



## INDONESIA'S PEACEKEEPING COMMITMENT UNDER PRESIDENT PRABOWO SUBIANTO: IMPLICATIONS FOR GLOBAL PEACE AND INDONESIAN FOREIGN POLICY

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### Abstract

President Prabowo Subianto's declaration at the 80th United Nations General Assembly in September 2025, offering to deploy up to 20,000 peacekeepers to conflict zones worldwide, marks a significant escalation in Indonesia's commitment to international peacekeeping operations. This article examines the implications of this pledge within the context of Indonesia's historical peacekeeping involvement, its evolving foreign policy orientation, and the broader effectiveness of UN peacekeeping missions. Through analysis of recent policy statements and academic literature on peacekeeping operations, this study explores how Indonesia's expanded peacekeeping role reflects both continuity with its "free and active" foreign policy tradition and a new assertiveness under Prabowo's leadership. The findings suggest that while this commitment enhances Indonesia's international profile and aligns with its middle power aspirations, implementation faces challenges including resource constraints, domestic political considerations, and the complex operational realities of contemporary peacekeeping missions.

**Keywords:** Indonesia, peacekeeping operations, Prabowo Subianto, United Nations, foreign policy, conflict resolution.

### INTRODUCTION

The international peacekeeping landscape witnessed a notable development on September 23, 2025, when Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto addressed the United Nations General Assembly in New York with an unprecedented commitment. Standing before the global community, Prabowo declared Indonesia's readiness to deploy up to 20,000 peacekeepers to various conflict zones, including Gaza, Ukraine, Sudan, and Libya (Metro TV News, 2025). This announcement represents not merely a quantitative increase in troop contributions but signals a fundamental recalibration of Indonesia's approach to international security engagement under new leadership.

Indonesia's participation in UN peacekeeping operations dates back to 1957 with the deployment of the first Garuda Contingent to Egypt, establishing a tradition spanning nearly seven decades (Anwar, 2014). Throughout this period, Indonesia has consistently maintained its position among the leading troop-contributing countries, with over 25,874 personnel deployed across various missions between 1957 and 2012 (Anwar, 2014). As of 2024, Indonesia ranks as the sixth-largest contributor globally with approximately 2,715 uniformed personnel serving in multiple UN missions (United Nations, 2024).

Prabowo's peacekeeping pledge emerges within a distinctive political context. Having assumed office in October 2024, he has been characterized as a "foreign policy president" who

seeks to elevate Indonesia's global standing through active international engagement (Voice of America, 2024). This contrasts with his predecessor Joko Widodo's predominantly domestic development focus, suggesting a strategic pivot toward more assertive multilateral diplomacy. The timing of this announcement during his first UNGA address underscores peacekeeping as a cornerstone of his foreign policy vision.

The significance of this commitment extends beyond numerical expansion. Prabowo's offer encompasses deployment to highly sensitive conflict zones where Indonesia has not previously maintained substantial presence, particularly in the Middle East context of Gaza. This reflects Indonesia's enduring support for the Palestinian cause while simultaneously proposing conditional recognition of Israel contingent upon Palestinian statehood, a position that has generated considerable domestic and international discussion (South China Morning Post, 2025).

Research on UN peacekeeping effectiveness has produced nuanced findings. While operations demonstrably reduce conflict intensity, shorten war duration, and protect civilians under specific conditions (Hegre et al., 2019; Clayton & Dorussen, 2022), their success depends heavily on mandate clarity, resource adequacy, and political support from both host nations and the international community (Ojo-Lanre & Amodu, 2025). Indonesia's expanded commitment therefore raises important questions about operational capacity, strategic objectives, and potential outcomes.

This article addresses these dimensions through three research questions. First, how does Prabowo's peacekeeping commitment relate to Indonesia's historical involvement in UN operations and its broader foreign policy tradition? Second, what strategic motivations underlie this expanded commitment, and how does it align with Indonesia's middle power ambitions? Third, what challenges and opportunities does this pledge present for Indonesia's international role and for UN peacekeeping effectiveness more broadly?

The analysis proceeds through examination of Indonesia's peacekeeping history, Prabowo's foreign policy orientation, and scholarly literature on peacekeeping effectiveness. By situating this recent development within broader theoretical and empirical contexts, the study contributes to understanding how middle powers utilize peacekeeping as foreign policy instruments and how individual leadership shapes national security postures in democratic transitions.

## RESEARCH METHODS

This study employs a qualitative literature review methodology, synthesizing primary policy statements with academic scholarship to analyze Indonesia's peacekeeping commitment under President Prabowo Subianto. The approach combines document analysis with contextual interpretation, drawing on multiple sources to construct a comprehensive understanding of this policy development. Primary data comes from President Prabowo's speech at the UN General Assembly on September 23, 2025, as reported by Metro TV News. This source provides direct access to official policy declarations, including specific numerical commitments and geographical scope of proposed deployments. The speech represents Indonesia's formal position communicated to the international community and serves as the foundation for analyzing stated intentions.

Secondary sources comprise peer-reviewed academic articles, UN official reports, and policy analyses examining Indonesia's peacekeeping history and UN mission effectiveness.

Key academic works include Anwar's (2014) comprehensive study of Indonesian peacekeeping from 1957 to 2014, which provides historical context and identifies patterns in Indonesia's contributions. Contemporary assessments from the United Nations (2024) and specialized analyses by Clayton and Dorussen (2022), Hegre et al. (2019), and Ojo-Lanre and Amodu (2025) offer insights into current peacekeeping dynamics and effectiveness measures.

The analytical framework integrates three dimensions. First, historical contextualization situates Prabowo's commitment within Indonesia's seven-decade peacekeeping trajectory, identifying continuities and departures from established patterns. Second, foreign policy analysis examines how this commitment relates to Indonesia's "free and active" doctrine and middle power aspirations, drawing on recent assessments by Voice of America (2024) and South China Morning Post (2025) regarding Prabowo's diplomatic orientation. Third, effectiveness evaluation engages scholarly literature on peacekeeping outcomes to consider implications of Indonesia's expanded role.

Data interpretation proceeds through comparative analysis, contrasting stated commitments against historical precedents and operational realities documented in academic literature. Particular attention focuses on discrepancies between rhetorical pledges and practical implementation constraints, including resource limitations, mandate complexities, and political sensitivities in proposed deployment locations.

Limitations of this methodology include reliance on publicly available information without access to internal government deliberations or classified operational planning. The newness of Prabowo's administration means limited empirical evidence exists regarding actual implementation of stated policies. Additionally, the dynamic nature of international conflicts renders some analytical conclusions provisional pending future developments.

The study does not employ quantitative analysis or statistical modeling, as the research questions center on policy interpretation and contextual understanding rather than numerical correlation testing. Instead, the approach emphasizes rich description, pattern identification, and theoretical connection-building characteristic of qualitative policy research.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Historical Context of Indonesian Peacekeeping

Indonesia's peacekeeping tradition extends across nearly seven decades, beginning with the first Garuda Contingent deployment to the Suez Crisis in 1957. This initial mission established a precedent of active participation in multilateral security frameworks that has persisted through successive governments. Between 1957 and 2012, Indonesia deployed over 25,874 personnel to various operations, with 31 peacekeepers killed in service (Anwar, 2014). These contributions positioned Indonesia consistently among the top 15 troop-contributing countries globally.

The missions have spanned diverse geographical contexts. Major deployments included the Congo during the 1960s decolonization crisis, Vietnam during the Paris Peace Accords implementation, Lebanon through the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) where Indonesia currently maintains its largest contingent with 1,150 personnel, and more recently in the Central African Republic and Democratic Republic of Congo (United Nations, 2024). These operations reflect Indonesia's willingness to engage in both traditional monitoring missions and more robust multidimensional operations.

Analysis of historical patterns reveals several consistent characteristics. Indonesian

peacekeepers have typically operated under clear UN mandates rather than unilateral or coalition arrangements, reinforcing Indonesia's multilateralist credentials. The selection of missions has generally avoided direct involvement in conflicts where Indonesia faces diplomatic complications, though the Palestinian question represents a notable exception given Indonesia's non-recognition of Israel. Geographic distribution has favored African and Middle Eastern theaters where Indonesia perceives both humanitarian need and strategic interest in stability.

Scholarly assessments highlight that Indonesia views peacekeeping through multiple lenses simultaneously. Anwar (2014) identifies national interest promotion, international prestige enhancement, and genuine commitment to peace as interrelated motivations. The peacekeeping program provides professional development opportunities for military personnel, demonstrates Indonesia's status as a responsible stakeholder in international security, and aligns with the constitutional mandate to participate in establishing world order based on freedom, lasting peace, and social justice.

Prabowo's commitment to potentially increase deployments from approximately 2,700 to 20,000 personnel represents a nearly sevenfold expansion. This magnitude of increase lacks historical precedent in Indonesian peacekeeping. Previous administrations incrementally adjusted contributions based on UN requests and national capacity, but never proposed such dramatic scaling. The proposal therefore constitutes a qualitative shift rather than mere quantitative adjustment.

### **Prabowo's Foreign Policy Orientation and Strategic Motivations**

Understanding Prabowo's peacekeeping pledge requires situating it within his broader foreign policy vision. Unlike his predecessor Joko Widodo, whose administration prioritized domestic infrastructure development and economic growth, Prabowo has signaled intention to elevate Indonesia's international profile through active diplomacy. Political analysts characterize him as a "foreign policy president" who seeks hands-on management of international relations rather than delegating primarily to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Voice of America, 2024).

Evidence for this orientation includes extensive pre-inauguration diplomatic engagement. As president-elect, Prabowo visited China, Russia, and multiple ASEAN countries, conducting bilateral meetings that typically occur after assuming office. His fluency in multiple languages and military background contribute to comfort with international forums that contrasts with Widodo's more reserved approach. The appointment of party ally Sugiono as Foreign Minister further signals presidential control over foreign policy direction.

The peacekeeping commitment serves multiple strategic objectives. First, it positions Indonesia as a leading middle power willing to assume burdens of international security provision. Middle power theory suggests that states lacking superpower capabilities but possessing significant resources seek influence through constructive participation in multilateral institutions. Peacekeeping offers measurable contribution to global public goods while enhancing diplomatic standing. For Indonesia, expanding contributions reinforces claims to regional leadership in Southeast Asia and broader influence in the Global South.

Second, the pledge addresses specifically the Palestinian issue, which holds particular salience in Indonesia as the world's largest Muslim-majority country. Prabowo's conditional recognition formula for Israel contingent on Palestinian statehood represents calibrated positioning that maintains solidarity with Palestinians while signaling openness to normalized relations under

specified conditions. This approach differs from absolute non-recognition stances of some Muslim-majority states and reflects pragmatic diplomacy aimed at relevance in eventual peace processes (South China Morning Post, 2025).

Third, offering deployment to Ukraine, Sudan, and Libya demonstrates willingness to engage beyond traditional focus areas. This geographic diversification signals that Indonesia's peacekeeping role transcends religious solidarity and encompasses global conflict management. Such positioning supports broader aspirations for permanent UN Security Council representation by demonstrating responsible stakeholder behavior across diverse contexts.

However, scholarly analysis of UN peacekeeping effectiveness suggests that mission success depends on factors beyond troop numbers. Clayton and Dorussen (2022) demonstrate that mediation efforts prove more critical than military presence for halting hostilities, though peacekeeping and mediation function complementarily. Hegre et al. (2019) show that peacekeepers reduce battlefield deaths when adequately mandated and resourced, but effectiveness varies substantially across contexts. Ojo-Lanre and Amodu (2025) identify persistent challenges including mandate ambiguity, insufficient resources, and limited local ownership that constrain peacekeeping outcomes in Sub-Saharan Africa.

These findings raise questions about Indonesia's capacity to deploy and sustain 20,000 peacekeepers effectively. Indonesia's defense budget has historically remained below one percent of GDP, with majority allocation to operational costs rather than capital expenditures. Prabowo has proposed increasing defense spending to 1.5 percent of GDP by 2029, but this remains substantially below major troop contributors like Bangladesh, Ethiopia, and Rwanda that already maintain large contingents. Training infrastructure, logistics systems, and command structures require significant investment to support sevenfold expansion of deployments.

Political considerations also constrain implementation. Domestic constituencies express varying perspectives on peacekeeping priorities. Some argue that resources should prioritize national defense modernization given regional security challenges, particularly maritime domain awareness in areas like the Natuna Islands where territorial disputes persist. Others question deployment to non-Muslim conflict zones when Muslim populations in places like Gaza face humanitarian crises. Parliamentary approval processes and budgetary constraints provide additional practical barriers to rapid expansion.

The specific mention of Gaza deployment carries particular complexity. Israel has not formally requested UN peacekeeping forces, and any deployment would require Security Council authorization where the United States holds veto power. Palestinian factions themselves have not unanimously called for international force presence. The operational environment would present extreme challenges given ongoing hostilities, urban warfare dynamics, and political sensitivities. Indonesia's non-recognition of Israel further complicates coordination and force protection arrangements.

### **Implications for UN Peacekeeping Effectiveness**

Indonesia's potential contribution increase occurs within broader debates about peacekeeping reform and effectiveness. Contemporary missions face mounting challenges including deployment to active conflict zones rather than post-ceasefire environments, protection of civilians mandates requiring robust force postures, and complex political environments where host governments may

oppose mission activities. Research demonstrates mixed outcomes depending on operational contexts and mission design. Fortna (2008) established foundational evidence that peacekeeping reduces conflict recurrence and lengthens peace duration, but emphasized that effectiveness depends on credible commitment mechanisms. Subsequent work by Hultman et al. (2014) showed that larger troop deployments reduce civilian casualties in active conflicts, though this relationship exhibits diminishing returns and depends on mandate robustness. More recent analysis by Hegre et al. (2019) suggests that properly designed peacekeeping operations represent cost-effective investments in global security, potentially saving 150,000 lives over a 13-year period compared to scenarios without intervention.

However, critical assessments identify persistent limitations. Autesserre (2014) argues that international peacebuilding often fails to address local conflict drivers due to top-down approaches disconnected from community dynamics. Di Salvatore and Ruggeri (2017) demonstrate that peacekeeping can inadvertently empower criminal networks in some contexts. Studies of specific missions like MONUSCO in Democratic Republic of Congo and UNMISS in South Sudan reveal challenges maintaining neutrality when host governments become conflict parties, undermining mission credibility and effectiveness (Ojo-Lanre & Amodu, 2025).

Indonesia's expanded contribution could enhance peacekeeping effectiveness through several mechanisms. Increased personnel availability addresses chronic understaffing in demanding missions, particularly those requiring engineering capabilities for infrastructure reconstruction. Indonesian peacekeepers have earned recognition for professional conduct and technical competence, suggesting quality contributions beyond mere numerical presence. Greater Indonesian investment might also incentivize improved coordination and resource allocation within UN peacekeeping architecture.

Conversely, rapid expansion risks diluting operational quality if training and preparation do not match deployment pace. Effective peacekeeping requires specialized skills including civilian protection, conflict sensitivity, and human rights awareness beyond conventional military training. Indonesia's peacekeeping center conducts pre-deployment preparation, but sevenfold expansion would strain instructional capacity and potentially compromise readiness standards. Previous research on peacekeeping effectiveness emphasizes that mission composition matters as much as size, with diversity in capabilities and perspectives enhancing performance (Bove & Ruggeri, 2016).

The proposed deployments to new geographical contexts present learning curves. Indonesian peacekeepers possess substantial experience in African and Middle Eastern missions but limited exposure to Eastern European contexts like Ukraine or to the specific political dynamics of Sudan's complex civil conflict. Effective peacekeeping requires understanding local power structures, cultural sensitivities, and conflict histories that cannot be rapidly acquired. Research demonstrates that peacekeepers' cultural distance from local populations can reduce effectiveness, suggesting value in deploying forces with relevant regional knowledge (Bove & Ruggeri, 2018).

Conditional recognition of Israel contingent on deployment authorization introduces unprecedented complexity. Peacekeeping doctrine emphasizes impartiality and non-use of force except in self-defense or mandate defense. Linking peacekeeping participation to broader political objectives could compromise perceived neutrality essential for operational effectiveness. Host populations and conflict parties might question whether Indonesian forces pursue peacekeeping objectives or advance political agendas, potentially undermining mission acceptance and

cooperation.

### **Challenges and Opportunities for Implementation**

Translating rhetorical commitment into operational reality faces multiple practical obstacles. Resource constraints represent the most immediate challenge. Defense budget increases proposed by Prabowo would enhance capacity but implementation timelines extend across multiple years while the UNGA pledge implied readiness for near-term deployment. Sustained investment in training facilities, equipment procurement, logistics infrastructure, and personnel retention programs requires budgetary prioritization that must compete with domestic development needs.

Legislative processes introduce additional complexity. Indonesian Parliament must approve troop deployments through formal mechanisms that involve multiple committees and political factions. While peacekeeping enjoys general cross-party support, specific missions generate debate depending on strategic implications and resource costs. Securing approval for 20,000-person deployments across multiple theaters simultaneously would require extensive political negotiation and consensus-building beyond executive branch authority alone.

Operational challenges specific to proposed deployment locations further complicate implementation. Gaza presents active conflict environment without established ceasefire or political framework for international force insertion. Ukrainian theatre involves great power confrontation where peacekeeping deployment might require Russian consent unlikely to materialize given current geopolitical tensions. Sudan's civil conflict between military factions creates security risks and unclear host government cooperation. Libya's fractured political landscape with competing authorities complicates mandate definition and force protection.

However, opportunities also emerge from this commitment. Enhanced international visibility strengthens Indonesia's middle power credentials and supports aspirations for greater voice in global governance institutions. Successful large-scale deployments would demonstrate organizational capacity and strategic seriousness that elevate Indonesia's diplomatic weight in multilateral negotiations. Professional development opportunities for military personnel through diverse mission exposure enhance institutional capabilities with benefits extending beyond peacekeeping contexts.

Economic dimensions warrant consideration. UN peacekeeping provides financial reimbursements to troop-contributing countries covering personnel costs and equipment maintenance. While not profit-generating, these payments offset deployment expenses and provide foreign exchange inflows. Large- scale contributions could generate significant reimbursement revenues that partially finance defense modernization objectives, creating fiscal alignment between peacekeeping participation and broader military development goals.

Regional leadership implications prove particularly salient for Indonesia's ASEAN relations. Demonstrating capacity and willingness to contribute substantially to international security provision positions Indonesia as the natural Southeast Asian leader on peace and security matters. This could strengthen Indonesia's role in regional security architecture development and enhance influence over ASEAN's collective positions on global conflicts.

However, some analysts suggest Prabowo may prioritize bilateral relationships with major powers over ASEAN engagement, potentially creating tensions between global ambitions and regional leadership responsibilities.

Domestic opinion regarding peacekeeping remains generally supportive but not

unconditionally so. Indonesian civil society values the country's peacekeeping tradition as expressing national identity commitments to anti-imperialism, sovereignty respect, and peaceful conflict resolution. However, specific deployments generate debate when perceived as serving external agendas rather than principled peace promotion. Managing domestic discourse around implementation choices will prove essential for sustaining political support through inevitable operational challenges and potential casualties. Conclusion

President Prabowo Subianto's pledge to deploy up to 20,000 peacekeepers represents a landmark moment in Indonesia's peacekeeping history and foreign policy evolution. This commitment reflects both continuity with Indonesia's long-standing multilateralist tradition and departure through unprecedented scale and scope of proposed contributions. Analysis reveals complex motivations encompassing international prestige enhancement, middle power positioning, Palestinian solidarity, and broader foreign policy assertiveness characteristic of Prabowo's leadership approach.

The pledge's significance extends beyond numerical expansion to signal strategic reorientation toward more active global engagement. Prabowo's "foreign policy president" characterization manifests through this commitment alongside extensive diplomatic travel and high-profile international forum participation. Peacekeeping serves as tangible instrument for translating heightened international ambitions into measurable contributions that enhance Indonesia's standing among middle powers and developing country leadership.

However, substantial challenges constrain implementation prospects. Resource limitations, legislative requirements, operational complexities in proposed deployment zones, and domestic political considerations create barriers between rhetorical commitment and operational reality. Scholarly literature on peacekeeping effectiveness suggests that success depends on factors beyond troop numbers, including mandate clarity, adequate resourcing, political support, and context-appropriate mission design. Indonesia's capacity to rapidly expand deployments while maintaining operational quality and navigating political sensitivities remains uncertain.

Opportunities nevertheless exist for Indonesia to leverage this commitment strategically. Enhanced international visibility, professional military development, financial reimbursements, and regional leadership reinforcement represent potential benefits. Successful implementation could establish Indonesia as indispensable contributor to international security provision and strengthen claims for expanded global governance participation including potential Security Council representation.

The conditional recognition formula linking Israeli recognition to Palestinian statehood and peacekeeping deployment introduces novel diplomatic approach that deserves monitoring. While potentially offering creative pathway toward Middle East engagement, this linkage risks compromising peacekeeping impartiality principles and complicating operational effectiveness. How Indonesia balances political objectives with peacekeeping doctrine requirements will significantly influence mission outcomes.

Future research should track implementation progress, analyzing which elements of the commitment materialize and which face deferral or modification. Comparative analysis examining how other middle powers balance peacekeeping contributions against resource constraints and political pressures would provide valuable context. Detailed case studies of Indonesian peacekeepers in specific missions could illuminate operational effectiveness and capability

development trajectories. Additionally, broader investigation of how individual leaders shape peacekeeping policies during democratic transitions contributes to understanding institutional change in civil-military relations.

Ultimately, Prabowo's peacekeeping pledge embodies Indonesia's ongoing negotiation of national identity, international aspirations, and practical capabilities. Whether this commitment produces transformative expansion of Indonesia's peacekeeping role or proves predominantly symbolic gesture remains to be determined through implementation choices in coming years. Regardless of specific outcomes, the pledge marks important milestone in Indonesia's foreign policy evolution and highlights peacekeeping's continued salience as middle power diplomatic instrument in contemporary international relations.

## CONCLUSION

This analysis of seven quotations from Paulo Coelho's literary works reveals a sophisticated philosophical framework translated into accessible wisdom resonating with contemporary audiences. Coelho successfully synthesizes existentialist principles regarding freedom, authenticity, and individual responsibility with humanistic psychology's emphasis on emotional congruence and self-actualization, while incorporating elements of Eastern wisdom regarding non-attachment and natural timing. The result constitutes a unique literary-philosophical approach addressing fundamental existential questions through narrative compression and emotional resonance.

The findings demonstrate that Coelho's philosophy centers on courage as foundational virtue enabling authentic existence. His conception of courage encompasses multiple dimensions: facing unexpected challenges without denial, resisting fear's constraints on authentic self-knowledge, maintaining commitment despite disappointment, and overcoming adversity whose purpose remains initially opaque. This multidimensional courage aligns with contemporary psychological research emphasizing courage as intentional action despite fear, motivated by noble purpose (Chowkase et al., 2024).

Emotional authenticity emerges as equally central, with Coelho validating emotional expression through tears, writing, and honest acknowledgment of feelings. His assertion that "tears are words that need to be written" encapsulates both catharsis theory and expressive writing research, suggesting that emotional experience requires articulation to achieve therapeutic benefit (Bylsma et al., 2008; Waldies, 2023). This emphasis distinguishes his philosophy from rationalist traditions that subordinate emotion to reason, instead positioning emotional truthfulness as prerequisite for authentic living.

Temporal urgency characterizes Coelho's philosophical orientation, with repeated emphasis on acting when life presents challenges rather than delaying until feeling ready. This stance counters procrastination while acknowledging natural timing that cannot be forced. The tension between immediate action and patient waiting represents sophisticated understanding that authentic existence requires both decisiveness and discernment regarding appropriate timing.

Coelho's treatment of suffering proves particularly distinctive, offering teleological interpretation suggesting troubles serve developmental purposes ultimately revealed through overcoming them. While this stance provides comfort during difficulty, it diverges from classical existentialism's confrontation with meaninglessness. Coelho's optimistic existentialism maintains that authentic existence leads to positive transformation, rendering his

philosophy more accessible but potentially less rigorous in facing existence's ultimate questions.

The analysis reveals how Coelho functions as philosophical democratizer, translating complex existentialist concepts into quotable wisdom accessible to readers who might never engage traditional philosophical texts. His use of metaphor, emotional language, and narrative framing creates philosophical insights that resonate affectively alongside intellectually. This accessibility constitutes significant contribution to popular philosophical discourse, making existential inquiry relevant to diverse audiences navigating contemporary life's challenges.

However, limitations warrant acknowledgment. The brevity of quotations risks oversimplifying complex philosophical positions. Coelho's optimistic stance may offer comfort at the expense of fully confronting meaninglessness central to authentic existentialism. The teleological interpretation of suffering, while psychologically beneficial, cannot be verified and may constitute comforting fiction rather than metaphysical truth. Nevertheless, from pragmatic philosophical perspective, if Coelho's wisdom helps individuals live more authentically and courageously, its functional value persists regardless of absolute truth claims.

Future research should investigate how readers interpret and apply Coelho's philosophical insights in lived experience. Empirical examination of whether engagement with his work correlates with increased courage, emotional authenticity, or life satisfaction would provide valuable evidence regarding practical impact. Cross-cultural analysis examining how his philosophy resonates differently across cultural contexts could illuminate universality claims. Additionally, deeper textual analysis of full novels would provide richer understanding than quotation analysis allows, revealing how philosophical themes develop through extended narrative.

The study contributes to literature examining how contemporary authors function as philosophers for broad publics, translating abstract concepts into practical wisdom. Coelho's success demonstrates hunger for accessible existential guidance addressing life's fundamental questions without requiring academic philosophical training. His synthesis of existentialism, humanistic psychology, and spiritual wisdom creates unique framework resonating across cultural boundaries, suggesting that philosophical insight operates through multiple channels beyond academic discourse alone.

Paulo Coelho's philosophical reflections, as crystallized in these seven quotations, offer contemporary readers a navigational compass for existential terrain. By emphasizing courage, emotional authenticity, purposeful suffering, and liberation through loss, he provides framework addressing fundamental human concerns: How should one respond to life's challenges? What role do emotions play in authentic living? How can suffering be understood constructively? What constitutes genuine freedom? These questions remain perpetually relevant, and Coelho's accessible answers continue reaching millions seeking wisdom in turbulent times.

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