplomacy aims to maintain bilateral and multilateral, official and unofficial relations as a non-stop relations network in the frame of international law. Traditional diplomacy has been maintained by official diplomats of countries. But humanitarian diplomacy has been forecasting an integrated activities chain in political, militarily and humanitarian areas in addition to official diplomacy. It is targeting to inform related publics and public opinions at last. Developments in information, communication and transportation technologies have been both obliged and facilitated humanitarian diplomacy.

Missions of traditional diplomacy have been defining in the frame of militarily, political and economic requirements by foreign policy makers of a country. So, diplomacy and foreign policy are different from each other. Some of these missions are; to represent a state, to maintain negotiations and to be in a search of harmony between foreign policy and rules about the functioning of international system. Diplomacy is a search of providing the solution of disagreements in international system under a certain order. Diplomacy has a function of ignoring the conflicts and protecting the peace.

Humanitarian diplomacy has a claim to be the voice of innocents who are victims in conflicts. Its most important effort is to provide respect to international law consisted in the international area in historical process. In this frame, the most important functions of humanitarian diplomacy are; to provide to make humanitarian agreements among national and international actors, to play an objective conciliator role among conflicting sides, and to provide to consider international law. In this frame, it has qualifications such as staying in touch in highly various points with states and non-state actors; getting involved in the benefit of victims about humanitarian issues besides about providing peace; getting into independent acts from official institutions; getting into acts in special areas according to diplomacy; and mobilizing related effect networks in need.

Humanitarian diplomacy has been maintained in a close contact with non-governmental organizations such as intergovernmental and international the Red Crescent/the Red Cross organizations, economic, political, ideological and religious profit groups, media and civil society members as much as states and non-state actors. But humanitarian diplomacy is obliged to protect its civil quality in all conditions. Comparing with channels maintaining official diplomacy, individuals or institutions maintaining humanitarian diplomacy activity have a great activity flexibility and autonomy in the point of contacting with unofficial sides.

Humanitarian diplomacy has been theoretically limited at least with humanitarian activities such as removing victimization derived of armed conflicts; providing notification of responsibilities by sides; providing direct helps to victims; providing amelioration of jail conditions; maintaining activities about human rights in the conflict area etc.

It is important to be objective and to have civil quality of humanitarian diplomacy activities in some cases. At all, the influence of an actor who has an official connection or a connection with one of the sides of conflicts will be concretely decreased. Second, prior aim of actors maintaining humanitarian diplomacy should be to provide the obedience of human rights instead of ending conflicts. Because peace, as war, is political qualified phenomenon; and getting involved in peace efforts has been harming civil quality of humanitarian diplomacy activities. In case of failure of official qualified peace initiatives, it is important to continue of objective and civil activities for ignoring completely removal of humanitarian diplomacy activities.

Humanitarian diplomacy has been getting into act in areas such as ignoring victimization of women, children, old and innocent civil people in domestic and foreign conflicts, disasters and unexpected social crisis or in any activity maintaining about state security; defending rights of lost people; establishing an against conscious for weapons of mass destruction; and reminding responsibilities to authorities etc. In short, humanitarian diplomacy is a strategy to ignore and solve humanitarian problems by the way of dialogues, negotiations and international rules. It is supposed to be considered of interaction among sides for actualizing that strategy. So, humanitarian diplomacy is a communication strategy in the same time. In the point of legitimacy of activities being maintained in national and international area; the importance given to human rights has been increasing day by day. Also humanitarian diplomacy will be a vitally important diplomacy area in the next periods.

In this context, we hope **the Studies of Humanitarian Diplomacy**, which will be held in the content of **Civil Global 2015-2023-2053** “Development Program of Global Civil Diplomacy”, will provide multilateral profits and important contributions on the development of cooperation opportunities in the national and international area by the proactive approaches.

## **Main Theme**

**“Development of Sectoral Diplomacy”**

## **Sub Themes**

**Institutional Capacity in Humanitarian Diplomacy**

**International Law and Humanitarian Diplomacy**

**International Institutions (EU, International Courts, Human Rights Organizations, the Red Crescent/the Red Cross etc.) and Humanitarian Diplomacy**

**Humanitarian Diplomacy and Role of Traditional Media**

**Humanitarian Diplomacy and Social Media**

**Humanitarian Diplomacy Solidarity and Development Cooperation**