

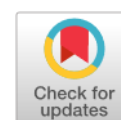
Language of Diplomacy in Palestinian Discourse: Analysis of Illocutionary Speech Acts in the Speech of The Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia

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ABSTRACT

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This study aims to identify and analyze the types of illocutionary speech acts used in the speech delivered by Indonesia's Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Anis Matta, at the Preparatory Meeting of the Extraordinary Summit of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and the Arab League, held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on November 10, 2024. The study employs a pragmatic approach based on John Searle's theory of speech acts. This speech is fascinating to examine due to its use of Arabic in an international forum and its emphasis on the strategic issue of Palestine. The research method employed is a descriptive qualitative approach, utilizing observation and note-taking techniques for data collection. The research findings reveal five types of illocutionary acts based on Searle's classification: 4 assertive acts in the form of complaints, conclusions, and affirmations; 6 directive acts in the form of invitations, questions, and prayers; 1 commissive act expressing commitment or intention; 2 expressive acts in the form of gratitude and empathy; and two declarative acts that aim to change political status. These illocutionary acts express political convictions, call for collective action, reaffirm Indonesia's commitment, foster solidarity, and challenge international structures. In the context of global diplomacy, they function as strategic tools to shape narratives, influence opinion, and strengthen Indonesia's role in supporting Palestine.

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1. Introduction

Diplomatic language plays a vital role in shaping relations among nations, as it conveys messages, frames political positions, fosters solidarity, and influences global perceptions. In the arena of international diplomacy, where sensitive issues often determine peace, conflict, and cooperation, the choice of words and communication strategies can significantly affect outcomes

(Nikmah et al., 2025). Misinterpretations or insensitivity to linguistic and cultural dimensions frequently lead to misunderstandings that may escalate tensions. This underscores the urgency of studying diplomatic discourse from a pragmatic perspective, particularly to understand how language functions as a strategic tool in complex international forums (Khoerunnisa et al., 2023).

Pragmatics, as a branch of linguistics, provides a critical framework for examining how context shapes meaning in communication. Unlike traditional linguistic approaches that focus solely on structural elements, pragmatics takes into account situational factors, speaker-hearer dynamics, and shared background knowledge that influence the interpretation of utterances. Core elements, such as speech acts, implicature, presupposition, and deixis, are central to uncovering meanings beyond linguistic form. One essential concept within pragmatics is that of speech acts, which highlights how language is not only used to deliver information but also to perform actions.

This perspective is particularly relevant in contemporary diplomatic studies, where the performative power of language often determines how political messages are received, interpreted, and acted upon within the global arena. By analyzing diplomatic language through the lens of pragmatics, scholars and practitioners can gain a deeper understanding of how states utilize communication not only to negotiate policies but also to establish legitimacy, garner global support, and reinforce their positions in international discourse. In this sense, the study of speech acts in diplomacy becomes indispensable for explaining how language actively shapes political realities (Ardhan, 2023).

The concept of speech acts has attracted considerable attention from many linguists. According to Yule (2019), actions performed via utterances are referred to as speech acts, which in English are often labeled with specific terms such as apologies, complaints, compliments, invitations, promises, or requests (Yule, 2019). This view is reinforced by Searle, as cited in Nadar, (2013), who states that the smallest elements in communication are speech acts such as statements, questions, commands, explanations, apologies, expressions of gratitude, and congratulations (Nadar, 2013). Meanwhile, Chaer & Agustina, (2010) offer a different perspective by emphasizing that speech acts are individual phenomena of a psychological nature, and their realization is determined by the speaker's linguistic ability to respond to particular situations (Chaer & Agustina, 2010).

The theory of speech acts, first introduced by Austin and later refined by Searle (1982), highlights that language is not only a medium of communication but also a performative tool capable of shaping realities (Rohmah et al., 2025; Searle & Lamarque, 1982). In diplomacy, speech acts, particularly illocutionary acts, serve a strategic function to convey intentions, mobilize support, and influence international responses. Unlike linguistic studies that focus on structure, pragmatics emphasizes how language is used to achieve goals, making speech a powerful

instrument in global politics (R. D. Safitri et al., 2021).

In this context, Indonesia's diplomatic discourse, as exemplified by Anis Matta's speech at the OIC Summit, illustrates how illocutionary acts reinforce the nation's role as a moral voice in international forums. Through assertive, directive, and declarative utterances, Indonesia not only expresses solidarity with Palestine but also positions itself as an advocate of justice and collective action. This aligns with findings that solidarity in Indonesia is mediated by value-based and moderate communication strategies, bridging moral, religious, and diplomatic imperatives (Harahap et al., 2025). Thus, Indonesia's language of diplomacy demonstrates the performative power of speech to influence opinion, shape narratives, and strengthen its legitimacy on the international stage.

Language plays a vital role in communication and diplomacy, serving not only as a tool for conveying messages but also as a representation of a nation's identity and strategic positioning. Diplomatic discourse analysis from a pragmatic perspective, particularly through the lens of illocutionary acts, reveals implicit meanings in speaker-hearer interactions. As a form of speech act, a speech has the power to shape opinion and influence audiences within diplomatic contexts. A speech is a type of oral communication intended to deliver information, ideas, and arguments to an audience. To be effective, a speaker must possess strong communicative skills to capture attention and persuade listeners. Speeches may be delivered orally or read from written texts, typically structured with an introduction, body, and conclusion. For a message to be compelling, the content must be organized clearly, logically, and systematically so that the speech acts within can evoke emotional responses and convince the audience (Said et al., 2024).

This study examines the speech delivered by Indonesia's Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Anis Matta, during the preparatory session of the 2024 OIC Summit in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, as its primary object of analysis. The speech is of particular interest due to two notable aspects. First, it was delivered in Arabic, a language seldom used by Indonesian delegates in international forums. Second, the speech addressed the issue of Palestine with firm and explicit emphasis. In diplomatic practice, where English or Indonesian is typically employed, the use of Arabic is not merely a linguistic choice but a deliberate diplomatic strategy. This approach reflects Indonesia's solidarity with the Islamic world and strengthens its political stance in support of the Palestinian cause. From a pragmatic perspective, it demonstrates how language can be strategically employed to establish political alignment and foster closeness on the international stage.

The researcher identified several previous studies related to speech acts, including research on speech acts in political speeches, such as the analysis of illocutionary speech acts in President Joko Widodo's speech at the G20 Summit in Bali, which revealed the presence of all five types of illocutionary acts, with directive acts being the most frequently used (Ardhan, 2023). Studies on

speech acts in novels, such as *Arok Dedes* by Pramoedya Ananta Toer, identified two assertive, four directive, one commissive, three expressive, and two declarative speech acts (Al Hakim et al., 2023). In *Pastelizzie* by Indrayani Rusady, the most dominant speech act was the expressive act of apology (21%), which also served as a medium for pragmatic learning and moral messaging (Dahlia, 2022). In *Zainy Barakat* by Gamal Al-Ghitani, directive acts (61 utterances) were the most dominant, while declarative acts were the least frequent. The most common pragmatic function found was competitive, while conflictive functions appeared the least (Fitriya et al., 2021). Studies on speech acts in song lyrics, such as in the song "Bunda" by Potret, which is dominated by expressive acts expressing love, loss, and longing for a mother. This study demonstrated that language in song lyrics plays a crucial role in conveying emotion and fostering social bonds (F. Safitri & Maharani, 2024). In *Gala Bunga Matahari* by Sal Priadi, directive acts dominated, actively engaging the listener through commands and suggestions (Mukminin, 2024). Research on speech acts in films and animated series, such as the educational cartoon series *Ibnu Sina*, identified 24 assertive acts, mostly in the form of statements, supported by contextual elements including names, places, time, and emotional expressions (Febriyanti et al., 2023). In the film "Ku Kira Kau Rumah," nine illocutionary speech acts were identified, comprising assertive, directive, expressive, commissive, and declarative types (Putri et al., 2022).

This study shares similarities with previous research in examining illocutionary speech acts across various forms of communication, including speeches, novels, song lyrics, and films. The commonality lies in the analysis of speech act types and their functions in conveying messages. However, this research differs in its focus on language diplomacy within the discourse of Palestine, particularly through the analysis of illocutionary speech acts in Anis Matta's speech at the OIC Summit. While previous studies have predominantly explored pragmatic aspects in literary works and entertainment media, this study highlights political communication strategies within the context of international diplomacy.

The purpose of this study is to identify and analyze the types of illocutionary speech acts in the speech delivered by Indonesia's Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Anis Matta, during the preparatory session of the 2024 OIC Summit in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, using Searle's framework of illocutionary acts. The findings of this research are expected to contribute not only to the theoretical advancement of linguistic pragmatics but also to provide practical insights into effective diplomatic communication strategies, particularly in addressing sensitive issues such as the Palestinian question.

2. Method

This study aims to identify and analyze the types of illocutionary speech acts used in the speech delivered by Indonesia's Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Anis Matta, at the Preparatory Meeting of the Extraordinary Summit of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and the Arab League, held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on November 10, 2024. The primary focus of this research is to examine how Indonesia's diplomatic communication strategy is represented through the use of specific speech acts in the context of supporting the Palestinian struggle for independence. This study is motivated by the growing importance of language as a tool of diplomacy, especially in shaping public opinion, building international solidarity, and conveying a country's official stance on global issues. Accordingly, this research seeks to address the central question, What types of illocutionary speech acts are employed in Anis Matta's speech, and how do these speech acts reflect Indonesia's diplomatic position on the Palestinian issue?.

To answer this question, the study employs a qualitative research design, which is suitable for analyzing spoken language within its social and political context. Qualitative research allows for inductive reasoning and aims to interpret and understand the meanings behind communication (Leavy, 2017). This design is suitable for the objective of this research, which is to interpret illocutionary speech acts in a diplomatic context.

The primary data source is a YouTube video on the *القناة الأولى المصرية* Channel with the title *كلمة وزير خارجية إندونيسيا خلال القمة العربية الإسلامية المشتركة غير العادية* which contains a clip of Anis Matta's Arabic speech with a duration of 6 minutes 23 seconds. The video was chosen because it features the complete and official version of the speech delivered at the event.

In this study, the data collection techniques used were a combination of observation and note-taking, which are considered the most appropriate for research involving audiovisual media. The data were collected by transcribing the speech of Indonesia's Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Anis Matta, delivered in Arabic and obtained from a YouTube video excerpt. After transcribing the speech text, the researcher identified and recorded utterances that were relevant to illocutionary speech acts.

For data analysis, this study employed the analytical model developed by Miles and Huberman, which consists of three main stages. First, data reduction involves the selection, focusing, simplification, and transformation of raw data from the speech transcription. In this context, the researcher selected utterances containing elements of illocutionary acts based on Searle's classification: assertive, directive, commissive, expressive, and declarative. Second, data display, in which the reduced data are organized into easily understandable forms, such as tables categorizing types of speech acts and frequency charts. This presentation helps reveal strategic

patterns of diplomatic communication used in the speech. Third, conclusion drawing and verification, which is the process of interpreting the analyzed data to formulate the research findings. At this stage, the researcher identified overarching themes based on the types of speech acts found and their relation to Indonesia’s diplomatic language strategy in support of the Palestinian cause.

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Illocutionary Speech Acts in Anis Matta’s Speech at the Preparatory Session of the 2024 OIC Summit in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Based on the research objectives, the illocutionary speech acts in Anis Matta’s speech at the preparatory session of the 2024 OIC Summit in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, as analyzed through John Searle’s framework, are presented in the following table 1.

Table 1. Illocutionary Speech Acts in Anis Matta’s Speech at the Preparatory Session of the 2024 OIC Summit in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Types of Speech	Form of Speech
Assertive	Complaint
	Conclusion
	Affirmation
Directive	Ask
	Invite
	Pray
Commissive	Intend
Expressive	Thank
	Empathy
Declarative	Change Status

3.1.1. Assertive

Assertive speech acts are utterances that convey information that can be evaluated as true or false, depending on the perspectives of both the speaker and the hearer. In this type of speech act, the speaker expresses a belief or conviction about a particular statement. Searle provides examples of verbs that fall under this category, such as "boast," "complain," and "conclude" (Searle & Lamarque, 1982). The researcher identified assertive speech acts in Anis Matta’s speech at the OIC Summit as follows,

Table 2. First data

Anis Matta's Speech	Meaning
فإن إسرائيل بقيادة نتنياهو ومعه حلفاؤه اليمنيون المتطرفون لا تعرف غير اللغة القوة والبطش والشراسة	Indeed, Israel under the leadership of Benjamin Netanyahu and his radical far-right coalition understands nothing but the language of force and fierce resistance.

In Table 2, an assertive illocutionary act is identified. This utterance functions as a complaint directed at Israel and international institutions that are perceived as ineffective in addressing the Palestinian conflict. The criticism reflects the speaker's (Anis Matta's) belief in the injustice occurring and underscores that United Nations resolutions are merely symbolic. According to John Searle, assertive speech acts are used by the speaker to express belief in a statement that carries the value of truth or falsehood. In this utterance, the speaker conveys his conviction that Israel, under the leadership of Netanyahu and his right-wing allies, only responds to power and violence. The phrase "لا تعرف غير" (knows nothing but) signals the speaker's critique of Israel's approach, suggesting its failure to comprehend diplomacy or peace. This speech act serves not only to express disapproval of Israeli policies but also to reinforce the argument that a firm response is necessary when dealing with Israel. Thus, this assertive act not only conveys information but also builds a narrative that supports resistance against Israeli policy.

Table 3. Second data

Anis Matta's Speech	Meaning
وأمام صمود وإباء الشعب الفلسطيني نقول لا معنى لحريتنا واستقلالنا إن لم تكن فلسطين حرة مستقلة. فهي عندنا أمانة دستورية وفريضة إسلامية وضرورة إنسانية	And in the face of the resilience and steadfastness of the Palestinian people today, we declare that our independence holds no meaning unless we see the Palestinian nation enjoy its freedom and sovereignty. For us, Palestinian independence is a constitutional mandate, an Islamic obligation, and a reflection of our humanitarian conscience.

In Table 3, an assertive illocutionary act is identified in the form of a conclusion. Here, the speaker presents a concluding statement or belief that reflects Indonesia's ideological stance on the issue of Palestine. In this utterance, Indonesia's Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs (Anis Matta) emphasizes that Palestinian independence is not merely a humanitarian concern, but also a constitutional mandate, a religious obligation, and a moral necessity for the Indonesian nation. This statement aligns with Searle's category of assertive speech acts, in which the speaker expresses belief in the truth of a proposition. By stating that Indonesia's independence is meaningless without the independence of Palestine, the speaker reaffirms Indonesia's unwavering commitment to supporting Palestine as part of its fundamental national principles and global solidarity, thereby strengthening the country's diplomatic position internationally.

Table 4. Third data

Anis Matta's Speech	Meaning
إندونيسيا، ذلك الشعب الذي ولد من رحم الآلام، ذاق مرارة الاستعمار والاضطهاد والعنصرية وحتى الإبادة الجماعية	Indonesia is a nation born out of the suffering of the world, having experienced the bitterness of colonialism, oppression, racism, and even genocide.

Table 4 represents an assertive illocutionary act, as it emphasizes Indonesia's historical experience, something that can be factually verified through its colonial past in the Nusantara. From John Searle's perspective, assertive speech acts serve to convey information or beliefs that the speaker holds to be true. In this context, Anis Matta uses an assertive act to highlight the shared historical experience between Indonesia and Palestine, thereby reinforcing the message of solidarity and the relevance of Indonesia's support for Palestinian independence before the OIC audience. Beyond conveying historical facts, this speech act also carries a persuasive and diplomatic dimension, as the speaker constructs a narrative that the Palestinian struggle is part of a broader collective memory of nations that have suffered colonialism. Thus, this assertive illocution not only strengthens Indonesia's moral and historical commitment but also effectively fosters solidarity and encourages other countries to adopt a firm stance on the Palestinian issue in the international arena.

Table 5. Fourth data

Anis Matta's Speech	Meaning
كلنا فلسطين، كلنا فلسطين، كلنا فلسطين.	We are all Palestine. We are all Palestine. We are all Palestine.

The statement in Table 5, falls under the category of assertive illocutionary acts in John Searle's framework. The utterance affirms universal solidarity with the Palestinian struggle, expressing the speaker's belief that Palestine's fight for independence is part of the collective identity of the Muslim ummah and the global community. The repetition of the phrase reinforces the message that the suffering and struggle of the Palestinian people should be perceived as a shared concern, not solely theirs. In a diplomatic context, this assertive act serves to construct a narrative of unity and moral commitment in defending Palestinian rights. Thus, the statement functions not only as an emotional expression but also as a political declaration that strengthens the argument presented in the speech.

3.1.2. Directive

Directive speech acts are utterances used by the speaker to prompt the hearer to perform a specific action. This type of speech act may be expressed directly through invitations or appeals, or indirectly through questions or challenges intended to provoke a response. Common verbs

associated with directive acts include "ask," "order," "command," "request," "pray," "invite," and "dare" (Searle & Lamarque, 1982). The researcher identified several directive speech acts in Anis Matta's speech at the OIC Summit as follows,

Table 6. Fifth data

Anis Matta's Speech	Meaning
كيف لا؟ وكلنا شهود على هذه المجازر البشعة وتلك الإبادة الجماعية الحمجية لأهل غزة وفلسطين، لأطفال فلسطين، لنساء فلسطين.	How could we not? All of us are currently witnessing the brutal massacres and shocking acts of extermination carried out by Israel against the people of Gaza and Palestine—against the children of Palestine, and against the women of Palestine.

The statement in Table 6, falls under the category of directive speech act, specifically in the form of a rhetorical question. Although the sentence is structured as a question, pragmatically it functions as a directive utterance aimed at prompting the audience to reflect and take action regarding the situation described. According to John Searle, directive speech acts are used by the speaker to influence the hearer to do something, either directly or indirectly. In this case, the rhetorical question "كيف لا؟" (How could we not?) serves as a challenge that stirs the audience's awareness of the atrocities occurring in Palestine. This utterance does not merely report facts about the massacres but also compels the audience to contemplate their responsibility and take a firm stance against the injustices faced by the Palestinian people. Thus, this directive speech act effectively elicits an emotional response and encourages the audience to take concrete action.

Table 7. Sixth data

Anis Matta's Speech	Meaning
ومن هنا، نقول إن على القمة أن تخرج بتوصيات وخطوات عملية تحمل في طياتها روح الرد الجماعي في مواجهة العقاب الجماعي.	Therefore, from this point on, we say: it is time for all of us to move forward with concrete actions, driven by our collective spirit of resistance, to jointly hold Israel accountable.

Table 7 falls under the category of directive speech act. The utterance is directive in nature because it urges and calls upon OIC leaders to take concrete action in response to Israel's conduct. The phrase "على القمة أن تخرج بتوصيات وخطوات عملية" (the summit must produce recommendations and practical steps) expresses an apparent demand that the OIC Summit not merely issue normative statements, but instead produce real, actionable outcomes that embody the spirit of collective resistance. From the perspective of John Searle's speech act theory, this qualifies as a directive because it aims to prompt the hearer, in this case, the OIC leaders, to respond actively. The emphasis on "روح الرد الجماعي" ("the spirit of collective response") further

underscores the speaker's intention not merely to express an opinion, but to influence and persuade the audience to adopt a firm political stance and translate it into tangible diplomatic actions.

Table 8. Seventh data

Anis Matta's Speech	Meaning
أولاً، تكثيف الجهود السياسية والدبلوماسية لإنهاء الحرب في غزة ولبنان، ومنع كل محاولات التصعيد من كل الأطراف لجر المنطقة إلى حرب إقليمية لا يمكن التحكم في مسارها.	First, strengthen political and diplomatic efforts to end the war in Gaza and Lebanon, and halt all escalation attempts by any party that could turn this conflict into a regional war.

The statement in Table 8 falls under the category of directive speech acts, as it aims to guide and encourage OIC member states to strengthen diplomatic efforts in ending the war in Gaza and Lebanon. The sentence contains elements of request and appeal, as seen in the phrase "تكثيف" (intensifying political and diplomatic efforts), which signals an urging for countries to take active measures. Additionally, this directive utterance carries persuasive and strategic dimensions, given that it is delivered in a diplomatic forum and seeks to shape a collective stance on the escalation of the conflict. Thus, the statement functions as a political instruction that emphasizes the importance of concrete action in resolving the Palestinian issue through diplomatic means.

Table 9. Eighth data

Anis Matta's Speech	Meaning
ثانياً، تعبئة الشعوب الإسلامية التي تعتصر قلوبهم معاناة إخوانهم المضطهدين للمشاركة بكل ما يملكون في دعم نضالهم من أجل الاستقلال وفتح كل القنوات الرسمية والسبل المتاحة لإيصال المساعدات الإنسانية إلى فلسطين	Second, to call upon all Muslim communities to actively participate in all possible efforts in the struggle for Palestinian independence, and to open all official channels and remove all barriers to deliver humanitarian aid to the Palestinian people.

Table 9 represents a type of directive speech act that invites and urges Muslims to participate in the struggle for Palestine. According to John Searle, directive speech acts are used by the speaker to influence the hearer to do something, either directly or indirectly. In this utterance, the speaker uses the words "تعبئة" (mobilize) and "للمشاركة" (to participate), which explicitly indicate an appeal to the Muslim community to take an active part in supporting Palestinian

independence. Additionally, the speaker calls for the opening of all official channels and the removal of all obstacles to ensure that humanitarian aid can be delivered to Palestine. This directive aims to influence the audience to take concrete action, both collectively and individually, in support of the Palestinian cause. Thus, this speech act not only conveys a message but also seeks to elicit an active response and participation from the audience.

Table 10. Ninth data

Anis Matta's Speech	Meaning
<p>رابعاً، موصلة قطع علاقات الإقتصادية والتجارية والاستثمارية مع إسرائيل، وكل الشركات المتصلة بالصهيونية العالمية. وإنهاء كل المشاريع الإسرائيلية الجارية داخل دول الأعضاء</p>	<p>Fourth, sever all forms of economic, trade, and investment relations with Israel, as well as with all companies connected to international Zionism, and terminate all Israeli interests in the member states.</p>

In Table 10, this utterance constitutes a directive speech act because it aims to urge and instruct OIC member states to sever economic, trade, and investment ties with Israel. The phrases "قطع علاقات" (severing relations) and "إنهاء كل المشاريع الإسرائيلية" (terminating all Israeli projects) indicate a firm call directing the audience to take concrete action. In a diplomatic context, this speech act serves as political pressure, emphasizing the necessity of collective action to weaken Israel's economic power as a form of resistance against the occupation of Palestine. Moreover, the use of direct and imperative language in this statement highlights the urgency and seriousness of the speaker in encouraging OIC countries to take decisive steps on this issue.

Table 11. Tenth data

Anis Matta's Speech	Meaning
<p>رحم الله شهداء فلسطين، ورزق أحياءهم دولة حرة مستقلة عاصمة القدس الشريف ورزقنا الله فرصة الصلاة في المسجد الأقصى وعقد القمة القادمة فيها إن شاء الله</p>	<p>May Allah have mercy on the martyrs of Palestine and grant those who are still alive among them a free and sovereign state with Al-Quds as its capital. May Allah also grant us the opportunity to pray in Al-Aqsa Mosque and to hold the next summit there, God willing.</p>

In Table 11, the utterance represents a form of directive speech act in the form of a prayer, where the speaker expresses a plea to God to grant mercy to the Palestinian martyrs, full independence to its people, and the opportunity for Muslims to pray at Al-Aqsa Mosque and hold the next summit there. Although directed to God, this utterance also carries social and diplomatic dimensions by evoking emotions and fostering collective solidarity among the interlocutors, namely the leaders and audience of the OIC Summit. According to Searle's theory, such a directive

is classified as an indirect act that implicitly invites the audience to pray, support, and help realize the speaker's hopes. Thus, the prayer serves not only as a spiritual expression but also as a rhetorical strategy to mobilize support and build a shared commitment to the Palestinian cause.

3.1.3. Commissive

Commissive speech acts are those in which the speaker commits to a future action directed toward the hearer. These utterances often convey hope to the hearer, prompting them to take action in support of the speaker's illustration or intention. Commissive illocutionary acts can also reinforce the directive arguments presented by the speaker to a certain degree. Common verbs associated with commissive acts include: intend, favor, shall, and others (Searle & Lamarque, 1982). The researcher identified commissive speech acts in Anis Matta's speech at the OIC Summit as follows,

Table 12. Eleventh data

Anis Matta's Speech	Meaning
إحداث موجات من الدعم العالمي لإستقلال فلسطين من خلال توسيع التحالفات العالمية	Creating a global wave of support for Palestinian independence through the expansion of international coalitions.

The statement in Table 12 falls under commissive speech acts because it conveys a commitment to act in the future. This expression reflects the speaker's (Anis Matta's) and the OIC countries' intention to expand support for Palestine by building a global alliance. By using phrases such as "creating" and "expanding coalitions," the speaker pledges that diplomatic efforts will continue in pursuit of Palestinian independence. This commissive act also aims to inspire hope among the interlocutors, OIC member states, and the international community to participate in the movement. Beyond reinforcing political arguments, this commissive utterance emphasizes that support for Palestine is not merely rhetorical, but a genuine commitment to be realized through strategic actions in the future.

3.1.4. Expressive

Expressive speech acts represent authentic psychological expressions from a speaker regarding a particular subject. Through expressive utterances, interlocutors can subjectively assess the speaker, not merely objectively. The speaker uses this class of illocutionary acts to convey personal feelings. Common verbs associated with this type include "thank," "congratulate," "apologize," and others (Searle & Lamarque, 1982). The researcher identified expressive speech acts in Anis Matta's speech at the OIC Summit as follows,

Table 13. Twelfth data

Anis Matta's Speech	Meaning
باسم فخامة الرئيس الإندونيسي بوابو سوبيانتي وأعضاء الوفد الإندونيسي أشكركم صاحب السمو الملكي على دعوتنا لحضور هذه القمة المباركة	On behalf of His Excellency the President of the Republic of Indonesia, Mr. Prabowo Subianto, and all members of the Indonesian delegation, we express our gratitude to Your Highness for the invitation to attend this blessed conference.

The statement in Table 13 represents an expressive speech act in the form of thanking, in which the speaker (Anis Matta) expresses gratitude and appreciation to the host for the invitation extended. This speech act is marked by the use of the word "أشكركم" (I thank you), which explicitly conveys a sense of gratitude and appreciation. According to John Searle's perspective, expressive speech acts are used to express the speaker's feelings or attitudes toward a particular situation or party. In this context, Anis Matta expresses his appreciation for the invitation extended by the host, reflecting a respectful and appreciative stance. This speech act not only serves as a formal expression but also strengthens diplomatic relations between Indonesia and the host of the OIC Summit. By expressing gratitude, the speaker creates a positive impression and fosters a harmonious atmosphere, which is essential in the context of international diplomacy.

Table 14. Thirteenth data

Anis Matta's Speech	Meaning
وهل سنكون شهودا على موت الضمائر الإنسانية والنخوة الإسلامية إلى جانب هؤلاء القتلى والجرحى بسبب صمتنا وعجزنا	Will we continue to witness the death of human conscience for those who are killed and wounded because of our silence and our weakness?

The sentence in Table 14 is a form of expressive speech act, reflecting the speaker's (Anis Matta's) sincere psychological expression regarding the dire humanitarian situation in Palestine. This speech act conveys sadness, concern, and empathy for the suffering of the Palestinian people, as well as frustration over the international community's helplessness. From John Searle's perspective, expressive acts allow the audience to perceive the speaker subjectively, not merely based on objective facts, thereby evoking empathy and emotional response. By channeling his feelings through this utterance, Anis Matta not only expresses moral concern but also strengthens solidarity and urges the audience to reflect on their responsibility in addressing injustice, making the speech more persuasive and emotionally impactful.

3.1.5. Declarative

Declarative speech acts are those used by the speaker to change the world through their utterances. This type of illocutionary act cannot occur arbitrarily. According to Searle, declarative acts can alter reality according to what is stated by the speaker, provided that the speaker holds the appropriate performative authority (Searle & Lamarque, 1982). This concept is referred to by (Yule, 2019) as having a "Special Institutional Role." The researcher identified declarative speech acts in Anis Matta's speech at the OIC Summit as follows,

Table 15. Fourteenth data

Anis Matta's Speech	Meaning
واعتبار كل أشكال المقاومة من كل الفصائل الفلسطينية في نفس الوقت حقاً قانونياً أزلياً لكل شعب مستعمر، وليس إرهاباً	And all forms of the Palestinian people's struggle are inherent rights of all oppressed nations on this earth; they are lawful rights, not acts of terrorism.

Table 15 represents a declarative speech act, not a directive one. The statement reflects a declarative act because the speaker explicitly establishes a legal and moral status regarding the Palestinian people's resistance. In this context, the Indonesian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs is not merely expressing an opinion, but rather exercising his institutional role to affirm that all forms of resistance by Palestinian factions are legitimate rights under the law and not acts of terrorism. According to Searle, declarative speech acts have the power to change social or legal realities. They are only valid when delivered by someone with performative legitimacy or a special institutional role. By providing this statement at the official OIC Summit, the speaker formally and symbolically assumes this role, aiming to shift the international perception of Palestinian resistance from one of terrorism to a legitimate struggle, recognized both morally and legally.

Table 16. Fifteenth data

Anis Matta's Speech	Meaning
والضغط على كل المؤسسات الدولية لعزل إسرائيل وإلغاء عضويتها من الأمم المتحدة	And we must reiterate to all international institutions the need to expel Israel from United Nations membership.

The statement in Table 16 constitutes a declarative speech act. It is considered declarative because it aims to change Israel's status within the United Nations. According to Searle's theory, a declarative speech act occurs when an utterance possesses the power to alter a social or institutional reality, provided that the speaker holds institutional authority or a special institutional role. In this case, Anis Matta, as the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia, delivered the statement at the official OIC Summit, granting him the political legitimacy to call for a change in a member state's status within an international organization. This utterance is not merely normative; it carries a diplomatic mission that could influence the international

geopolitical order if responded to by the global community. Thus, the statement represents a declarative speech act rich in political and performative significance.

3.2. Discussion

This study examines the types of illocutionary speech acts in the speech delivered by Anis Matta, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia, at the Preparatory Forum of the OIC Summit 2024 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, using John Searle's theoretical framework. The main findings reveal that the speech is dominated by assertive, directive, and declarative acts, strategically employed in a diplomatic context to encourage collective action and build international pressure against Israel's actions toward Palestine. This linguistic strategy reflects Indonesia's stance in global solidarity with the Palestinian struggle. It illustrates how language is used not merely to convey information, but also to construct socio-political realities and reinforce resistance narratives.

These findings align with the study by (S. Safitri & Triwinarti (2022)), which analyzed speech acts in the text of the Palestinian Declaration of Independence. The text revealed a dominance of assertive and directive illocutionary acts, serving to convey facts about colonization and to call for support for Palestinian independence. Although Palestine did not possess full sovereign authority at the time, the utterances still carried substantial performative value in building political legitimacy in the eyes of the international community. Anis Matta's speech follows a similar pattern, where utterances such as "all forms of Palestinian resistance are legitimate rights" function as declarative acts that affirm Indonesia's official stance while simultaneously strengthening Palestine's position within the global discourse.

In the digital context, demonstrate how declarative speech acts also dominate Indonesian netizens' posts and comments on Twitter regarding the issue of Palestine. These utterances not only express criticism of injustice but also serve as symbolic resistance, generating socio-political pressure (Isna et al., 2023). This suggests that declarative speech acts can be effectively employed across various contexts, both in formal diplomatic speeches and informal digital spaces, to promote change and convey collective stances. In Anis Matta's speech, statements such as "we must pressure all international institutions to expel Israel from the United Nations" reflect a performative declarative act with legitimate political authority, especially given that it was delivered in an official multilateral forum.

Meanwhile, in the context of conveying personal messages through digital media, a dominance of assertive speech acts was found in Deddy Corbuzier's podcast featuring the Palestinian Ambassador (Putriyansyah & Nurhadi, 2024). Assertive utterances were used to convey testimonies and opinions about the actual situation in Palestine in a straightforward manner, while maintaining a tone of communication. This finding complements the present study,

in which Anis Matta also employed assertive speech acts in several parts of his speech to strengthen Indonesia's moral stance and portray the suffering of the Palestinian people in a factual yet diplomatic manner.

The emotional dimension in public communication is also a crucial element that cannot be overlooked. Findings by revealed that netizens frequently used expressive speech acts, particularly in response to social media posts concerning the Palestinian conflict (Adlina et al., 2024). This strategy demonstrates that utterances can be influenced by visual and emotional contexts, thereby allowing expressive functions to shape public opinion. In Anis Matta's speech, expressive forms were also present in the form of prayers and empathy for the Palestinian martyrs, aiming to evoke emotional solidarity among member states of the OIC.

Furthermore, the findings of broaden the understanding of the context of speech act usage, particularly within the realm of social media. Their analysis of comments on Al-Jazeera's YouTube channel revealed a dominance of directive and commissive speech acts, such as commands, prayers, invitations, promises, and threats (Faisol & Rahmat, 2021). These linguistic actions are influenced by the speakers' perspectives on the Israel–Palestine conflict and are intended to foster resistance and global solidarity through digital spaces. This phenomenon is related to the practice of public diplomacy in Anis Matta's speech, which also employed directive and declarative forms to mobilize the international community and establish a diplomatic front against Israeli aggression.

The findings from regarding the speech delivered by Indonesian Foreign Minister Retno L.P. Marsudi at the United Nations Headquarters on May 19, 2021, also enrich this discussion. The translated transcription analysis identified various types of speech acts, namely 4 locutionary acts, 19 illocutionary acts, 27 performative acts, and 31 perlocutionary acts (Pratiwi, 2023). The speech contained concrete information about the conditions of the Palestinian people and was filled with persuasive utterances aimed at convincing the international community of the urgent need for solidarity with Palestine. The use of performative utterances in this context demonstrates a strong connection between the content of the speech, the communicative situation, and the speaker's official capacity. This emphasizes that the power of speech lies not only in its linguistic structure but also in the authority and institutional context surrounding it. These findings reinforce the argument that diplomatic speeches, such as that delivered by Anis Matta, also contain layers of speech acts with diverse and complementary pragmatic effects in constructing narrative and political legitimacy.

Therefore, this discussion demonstrates that Anis Matta's speech encompasses a complex spectrum of illocutionary acts—assertives, directives, commissives, expressives, and declaratives—deliberately employed within the framework of language diplomacy. Among these,

expressive acts such as gratitude and empathy carry a distinct impact at the international level. For example, the statement “On behalf of President Prabowo Subianto and the Indonesian delegation, we thank Your Excellency for the invitation to this blessed conference” reflects diplomatic courtesy and strengthens bilateral goodwill. At the same time, the prayer “May Allah bless the martyrs of Palestine and grant the living among them a free and sovereign state with Al-Quds as its capital” evokes emotional solidarity that resonates deeply with Muslim-majority nations. Similarly, the repeated declaration “We are all Palestine, we are all Palestine, we are all Palestine” serves as a powerful assertive act that constructs a collective identity, reminding audiences that the Palestinian struggle is not isolated but shared as a moral and political responsibility across nations.

These forms resonate strongly with audiences because they transcend factual information and appeal to shared values and humanitarian concerns, thereby reinforcing collective identity among OIC member states and the broader global community. However, the limitation of such expressive forms lies in their symbolic rather than operational nature: while they foster unity and moral legitimacy, they do not necessarily guarantee concrete diplomatic action. In this way, speech acts in diplomatic discourse are not neutral but pragmatic instruments used to shape narratives, influence public opinion, and construct political positioning within international forums.

4. Conclusion

Based on the analysis of speech acts in Anis Matta’s speech at the preparatory forum of the 2024 OIC Summit in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, using John Searle’s perspective, it was found that the speech contains various types of illocutionary acts. These include four assertive acts in the form of criticism, conclusions, and affirmations; six directive acts in the form of questions, appeals, and prayers; one commissive act in the form of a statement of intent; two expressive acts in the form of gratitude and empathy; and two declarative acts aimed at changing status. The assertive acts are used to express facts and political convictions about the condition of Palestine, such as the suffering of the Palestinian people due to Israeli aggression. The directives are evident in the speaker’s appeals and calls to OIC member states to take concrete actions, such as severing economic ties with Israel and strengthening global diplomacy. Meanwhile, the commissive act is used to reaffirm Indonesia’s commitment to supporting the Palestinian struggle, reflecting a political and moral promise to continue advocating for Palestinian independence.

In addition, this speech also contains expressive illocutionary acts that reflect emotions such as concern, moral support, and hope for the future of Palestine. Furthermore, it includes declarative speech acts aimed at transforming political reality, such as calling for the revocation of Israel’s membership in the United Nations and affirming that the Palestinian resistance is a

legitimate right under international law. From a pragmatic perspective, the speech serves as both a means of communication and a diplomatic strategy to build solidarity, mobilize political action, and influence global public opinion. Thus, this speech demonstrates how language possesses performative power that can shape policy and reconstruct political reality at the international level.

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