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Hasanuddin University

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UNHAS IO KICKS OFF PREPARATIONS FOR 3RD INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS FESTIVAL



As September approaches, the International Office (IO) of Hasanuddin University (UNHAS) has begun preparations for the 3rd International Students Festival (ISF). Similar to last year's event, the 3rd ISF will be part of the UNHAS Anniversary celebrations, providing a platform for international students to showcase their home countries to the wider UNHAS academic community. A preparation meeting was held on Monday, 11 August 2025, at the IO Meeting Room. Led by Haniek Khoirunnissa, M.Sc., the session was attended by the IO Squad Team and several Student Volunteers (Stuvo). The discussion began with strategies to contact international students personally, encouraging those interested to take part in this year's festival.

The meeting also covered the involvement of the six UNHAS Corners—German, Korean, Japan, Mandarin, Warung Perancis, and Aussie Banget Corner—inviting them to participate in the cultural showcase. In addition, the committee explored opportunities to collaborate with foreign embassies in Jakarta to support their students at UNHAS in preparing their booths for the festival. Other topics included engaging educational agents in Makassar to join the event and promote study-abroad opportunities for UNHAS students. The meeting concluded with an agreement to immediately contact all relevant parties to ensure their participation in the 3rd ISF, setting the stage for a vibrant and diverse celebration.





HARMONIZING VOICES OF THE ARCHIPELAGO: AICCON 2025 BRINGS TOGETHER GLOBAL EXPERTS IN MAKASSAR



The Indonesian Association for Communication Higher Education (ASPIKOM), in collaboration with the Department of Communication Science at Hasanuddin University (UNHAS), once again hosted *The 5th ASPIKOM International Communication Conference (AICCON 2025)* on 30 July 2025 at Unhas Hotel & Convention, Makassar.

This year's theme, "Harmonizing the Voices of the Archipelago: Communication Transformation for Social, Economic, and Maritime Cultural Advancement," intertwines Indonesia's diverse voices with the urgent need for communication transformation to advance social, economic, and maritime cultural development. Topics addressed ranged from social resilience, preservation of digital narratives, and strategic communication in economic development, to media and information literacy, environmental communication and sustainability, intercultural maritime communication, innovation for development, governance and communication policy, as well as marketing and public relations strategies.

The conference welcomed experts from both Indonesia and abroad. Dr. Ammar Redza Ahmad Rizal from Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, attending in person, presented communication strategies in support of marginalized communities. He emphasized that effective social change strategies should integrate collaborative approaches with the diffusion of innovations theory, while addressing power imbalances, social norms, and individual readiness. He highlighted the need to empower minorities, engage local opinion leaders, and enhance digital literacy to prevent the public from falling into echo chambers and polarization.

From Indonesia, Prof. Dr. Phil Sukri, M.Si (Dean of FISIP UNHAS) delivered a keynote speech underscoring that a healthy, inclusive, and participatory democracy cannot thrive without open and honest communication. He reviewed Robert Dahl's five pillars of substantive democracy—effective participation, voting equality, enlightened understanding, control of the agenda, and inclusiveness—stressing that these pillars depend heavily on adequate access to information and healthy communication.

Another Indonesian speaker, Dr. Muliadi Mau from the Department of Communication Science UNHAS, discussed multicultural communication and the challenges of digital fragmentation. He noted Indonesia's unique diversity, home to over 70,000 ethnic groups and 8,000 languages. To achieve harmony in a multicultural society, he proposed the concepts of the "universal person," "multicultural person," and "intercultural person," with cross-cultural communication as the key. In addition to in-person sessions, AICCON 2025 also featured international speakers online. Prof. Gerard Goggin from University of Sydney, Australia, joined via video conference to discuss digital citizenship and digital inclusivity, stressing the need for inclusive digital platforms so that all citizens, including persons with disabilities, can enjoy social justice.



From the University of the Philippines Open University, Dr. Benjamina Paula G. Flor focused on maritime communities and development communication strategies in coastal regions, highlighting how communication can empower maritime communities and preserve the archipelago's maritime cultural heritage.

Dr. Prakrit Rakwong from Chulalongkorn University, Thailand, examined the dynamics of political communication and media in Thailand, noting the impact of digital media on democracy and the need for regional collaboration to tackle misinformation.

The complete lineup of plenary international speakers included Prof. Gerard Goggin, Dr. Ammar Redza Ahmad Rizal, Dr. Benjamina Paula G. Flor, Dr. Prakrit Rakwong, and Dr. Muliadi Mau. Their participation—both in-person and online—opened a dialogue on contemporary issues ranging from digital inequality, multicultural communication, and political communication to the empowerment of maritime communities. Each session concluded with an interactive discussion, giving participants the opportunity to exchange ideas and broaden their global perspectives.

The combination of physical and virtual participation bridged global perspectives with Indonesia's local context. This aligns with the theme *"Harmonizing the Voices of the Archipelago"*—weaving together diverse voices to drive communication transformation for social, economic, and maritime cultural advancement. The topics presented, from social resilience to communication policy, serve as a roadmap for academics and practitioners seeking to build an inclusive, fair, and sustainable communication ecosystem.

With its strong roster of international speakers, AICCON 2025 proved to be more than an academic forum—it became a platform for global idea exchange, offering fresh insights to participants from across Indonesia. The conference reaffirmed the commitment of ASPIKOM and UNHAS to positioning Makassar as a hub for international communication in Southeast Asia and fostering cross-border collaboration to advance communication for the well-being of society.







UNHAS ADVANCES GEOSCIENCE RESEARCH AT PRESTIGIOUS AOGS ANNUAL MEETING IN SINGAPORE



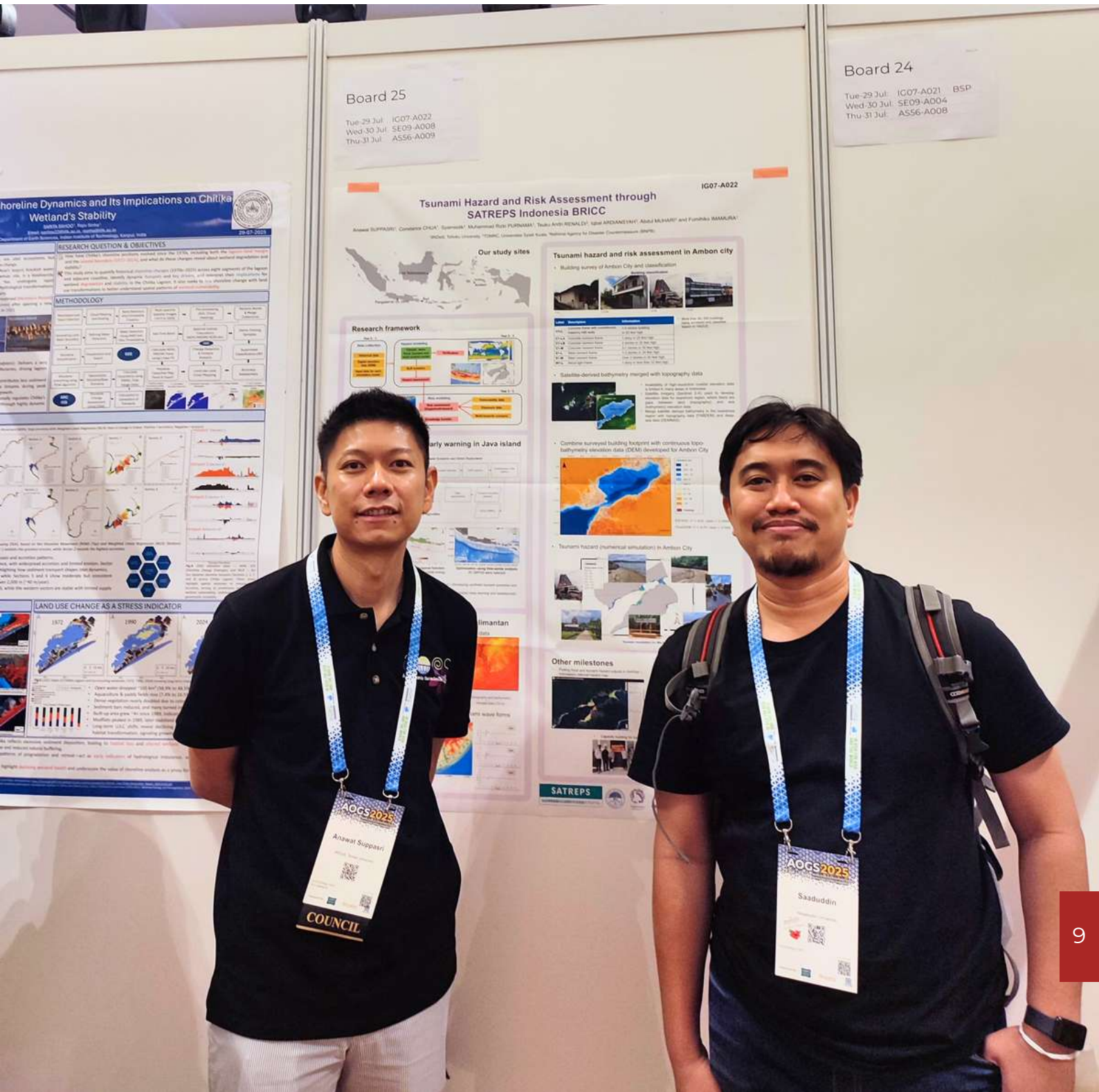
The Department of Geophysics, Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences (FMIPA), Hasanuddin University (UNHAS) participated in the 22nd Annual Meeting of the Asian Oceania Geosciences Society (AOGS), held from 27 July to 2 August 2025 at the Sands Expo and Convention Centre, Marina Bay Sands, Singapore.

Participation in such international conferences serves as a strategic step for researchers, academics, and practitioners in the geosciences to broaden their perspectives, strengthen collaborative networks, and enhance the quality and relevance of their research.

The AOGS Annual Meeting is one of the largest academic forums in the region for geosciences, bringing together researchers, scholars, and professionals to share the latest research findings, foster scientific partnerships, and discuss strategic issues related to Earth sciences.

Representing the Department of Geophysics, Saaduddin, M.Sc., attended the event and delivered an oral presentation titled *“Volcanic Tsunami Potential of Mount Iya: Implications for Risk Mitigation.”* The presentation addressed the potential volcanic tsunami hazards posed by Mount Iya in Indonesia, highlighting the implications for disaster risk reduction and mitigation strategies.

This participation resulted in several key achievements, including the establishment of an academic peer network with researchers and institutions from various countries, which will support efforts to enhance UNHAS’ international reputation in 2026. Opportunities for collaborative research in tsunami modelling were also identified, particularly with Tongji University, Taiwan, and the Earth Observatory of Singapore (EOS) at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. Furthermore, the event reinforced UNHAS’ research position in the field of geoscience-related disaster studies, strengthening its role in regional and international scientific collaboration.



STRENGTHENING GLOBAL TIES THROUGH ARABIC: INSIGHTS FROM THE 15TH PINBA



Darunnajah University and Islamic Boarding School proudly hosted the 15th *Pertemuan Ilmiah Internasional Bahasa Arab* (PINBA), organized by *Ittihad Mudarrisi al-Lughah al-Arabiyyah* (IMLA) Indonesia. This prestigious gathering held from 6 -8 August 2025, brought together scholars, educators, and practitioners of the Arabic language from across the globe, including participants from Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Jordan, Brunei Darussalam, and Indonesia.

Carrying the theme "Arabic Language in the Era of Artificial Intelligence: Policy, Planning, and Teaching", the conference highlighted the crucial role of Arabic in adapting to technological transformations. Discussions explored the opportunities and challenges of teaching Arabic in the age of artificial intelligence, particularly in areas such as digital pedagogy, curriculum innovation, and AI-driven educational tools. Joining this scientific meeting, Haeruddin, M.A., (Lecturer of the Department of Arabic Language, Faculty of Cultural Sciences) presented his paper entitled Arabic Loanwords in Mandare Language.

Beyond academic exchange, PINBA served as a platform for fostering friendship and strengthening international collaboration among Arabic language experts and institutions. Delegates emphasized the importance of cooperation in advancing Arabic learning and ensuring its relevance in a rapidly changing global context.

At the conclusion of the meeting, participants reaffirmed their shared commitment to support one another in promoting Arabic education worldwide. This spirit of partnership reflects not only the cultural and linguistic significance of Arabic but also its potential to thrive in the era of technological innovation.



INTERNATIONAL RESEARCHERS VISIT UNHAS GEOPHYSICS DEPARTMENT FOR TSUNAMI RESEARCH COLLABORATION



The Department of Geophysics, Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences (FMIPA), Hasanuddin University (UNHAS) welcomed a visit from three international researchers on 6 August 2025. They were Dr. Abang Mansyursyah Surya Nugraha and Dr. Ignatius Ryan Pranantyo, research fellows, from the Earth Observatory of Singapore, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore; and Dr. Jędrzej Majewski, an Associate Professor from Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland. This visit was part of their research mission in Sulawesi in collaboration with UNHAS, Syiah Kuala University in Aceh, and Samudera University in Aceh aiming to deepen the understanding of the historical occurrence of tsunamis in the Sulawesi region.

Before departing for the field sites, the researchers took the opportunity to engage in a discussion with UNHAS Master's students in Geophysics about ongoing tsunami research. During the session, they provided valuable feedback on research methodology, data analysis, and international perspectives in tsunami studies.

In the discussion session, Master's students presented the current studies they are working on, focusing on potential tsunami hazards from tectonic activity in northern Sulawesi, western Mamuju, and eastern Southeast Sulawesi. They received constructive input regarding the accuracy of the models used. Potential research topics were also highlighted, including historical tsunami events such as the 1996 Toli-Toli and 2000 Banggai events.

They were welcomed by the Head of the Department of Geophysics, Dr. Alimuddin Hamzah, along with several faculty members. Dr. Alimuddin expressed that this activity is expected to pave the way for stronger partnerships and research collaborations between the parties, particularly in efforts to mitigate tsunami disasters in Sulawesi in the future. "This collaboration is important not only for advancing research but also for strengthening our capacity to anticipate and reduce disaster risks," said Dr. Alimuddin.

Through this synergy, it is hoped that the research findings will make a significant contribution to disaster mitigation efforts and community safety in tsunami-prone areas.



INTERNATIONAL OFFICE SUPER TEAM

SUMBANGAN BAJA
MUHAMMAD RIDWAN
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KHAERUDDIN
SAADUDDIN
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