

【刘哲伟专栏】希盟壮大巫统不怕被反咬一口？



刘哲伟

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把巫统纳入内阁，提供更多的便利，间接壮大巫统。（图取自脸书）

应该壮大巫统吗？在回答这个问题前，你可能还需要先回答下一个问题，还有其他选择吗？

根据目前联合政府的共识，即巫统和希盟将不会在六个州选中互相竞选对垒，换言之，如果巫统拿不下议席，就意味着国盟会赢的议席。希盟支持者要面对的选择是，你喜欢国盟还是巫统？如果是国盟，那么就不要壮大巫统，也免得将来被反咬一口。如果是选择巫统的话，你也管不了未来会发生什么，只能看目前。

事实上，让巫统入阁已经是渐渐的在壮大它了。我相信如果国盟执政的话，就无法承诺巫统，把容易接触到乡区马来选民的部门，让巫统来掌管，例如乡村发展部。此部门是最容易接触到土著选民，并且部长可以轻易做出惠及土著选民的决策，以换取选票。这无疑是在壮大巫统的实力，让巫统未来可能反咬希盟一口。但现实的问题，即使希盟清楚这一点也不能说不，因为希盟没有更好的选择了。

根据我个人的观察和发现，从全国大选来看巫统，在维持原状的前提下，绿潮把巫统打垮是迟早的事。把巫统纳入内阁，提供更多的便利，间接壮大巫统。当巫统变得强大了，巫统也有可能回归之前那样的巫统，就连从前的弊端和负面形象都可能相伴随之死灰复燃。但说实话，希盟接纳巫统是没有其他选择，他们只能先着重于眼前的局势，而不能作长远打算。



当希盟足够强大，可以获得马来人的选票时，届时希盟也可以和巫统一争高下也说不定。（档案照：透视大马）

此外，从一个更乐观的角度来看，巫统虽然总是被标榜着负面形象，事实上并没那么可怕，我们只要区分对待巫统和巫统领袖。是政党让领袖变坏，还是党领导人让巫统名声变坏？从乐观的角度来看，选择现在与巫统合作来赢得选举是当前可以做的，谁知道巫统未来变强大，可能党领导人也换人了。别忘了，还有许多巫统领袖在民众眼中是正面形象，例如署理主席莫哈末哈山、阿莎丽娜和凯里等前领袖和现任领袖。

马来选票有两种区分，分别是巫统和国盟之间竞争的选票，以及支持希盟的马来票。当希盟足够强大，可以获得马来人的选票时，届时希盟也可以和巫统一争高下也说不定。

总而言之，眼前的政治局势，希盟是没有选择，也不能作长远打算。对于步步逼近的绿潮攻势，与巫统合力阻止是正确的做法。放眼望去的政党，希盟确实只能与巫统合作。就像《三国演义》中的章回一样，周瑜和诸葛亮是合作伙伴也是竞争对手。现实中的政治里，有时候你需要先强大竞争对手，在未来有机会再绊倒他，切记小不忍则乱大谋。

** 刘哲伟目前在国际伊斯兰大学政治学系任职助理教授。在此之前，也曾其他高等学府执教。刘哲伟先后于马来西亚国立大学取得政治学学士及硕士学位，并于英国布里斯托大学取得政治学博士。*

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[Liu Chewei's Column] Are you afraid of being bitten back when PH strengthens Umno?



Liu Zhewei

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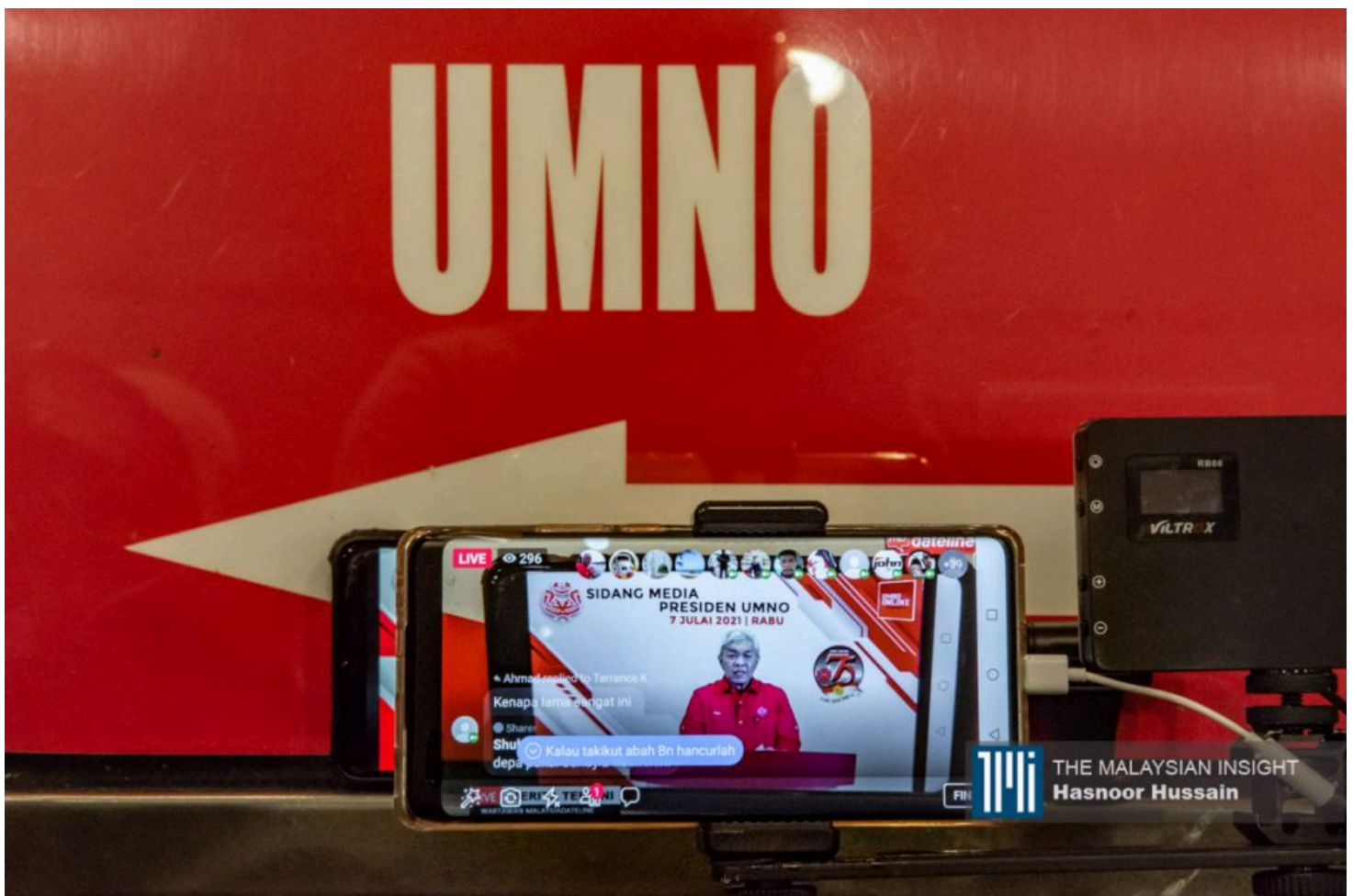
Incorporating Umno into the cabinet will provide more conveniences and indirectly strengthen Umno. (Picture taken from Facebook)

Should Umno be strengthened? Before answering this question, you may also want to answer the next question. Are there any other options?

According to the current consensus of the coalition government, Umno and Pakatan Harapan will not run against each other in the six state elections. In other words, if Umno cannot win the seats, it means that Perikatan Nasional will win the seats. The choice PH supporters have to face is, do you like PN or Umno? If it is Perikatan Nasional, then do not strengthen Umno to avoid being bitten back in the future. If you choose Umno, you can't control what will happen in the future, you can only look at the present.

In fact, bringing UMNO into the cabinet has gradually strengthened it. I believe that if PN is in power, it will not be able to commit to UMNO and let UMNO take charge of departments that are easily accessible to Malay voters in rural areas, such as the Ministry of Rural Development. This sector is the most accessible to Aboriginal voters, and ministers can easily make decisions that benefit Aboriginal voters in exchange for votes. This will undoubtedly strengthen Umno and make it possible for Umno to bite back Pakatan Harapan in the future. But as a practical matter, even if PH knows this, it cannot say no because PH has no better choice.

According to my personal observations and findings, looking at Umno from the national election, it is only a matter of time before the Green Wave defeats Umno as long as the status quo is maintained. Incorporating Umno into the cabinet will provide more conveniences and indirectly strengthen Umno. When Umno becomes stronger, Umno may return to the Umno it was before, and even its former shortcomings and negative image may be revived. But to be honest, Pakatan Harapan has no other choice in accepting Umno. They can only focus on the immediate situation instead of making long-term plans.



When Pakatan Harapan is strong enough to win Malay votes, maybe Pakatan Harapan will also be able to compete with Umno. (File photo: The Malaysian Insight)

In addition, from a more optimistic perspective, although Umno is always branded with a negative image, it is actually not that terrible. We only need to treat Umno and Umno leaders differently. Is it the party that makes the leader bad, or is it the party leader who makes Umno's reputation bad? From an optimistic point of view, choosing to cooperate with Umno now to win the election is what can be done now. Who knows if Umno will become stronger in the future, the party leader may also change. Don't forget, there are many Umno leaders who have a positive image in the eyes of the public, such as former and current leaders such as Acting President Mohd Hassan, Azalina and Khairy.

There are two distinctions between Malay votes, votes contested between Umno and Perikatan Nasional, and Malay votes supporting Pakatan Harapan. When Pakatan Harapan is strong enough to win Malay votes, then Pakatan Harapan may also be able to compete with Umno.

All in all, given the current political situation, Pakatan Harapan has no choice and cannot make long-term plans. Regarding the approaching Green Tide offensive, it is the right thing to work with Umno to stop it. Looking at the political parties, Pakatan Harapan can only cooperate with Umno. Just like the chapter in "The Romance of the Three Kingdoms", Zhou Yu and Zhuge Liang are both partners and competitors. In real politics, sometimes you need to strengthen your competitors first, and then stumble against them if you have the opportunity in the future. Remember, a small impatience will mess up a big plan.

** Liu Zhewei is currently an assistant professor in the Department of Political Science at the International Islamic University. Before that, he also taught in other institutions of higher learning. Liu Zhewei obtained a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in political science from the National University of Malaysia, and a doctorate in political science from the University of Bristol in the United Kingdom.*

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