

Legal Challenges in Overcoming Drug Trafficking

Vina Apriska Putri Siregar¹, Mumtaz Jasmine²

^{1,2}Program Study Ilmu Hukum, Fakultas Sosial Sains, Universitas Pembangunan Panca Budi

Email: ¹yinnasiregar2@gmail.com, ²mumtazjasmine462@gmail.com

Abstract

Narcotics is an abbreviation for Narcotics, Psychotropics and other Addictive Substances. Drug crime is an illegal activity and is an organized crime. ¹ Drug crime is an international crime that crosses national borders and is a very detrimental form of crime. The author uses a qualitative descriptive research method. As time goes by, the methods of drug distribution have become more diverse. Law enforcement agencies face challenges in dealing with international drug trafficking, namely the complexity of smuggling networks, lack of international coordination, gaps in drug regulations, corruption within and around law enforcement agencies, and resistance from criminal groups. These challenges hinder information sharing, transparency, and effective law enforcement. By understanding and responding to these challenges through strong international cooperation, strengthening national laws, and building the capacity of law enforcement agencies, it is hoped that significant progress will be made in reducing international drug trafficking and its negative impact on global society.

Keywords: Law, Circulation, Drugs, International

1. INTRODUCTION

In the Big Indonesian Dictionary, the definition of drugs or narcotics is a drug that can calm the nerves, relieve pain, cause drowsiness or stimulate. This means all drugs or illegal substances that can cause addiction and have a negative impact on the human body and mind. Narcotics are chemicals that can affect the human central nervous system and change perception, mood and consciousness. The roots of drug use date back to ancient times, when various plants and natural substances were used for ritual purposes, medicine, or spiritual experiences. However, along with technological developments and globalization, various synthetic chemicals were also created to expand the drug market. The consequences of drug addiction are very diverse, ranging from short-term effects such as euphoria, increased energy, to long-term effects such as organ damage, mental disorders and cognitive impairment. Apart from that, drug use can also cause social problems such as increased crime, abuse and social division. To overcome the drug problem, the government, international institutions and civil society have carried out various countermeasures. This includes prevention through education and awareness raising, law enforcement to reduce drug trafficking, rehabilitation of drug addicts, and transnational cooperation in law enforcement and information exchange. To overcome the drug problem, the government, international institutions and civil society have carried out various countermeasures. This includes prevention through education and awareness raising, law enforcement to reduce drug trafficking, rehabilitation of drug addicts, and transnational cooperation in law enforcement and information exchange. Despite the efforts made, the drug problem is still a complex and growing challenge.

Realizing a society free from the dangers of drugs requires a strong commitment from all parties to work together to solve this problem. Due to globalization and technological advances, the challenges of policing against drug crimes have become more complex. Drug trafficking is no longer limited to national borders, but has crossed international territories through various sophisticated smuggling methods. Therefore, international cooperation is very important to solve the drug problem effectively. Indonesia as one of the target countries for drug trafficking must actively participate in international forums and strengthen cooperation with other countries in law enforcement and eradicating drug trafficking. In Indonesian law, drug addiction is strictly regulated in the Narcotics Law Number 35 of 2009. This law provides the legal basis for eradicating drug crimes, including arrest, investigation, prosecution and punishment for drug crimes. In Indonesia, law enforcement against drug crimes is handled by several institutions, including the police, the National Narcotics Agency (BNN), and other

law enforcement agencies with authority in drug control. In addition, Indonesia has accepted international agreements such as the UN Convention on Drug Trafficking in 1961 to strengthen the legal framework for eradicating drug trafficking. Achieving the common goal of eradicating drug trafficking requires strong commitment from various parties, including government, law enforcement, society and the private sector. Only with good synergy and cooperation from various parties can we overcome the complex challenges of implementing anti-narcotics laws in Indonesia. In this way, the safety and welfare of the community can be more guaranteed, and Indonesia can become an example of efforts to eradicate drug trafficking for other countries in the world.

2. METHODOLOGY

This research method uses literature research, namely conducting a literature review of existing international law related to drug trafficking. This includes analysis of international agreements, regional regulations and national laws related to preventing and eradicating drug trafficking. Then use policy analysis, namely analysis of policies implemented by countries in fighting international drug trafficking. This includes law enforcement strategies, international cooperation, and diplomatic efforts to address this problem.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The first challenge is the complexity of the smuggling network. Drug traffickers often use complex and often indirect channels to avoid detection by law enforcement. They may utilize remote routes, less traveled waterways, or unexpected alternative routes. To avoid detection, smugglers use a variety of stealth methods, such as hiding drugs in legitimate cargo, disguising them as other goods, or using sophisticated camouflage technology. In fact, drugs are often hidden in human bodies across countries. Drug traffickers are often involved in complex and well-organized networks involving various actors, from producers, traffickers, distribution channel controllers to shippers and final recipients. Second, the lack of cooperation between countries makes it difficult to track and arrest criminals, as well as challenges in extradition and prosecution in other countries. Differences in legal systems and procedures between countries often hinder the extradition and prosecution of drug offenders in other countries. Punishments also vary from country to country, so some criminals escape justice. Some countries may not be active in international police cooperation due to political constraints, national interests, or lack of resources. Police corruption or political interference can hinder international cooperation in fighting drug trafficking. This may result in restrictions or delays in extradition or prosecution procedures. The lack of a common agenda or internationally agreed strategy to combat drug trafficking can undermine the effectiveness of law enforcement efforts. Third, differences in narcotics regulations between countries. Each country has a list of medicines classified according to their danger or potential for abuse. These differences in classification can influence the legal treatment of certain drugs and the type of punishment imposed. Penalties and sanctions for violators of drug laws vary by country. Some states may impose very harsh penalties, while others may impose rehabilitation or restitution. Fourth, corruption within and around law enforcement officials. The impact of corruption on the eradication of international drug trafficking is very detrimental because it allows smuggling networks to operate without hindrance and weakens the effectiveness of law enforcement. Eradicating corruption requires joint efforts to strengthen the integrity of law enforcement agencies, improve monitoring and accountability systems, and raise awareness of the consequences of corruption in the war on drugs. This includes training officials, increasing the transparency of the judicial process, and establishing strict sanctions against those who commit corruption. Drug traffickers may use large sums of money to bribe law enforcement, customs or government officials to facilitate smuggling routes or avoid arrest and prosecution. Some law enforcement agencies may directly or indirectly collaborate covertly with drug criminals by providing confidential information about law enforcement operations or by circumventing police action against human trafficking networks.

Corruption can result in non-compliance with laws and police procedures, such as delaying or suspending investigations, dropping charges or releasing drug offenders. Fifth, use of technology. Drug criminals are increasingly using the dark web, a part of the Internet that is not indexed by search engines and is not easily accessible, to carry out drug transactions anonymously. They utilize the digital black market to buy and sell drugs without being detected by law enforcement. The use of encryption in online communications and transactions allows drug criminals to hide their identities and digital footprints. They use encryption technology to protect sensitive information and avoid detection by law enforcement. Drug criminals can also use high-tech devices such as drones or satellites to monitor the movements of law enforcement officers or predict the best routes for drug trafficking. The impact of technology use by narcotics perpetrators makes it difficult for law enforcement agencies to identify, track and arrest them. This requires law enforcement agencies to continually

update their technology and methods to deal with these increasingly complex threats. To meet these challenges, invest in the development of advanced police technology and increase police training in the use of technology. and international cooperation in fighting online drug crimes. In addition, appropriate regulations and policies are needed to regulate the use of technology in crime and increase cooperation between the public and private sectors to detect and prevent the misuse of technology for illegal purposes. Sixth, resistance from criminal groups. Criminal groups involved in drug trafficking often have substantial financial resources. They can use the money to hire lawyers, bribe officials, or buy weapons and equipment to fight law enforcement. Drug criminal groups do not hesitate to use violence or threaten to resist law enforcement efforts. This could include physical attacks on law enforcement officers, killing members of the public who cooperate with police, or threats against officers' families. They often have well-organized structures and the ability to operate locally, nationally, and internationally. They can quickly adapt to changes in the legal and economic environment and exploit weaknesses in the police system. Law enforcement efforts must counter the strong resistance of these criminal groups by increasing security for officials, strengthening anti-corruption regulations, strengthening surveillance of suspicious economies, and increasing international cooperation in information exchange and police coordination. In addition, preventive and rehabilitative methods are also important to reduce the attractiveness of drug trafficking and disrupt sources of income from these illegal activities.

4. CONCLUSION

Narcotics is an abbreviation for "narcotics, psychotropics and other addictive substances". In Indonesian law, drug addiction is strictly regulated in Narcotics Law Number 35 of 2009. The consequences of drug addiction are very diverse, ranging from short-term effects such as euphoria, increased energy, to long-term effects such as organ damage, mental disorders, and disorders. cognitive. Apart from that, drug use can also cause social problems such as increased crime, abuse and social division. The first legal challenge in dealing with international drug trafficking is that drug traffickers often use complicated and often indirect channels to avoid detection by law enforcement. Also the lack of cooperation between countries makes it difficult to track and arrest criminals, as well as challenges in extradition and prosecution in other countries. Then, there are differences in narcotics regulations between countries. Each country has a list of medicines classified according to their danger or potential for abuse. These differences in classification can influence the legal treatment of certain drugs and the type of punishment imposed. There is corruption within and around law enforcement officials. Furthermore, corruption within and around law enforcement officials is a significant factor in hampering efforts to eradicate international drug trafficking. And finally there is resistance from criminal groups.

REFERENCES

- Andrean R. *"Law Enforcement Against Narcotics Crime in Indonesia"*. Medan: Medan Area University.
- Apriwan, Irawan P, Malik G, Sirmareza T. (2013) *"Democracy, Human Rights and Regional Architecture in Southeast Asia"*. Padang: Andalas University.
- Immigration Polytechnic Team. (2021) *"The Threat of Transnational Crime on Indonesian Sovereignty and Its Impact on Immigration"* Bekasi: Dewangga Energi Internasional.
- Rajagukguk R. G, Jaya NSP (2019) *"Narcotics Crime as Transnational Organized Crime" Journal of Indonesian Legal Development*.
- Sinjar A, Sahuri T. (2021). *"The Dangers of Drugs on the Young Generation"* . Indonesian Journal of Social Technology.
- Wulansari A. *"Thailand's Efforts and Challenges in Combating Narcotics and Illegal Drugs Towards Drug-Free ASEAN 2015"*.
- Zaky M. (2019) *"Challenges and Role of the Millennial Generation in Responding to the Rise of Drug Trafficking"*. Jakarta: Budi Luhur University.