Volume X, No. 08 - July , August 2016
ISSN 1979-1976

The Indonesian Update

Monthly Review on Economic, Legal, Security, Political, and Social Affairs

Main Report:
Evaluating Death Penalty in Indonesia

Economics

Managing the Economy amidst Global Shocks

Social

The Chaos over Fake Vaccines

Politics

The Polemics over the Election System in the Election Bill

THE INDONESIAN INSTITUTE
CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH

ISSN 1979-1976

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FOREWORD

During the era of President Joko Widodo, there have been three series of executions of convicted narcotic criminals. Due to the executions, the government of Indonesia has been in the spotlight of human rights organizations, both nationally and internationally. The United Nations, Amnesty International, the European Union, the National Human Rights Commission (Komnas HAM), and various other non governmental organizations have been critical, demanding Indonesia to immediately abolish the death penalty.

However, in the midst of the many pressures, both nationally and internationally, as well as the tendency of many countries to move away from the death penalty, Indonesia still carries out the death penalty. The public has also questioned why Indonesia refuses to remove the death penalty while the death penalty is regarded as violating human rights, especially the right to life.

This July-August 2016 edition of the Indonesian Update will raise important themes on several fields. The main report for this edition is "Evaluating Death Penalty in Indonesia". On economic affairs, it talks about "Managing the Economy amidst Global Shocks". On the social affairs, it will talk about "The Chaos over Fake Vaccines". On politics, it talks about "The Polemics over the Election System in the Election Bill".

The regular publication of the Indonesian Update with its actual themes is expected to help policy makers in government and business environment – as well as academics, think tanks, and other element of civil society, both within and outside the country, to get actual information and contextual analysis of economic, legal, political, cultural, and social developments in Indonesia, as well as to understand the public policy in Indonesia.

Happy Reading.

Evaluating Death Penalty in Indonesia

During the era of President Joko Widodo, there have been three series of executions of convicted narcotic criminals. In the first series, six convicted narcotic criminals were executed on January 18, 2015.

Furthermore, the second series saw of executions, saw six criminal executed on April 29, 2015. In the third one, the Government had recently decided to execute 14 (fourteen) people who had been sentenced to death for their involvement in drug cases, including 10 (ten) foreign nationals.

The executions of only four people; namely, Freddy Budiman and three foreign nationals, were eventually carried out on Friday July 29, 2016 early morning. The executions of 10 others are still being postponed.

Due to the executions, the government of Indonesia has been in the spotlight of human rights organizations, both nationally and internationally. The United Nations, Amnesty International, the European Union, the National Human Rights Commission (Komnas HAM), and various other non governmental organizations have been critical, demanding Indonesia to immediately abolish the death penalty.

However, in the midst of the many pressures, both nationally and internationally, as well as the tendency of many countries to move away from the death penalty, Indonesia still carries out the death penalty. The public has also questioned why Indonesia refuses to remove the death penalty while the death penalty is regarded as violating human rights, especially the right to life?

The Death Penalty in the International Community

The death penalty has always received much attention from various circles throughout the world. A number of countries in the European Union, Australia, Canada, and most areas in Asia and America have left the death penalty and urged other countries to remove the death penalty.

The Anti Death Penalty movement in the 6th World Congress held at the Opera House Oslo, Norway (06.22.16) noted that the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Central African Republic chose to remove and does not apply the death penalty (Kompas, 23/06/16).

This has added to the list of countries that today have chosen to remove the death penalty in their respective countries. The Commissioner for Human Rights of the European Union, Stavros Lambrinidis, stated that in 1945 only 8 (eight) countries abolished the death penalty. While in 2015, there are 150 countries that have abolished the death penalty or applied moratorium (Kompas, 23/06/16).

However, there are still some countries that retain the death penalty, such as China, Saudi Arabia, Iran, the United States, and Indonesia. Indonesia up to now still carries out the death penalty either in law or in practice.

Legally, Indonesia still applies the Criminal Code (KUHP) that is Dutch legacy from 1 January 1918. Article 10 of KUHP still includes the death penalty in the criminal penalties. In the Netherlands itself, the death penalty has been abolished since 1870.

Up to now, KUHP and other positive laws in Indonesia still have the death penalty for at least three types of crimes; that is, narcotics, terrorism, and premeditated murders. Even though there is a threat of death penalty against corruption, there has never been someone put to death in this country.

Therefore, to ensure legal certainty, once the ruling of the highest

crime court has been issued, the executions can be carried out. However, the issue is whether the death penalty is the most effective solution toward crime and social problems that are difficult to be resolved?

The Debate on the Death Penalty

The debate about the need to abolish the death penalty is still unfinished. In fact, the debate may continud every time a death penalty is carried out. Various opinions and reasons have been put forward for supporting and opposing the death penalty.

Those who reject the death penalty in general consider firstly that the death penalty is contrary to the principles of human rights. The Institute for Criminal Justice Reform (ICJR) for example has been fighting for the abolition of the death penalty in total from the criminal law in Indonesia. ICJR believes that the right to life is a right that cannot be reduced by anyone under any circumstances, and it applies to anyone (non derogable right) (icjr.or.id, 16/01/15).

The second one, the death penalty is deemed not providing a deterrent effect as expected. In Indonesia, dozens of people have faced the death penalty in recent years, particularly in the cases of drugs, terrorism, and premeditated murders. But, there are no convincing data that the death penalty is able to reduce the level of crime effectively than any other form of criminal penalties, such as life imprisonment for example.

The third one, Indonesia is still facing the challenges of weak law enforcement, including the problems of justice and fairness. Some people are concerned that the death penalty will be put against those who are actually innocent. For example, cases that happened in the United States. In 2014, a study published by the Proceedings of the National Academy of Science estimated that approximately 4 percent of death penalty cases in the United States (US) involved people who were not guilty.

Meanwhile, those who support the death penalty argue that the death penalty should be retained in order to protect people from serious crimes. Serious crimes are specific crimes that are no longer

possible to be punished using the approach of rehabilitation and social reintegration. One of them is narcotics.

According to those who support the death penalty, narcotic crimes are incredibly serious crime or extra ordinary crimes. Thus, they require maximum punishments to prevent crimes from being committed; that is, the death penalty. In general, the argument in favor of the death penalty, among others, is that the death penalty is needed for the protection of victims, ensuring legal cerrtainty, crime prevention and so forth.

The author himself agrees with what has been stated by Topo Santoso, a Professor of Criminal Law, the University of Indonesia, that the people who still support the death penalty, particularly in narcotics, have logical reasons. We hear news about drug dealers importing millions of ecstasy pills or hundreds of grams of narcotics into Indonesia that will poison the children of the nation and will ruin the future of the nation, killing hundreds or even thousands of young people (Media Indonesia, 1/08/16).

Moreover, some of the drug dealers are still be able to control the distribution of drugs from the prisons, as what had been done by Freddy Budiman. So, there is a logic, according to the author, for the death penalty to become the solution to prevent the continuation of the crime in order to protect the public.

Actually, the death penalty should not only be given to the perpetrators of drug-related crimes. Criminals who are involved in gang rapes, massacres and other brutal murders should only be punished with the death penalty. So it is logical if some people consider that the death penalty is necessary.

From here, the author tries to understand that human rights cannot only be seen from the side of the perpetrators but should also be seen from the side of the victims. What needs to be fought is not only justice for the perpetrators but also justice for the victims. On the other hand, we certainly cannot ignore the factor of limited and weak law enforcement that may lead to errors in the judiciary.

Evaluating the Death Penalty

In 2007, the Constitutional Court (MK) rejected a judicial review on the death penalty in Law Number 22/1997 on Narcotics (Narcotics Law) filed among others by expatriates from the country of kangaroos who lodged the case of the Bali Nine; namely, Andrew Chan, Myuran Sukumaran, and Scott Anthony Rush.

However, the Constitutional Court in its verdict of the case eventually retained the death penalty for drug crimes, which are categorized as serious crimes against humanity (extra ordinary) so that the law enforcement needs special treatments that are effective and maximum. One of the special treatments, according to the Court, among others, by applying the death penalty.

According to the Court, the death penalty in the Narcotics Law is not contrary to the right to life guaranteed by the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia (UUD NRI 1945). Human rights are not applicable absolutely, as the human rights of someone need to also espect the human rights of others in the orderly life of the community that respects social justice (hukumonline.com, 31/10/07).

In relation to international laws, Indonesia is currently bound with narcotics and psychotropic international conventions that have been ratified into a national law; that is, Law No. 22/1997 or Narcotics Law. Therefore, Indonesia will not violate international laws, as Indonesia is obliged to disrupt illict narcotic trafficking networks on an international scale.

In addition, Indonesia is also bound with the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), which advocates the abolition of the death penalty. However, Article 6 (2) of the ICCPR allows the death penalty to the participating countries, specifically for the "most serious crimes."

The interpretation of "most serious crimes" is still being debated. International law experts define "most serious crimes" as crimes where there is a deliberate intention to cause death directly from any criminal act. While narcotic dealers' main motivation is easy

financial gain. Meanwhile, drug users also have a role and the option to not take drugs. So narcotics are not meant to the "most serious crimes" (Kompas, 30/07/16).

However, Indonesia has its own interpretation that a drug is seen as one of the most serious crimes. So Indonesia still recognizes the death penalty in current law. One of them is the Narcotics Act.

The debate about whether the death penalty is necessary or not will continue, both in the academic world, the Parliament, the government, law enforcement, and the society. As a middle ground, according to the author, Indonesia can still acknowledge the existence of the death penalty in current law but doesn not impose the death penalty or in other words implements wa moratorium on the death penalty.

Along with the moratorium, the government can evaluate the effectiveness of penalties against crimes. In addition, the government should enhance the quality of law enforcement, and the ability of the community against crime.

According to the author the death penalty should be the last option (ultimum remidium), and the requirements of its grant must be tightened. For example, the approach of alternatives to the death penalty is being used by the compilers of the Penal Code Bill. Alternatives to the death penalty are an approach in which those who are sentenced to death are not directly executed, but there are certain periods before he will be executed. If a convicted person shows an improvement and meets a number of requirements, then the penalty can be turned into life imprisonment.

In this situation, the author supports Topo Santoso's opinion, those who support the death penalty should not consider that those who reject the death penalty are those who support perpetrators and do not support victims and efforts to tackle crimes. The author also believes that both the pros and the cons, all of them reject the crimes, but have different approaches.

Additionally, considering the conditions of law enforcement and justice in our country which is still not perfect, the death penalty of course should be imposed with extreme caution. If there are some mistakes, someone who was sentenced to death and had already been executed and died, his or her life could not be restored.

Human rights cannot only be seen from the side of the perpetrators but also from the side of the victims. Not only justice for the perpetrators but also for victims.

- Zihan Syahayani -

Managing the Economy amidst Global Shocks

One semester into 2016, the journey of the country has had its own dynamics, including economic activities that should become concerns. In the past six month, the domestic situation has been under the shadow of global shocks that have become more and more anomalous.

This year is supposed to be a year of economic recovery after massive external shocks hitting the national economy. However, as there has been the weakening of global growth and the fall of commodity prices in international trade, the domestic economy will need more time to rebound to the level of its heydey.

The data of Central Statistic Agency (BPS) shows that in the first quarter of 2016, economic growth was at a level of 4.9%, slightly higher compared to that in the same period in the previous year at a level of 4.71%. The Revised Annual State Budget (APBN-P) states that this year's target of economic growth is a level of 5.2%, which means that the economy requires additional stimulus working significantly.

To achieve this target, the Government of Indonesia has issued several policies, ranging from tax amnesty to boost the tax ratio and government revenue; the implementations of dozen economic policy packages focusing on deregulation and investment; to the establishment of a state budget that focuses on infrastructure in order to reduce logistic costs and facilitate the flows of goods and services. However, it seems that the benefits of each policies have not yet been felt by the public significantly.

Global Pressure

As mentioned previously, economic conditions of a country are not merely domestic in nature. More than that, the contributions of ex-

ternal factors will also be a significant influence on the countries that embrace open economy, including Indonesia.

This has the implications that if the world's economy is in good, stable conditions, then the economy of a country will be good and stable, top. Vice versa, if global conditions are not good, then country's economic conditions will also be affected. As the highest authority in policy-making, the goverment needs to be aware and anticipate any issues or measures taken by other countries to minimize all risks that will have an impact on Indonesia.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) estimates that by the end of 2016 the global economy will only be able to grow at a moderate level of 3.1%. This moderate growth is somewhat due to the advancement in the US economy, and due to the stable growth in emerging markets, like India, Latin America, and ASEAN (Core Indonesia, 2016).

However, generally global growth is still being pressured by anomalous activity in many parts of the world, such as BREXIT, China rebalancing policy, and the weakening of export commodity prices.

Many parties believe that the incidence of BREXIT will have an impact on the national economy. However, the author argues that this phenomenon will not have a significant impact, considering that the volume of trade between Indonesia and the UK is not too large. There will only be a short term impact on the financial market.

BREXIT will have an impact on the financial market, causing GBP and EUR to weaken against the USD. It will automatically impact on the IDR. However, the financial market will soon reflect on economic foundations. It will be impacted, but the impact will not be too significant.

Returning to the issue of global economic slowdown - in addition to the problems of BREXIT - many countries have anticipated the stagnation of economy in their countries by cutting their interest rates. Countries that have espoused such policies, among others, are Japan, Sweden, Denmark, and Switzerland, with interest rates of , -0.1, -0.5, -0.65, and -0.75, respectively.

In addition to this policy, there are many other policies implemented by other countries, such as increasing confidence in the policy mak-

ers in addressing the economic and financial risks, as well as structural reforms that are very essential.

The Domestic Economy and the Steps Taken

Indonesia's export with trading partners has been seen not able to increase the growth rate to the optimum level. Using an expenditure approach, there are only household consumption, government spending and investment that have been driving economic growth.

In detail, the weakening of global demand for commodities has a large impact on the performance of Indonesia's trade. Natural gas, crude oil, coal, refined products of rubber, metal products base, palm oil, and processed wood products will become the spearheads of exports. The values are varied as illustrated in the figure below.

Source : Bank Indonesia, 2016.

With the weakening of the activities in international trade and of global growth, then in the short-term economic growth of Indonesia will depend a lot on government spending, which is currently focused on infrastructure. The Indonesian Chamber of Commerce (Kadin) stated that in the medium term, the existing growth will depend on structural reforms undertaken by the government, such as on logistical issues, investment climate, and trade.

To maintain development financing, per July 1, 2016 the President has approved Law (UU) No. 11 of 2016 on Tax Amnesty. This law will be a catalysator and timely to increase government revenue through tax schemes. Moreover the tax ratio continues to weaken since 2012, and the tax revenue only reached a level of 11% of GDP in 2015 (Core Indonesia, 2016).

In the past six months the domestic situation has been under the shadow of global shocks that have become more and more anomalous.

A study conducted by the Employers' Association of Indonesia (APINDO) concludes that tax amnesty is necessary to boost the government's financial revenue in the short term, and also to contribute to the improvement of tax compliance in the long term. In the short term, tax amnesty is potential to repatriate the funds saved overseas, whose value is estimated to reach a level of 250 billion US dollars. This amount would be very useful to support government expenditure and be sources of economic growth, such as private consumption, exports and investment.

Considerig the importance of tax amnesty, the government seems to be very serious in implemening it. Not only has the President been involved directly in the field in order to convince the owners of the funds to repatriate their funds to Indonesia, Sri Mulyani has also come back as the Finance Minister, replacing Bambang Brodjonegoro. The new minister has a clear background. The public believes that her performance is definitely unquestionable. The market has allso responded with the strenghthening of JCI to 1%, and it was called as SMI effect.

Besides that, to increase the economy, the author has noticed that a dozen of economic policy packages issued by the government have not been operating effectively. A study conducted by the Institute for Development of Economics and Finance (INDEF), economic studies and financial research institutions, has recorded at least three drawbacks of this policy packages. First, the packages issued are too many, raising doubts over their implementation. Second, the policy packages do not focus on particular sectors. One policy package can target two or three different sectors. Third, the focus of this packages is deregulation. Although in the end it would be satistying, investment should have been given attention too.

Therefore, it is important for stakeholders to look back on the dozen packages that have been issued. The dissemination and harmonization of regulations need to be considered as a crucial thing to get more attention. Policies initiated should not only be understood by a handful of people, but should only touch all interested parties, which should also be in conformity with applicable laws.

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- Muhammad Reza Hermanto -

The Chaos over Fake Vaccines

Immunization is widely believed to be a process that must be undergone by toddlers. This is because the parents believe in immunization. They see evidence that routine immunization will result in healthier person.

The positive impacts are not only in the forms of developing, maintaining and strengthening the immunity of children in infancy but also in the form of healthier adults. This means that in addition to prevent various diseases, immunization is also important to make sure that children grow optimally.

The benefits of immunization have not only been proven in our country but also globally. There are already more than 194 countries around the world stating that the immunization is proven safe and beneficial to prevent outbreaks of disease, disability and death due to malignancies.

When Fake Vaccine Appears

However, the fake vaccines circulating in Indonesia have undermined our trust. Not only parents who have fulfilled their obligation to complete vaccines for their children, the public and even the government have fulfilled their obligations as well. The forgery has been carried out since 2003 and has been spreading to several regions in Indonesia.

Many parties, ranging from health care practitioners to the government, have stated that the fake vaccines are not harmful. This is because the contents of the fake vaccines are only intravenous fluids and some other components that will not medically harm infants given the vaccine.

The problem, according to the author, is not limited to that. The

children have missed a number of benefits from getting the fake vaccines. Of course, this is also potentially harmful to health, potentially impeding their development later.

This case has also raised a question about the performance of our government; in this case, the Food and Drug Supervisory Agency (BPOM). It is a state institution mandated to oversee food and drug related issues. BPOM should have been able to ensure the safety of each drug and food products circulating in Indonesia, including vaccines.

In relation to this issue, the author agrees with Seto Mulyadi from the Child Protection Agency (LPA), which states that the circulation of fake vaccines is a form of negligence by many parties. Not only the government's negligence but also the negligence hospitals and other health services, including doctors and nurses.

Furthermore, according to the author, health service centers should make sure that all medications and vaccines are kept in safe places. All the service centers' trash should also be handled with care. This is because the original vaccine bottles have been used for the fake vaccines. The general public cannot easily distinguish the fake ones from the genuine vaccines.

Conclusions and Recommendations

We can understand the anger and frustration of parents who have visited the health centers declared by the Ministry of Health of using fake vaccines. However, it is important to address this issue wisely.

All the actions that have been taken by law enforcement officers and the government also need to be appreciated. For example, the Indonesian National Police has named 23 people suspects. These included six producers, nine distributors, two collectors of bottles, one vaccine label printer, two midwives, and three doctors.

These actions should continue to be followed up. There is a need to investigate the case comprehensively, not only the practices of circulating the fake vaccines, but also the root causes that have prompted the intellectual actors.

On the other hand, the government through the Ministry of Health has announced that several hospitals and other health services are believed to have used the fake vaccines. The authorities must continue to investigate this case and also announce their findings.

The circulation of fake vaccines is a form of negligence by many parties, from the government (Ministry of Health and BPOM) to hospitals and other health services.

The wider community, including the parents, should also be more proactive and be wisely handling the case. They should get as much information as possible. They must also report if they hear about the circulation of fake vaccines. But, they should be become vigilantes, as it will not solve the problem but instead creating new problems for themselves.

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- Lola Amelia -

The Polemics over the Election System in the Election Bill

The Draft Law to replace the Election Law No 8/2012 on the Elections of DPR, DPD and DPRD, has started to be discussed by the government.

Tjahjo Kumolo, the Minister of Home Affairs, said that the Draft Law on (RUU) Elections were still being discussed by the government. However, the process will continue to hear the views of political parties (www.kemendagri.go.id, 21/7).

The Definition of a Electoral System

An election system is a method that enables citizens to elect representatives. The method is closely related to the rules and procedures that transform votes into seats in the Parliament.

Ramlan Surbakti stated that there were two main functions of the electoral system. The first one is the procedures and mechanisms for the conversion of the votes into the seats of state legislators and / or executives both at the national and the local level. The process of converting votes into seats is commonly called an election administration process stage. The second one is the instrument of democratization, namely, the consequences of each element of the electoral system on the various aspects of a democratic political system, such as the political party system, the system of political representation, government effectiveness, national integration, voting behavior, political behavior, and so on and so forth (Indra Pahlevi, 2015).

In relation to the selection process of a proportional electoral system to be used in Indonesia, there are three issues that are considered the most strategic issues, namely: (1) the distribution of seats / the electoral formula; (2) the electoral region magnitude and the formation

of electoral regions; and (3) the threshold. The thee major issues will lead to the naming process of a proportional system that is selected, whether a closed proportional system is or an open proportional system. Therefore, the issue of naming the electoral system (proportional) in the Law on Elections has become another debate (Indra Pahlevi, 2015).

The Polemics in the Election Bill

One of the points of debate in the Draft Electoral Law 2019 is the electoral system in the legislative elections. As we know in Law No. 8/2012 Article 5 of Paragraph 1 regulates that the elections to elect members of DPR, Provincial DPRD and regency / city DPRD are using an open proportional system.

Now, there is a suggestion from some parties to replace the open proportional system with a closed proportional system. One of them is the Indonesian Democratic Party for Struggle (PDI-P). Vice Chairman of the PDIP faction Arif Wibowo said that the PDIP was proposing for a closed proportional system to be used. This is concerning, as the transparency over candidates should be provided from the previous year. So, although in the booth someone chooses PDIP, but he or she will know who the candidates are (detik.com, 20/7).

Unlike PDIP, the National Democratic Party (Nasdem), through its Chairman Surya Paloh, would like the 2019 legislative elections to still use an open proportional system. The reason is that the system is still considered the most ideal, compared to a closed proportional (detik.com, 20/7).

In line with Nasdem, the Chair of the National Mandate Party (PAN), Zulkifli Hasan said that PAN encouraged the use of the open proportional system in the 2019 elections. He believes that in a democracy the people should know clearly the figures who will represent them in the House of Representatives (detik.com, 21/7).

Recommendations

Observing the polemics above and considering the vast area and the

principle of representation, the author argues that an open proportional system is still a system that is ideal to be used in the 2019 elections.

An open proportional system is still a system that is ideal to be used in the 2019 elections.

Having said that, the author believes that the implementation of this system still needs some improvements. The most basic improvement is that the political parties must be disciplined in running political recruitments.

Article 29 of Law No. 2/2011 on the Amendment to Law No. 2/2008 on Political Parties actually provides guidance to the political parties on the recruitment and political regeneration. The provision emphasizes that the recruitment process as well as political cadres should be democratic and in accordance with the bylaws of political parties, as well as with prevailing laws and regulations.

This is very important to avoid the recruitment of instant political party cadres that gives rise to the emergence of legislative candidates whom are simply prepared ahead of elections.

Secondly, there should be legislative candidate selection processes run by political parties in each electoral district. This phase should be done well before the registration of candidates. Then, after the selection of candidates, political parties are expected to produce 3-4 candidates in each electoral district. This is done in order to establish fair competition in the internal political parties in each electoral district.

Third, strengthening the electoral administration by improving prevention, control and repression of money politics. In addition to organizing the elections, the roles of prevention and counterring money politics are also expected to be supported by civil society groups. It is very important to suppress the practice of money politics in the 2019 elections. It will make our democracy more qualified.

- Arfianto Purbolaksono -

THE INDONESIAN INSTITUTE
CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH

The Indonesian Institute (TII) is a Center for Public Policy Research that was established on 21 October 2004 by a group of young, dynamic activists and intellectuals. **TII** is an independent, non-partisan, non-profit institution, whose main funding stems from grants and contributions from foundations, companies, and individuals.

TII has the aim of becoming a main research centre in Indonesia for public policy matters and has committed to giving contribution to the debates over public policies and to improving the quality of the planning and results of public policy in the new era of democracy in Indonesia.

TII's missions are to conduct reliable research that is independent and non-partisan and to channel the research to the policy-makers, the private sector, and academia in order to improve the quality of Indonesian policy-makers.

TII also assumes the role of disseminating ideas to the society so that they are well informed about the policies that will have a good impact on the people's lives. In other words, **TII** has a position to support the democratization process and the public policy reform, as it will be involved in the process.

The scope of the research and review on public policies undertaken by **TII** includes economic, social, and political factors. The main activities have been conducted in order to achieve vision and mission based on research, surveys, training, public discussions, working group, weekly editorial articles ("Wacana TII"), monthly analysis ("Update Indonesia" and "The Indonesian Update"), annual analysis ("Indonesian Report"), and monthly discussion forum ("The Indonesian Forum").

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RESEARCH ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

The economy tends to be used as an indicator of the success of the government as a policy-maker. Limited resources have often caused the government to face obstacles in implementing economic policies that will optimally benefit the people. The increase in the quality of the people's critical thinking has forced the government to conduct comprehensive studies in every decision-making process. In fact, the studies will not be stopped when the policy is already in place. Studies will be continued until the policy evaluation process.

The TII Economic Research Division is present for those who are interested in the conditions of the economy. The results of the research are intended to assist policy-makers, regulators, and donor agencies in making decisions. The research that TII offers: **(1) Economic Policy Analysis; (2) Regional and Sectoral Prospects; and (3) Program Evaluation**.

RESEARCH ON LEGAL AFFAIRS

According to stipulations in Law No. 12 Year 2011 on the Formulation of Laws and Regulations, every bill which will be discussed by the legislative and the executive must be complemented with academic paper. Therefore, comprehensive research is very important and needed in making a qualified academic paper. With qualified academic papers, the bills will have strong academic foundation.

TII can offer and undertake normative and legal research related to harmonization and synchronization of laws and regulations, especially in making academic papers and bills. In addition, the research will be conducted with sociological, anthropological, and political approaches in order to produce a more comprehensive academic papers and bills. It is expected that with such a process, the laws and regulations will be produced through such a participatory process, which involves the making of academic papers and bills to also go through process, such as focus group discussion (FGD) which will involve stakeholders related to the laws and regulations that will be discussed.

RESEARCH ON THE SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Social Research

Social development needs policy foundations that come from independent and accurate research. Social analysis is a need for the government, the businesspeople, academia, professionals, NGOs, and civil society to improve social development. The Social Research Division is present to offer recommendations to produce efficient and effective policies, steps, and programs on education, health, population, environment, women and children.

Social research that TII offers: **(1) Social Policy Analysis; (2) Explorative Research; (3) Mapping & Positioning Research; (4) Need Assessment Research; (5) Program Evaluation Research; and (5) Indicator Survey.**

POLITICAL SURVEY AND TRAINING

Direct General Election Survey

One of the activities that TII offers is the pre-direct election surveys. There are sundry reasons why these surveys are important (1) Regional direct elections are democratic processes that can be measured, calculated, and predicted. (2) Surveys are used to measure, calculate, and predict the processes and results of elections and the chances of candidates. (3) It is time to win the elections using strategies based on empirical data.

As one of the important aspects in the strategies to win the elections, surveys can be used to prepare political mapping. Therefore, campaign teams need to conduct surveys: (1) to map the popularity of candidates in the society (2) to map the voters' demands (3) to determine the most effective political machinery that will act as a vote getter; and (4) to find out about the most effective media to do the campaign.

THE INDONESIAN FORUM

The Indonesian Forum is a monthly discussion activity on actual issues in the political, economic, social, legal, cultural, defense, and environmental fields. TII organizes these forums as media for competent resource persons, stakeholders, policymakers, civil society activists, academicians, and the media to meet and have discussion.

Themes that have been raised were the ones that have caught public attention, such as migrant workers, social conflicts, domestic politics, and local direct elections. The main consideration in picking a theme is sociological and political reality and the context of the relevant public policy at the time that the Indonesian Forum is delivered.

It is expected that the public can get the big picture of a particular event as the Indonesian Forum also presents relevant resource persons.

Since its inception, the Indonesian Institute is very aware of the passion of the public to get discussions that are not only rich in substance but also well formatted, which support balanced ideas exchanges ideas and the equal involvement of the different elements of the society.

The discussions, which are designed to only invite a limited number of participants, do not only feature idea exchanges but also regularly offer policy briefs (policy recommendations) to relevant policymakers and also summaries to the participants, especially the media people and the resource persons at the end of each discussion. Therefore, the discussions will not end without solutions.

LOCAL COUNCIL TRAINING

The roles and functions of local councils in monitoring local governments are very important. They need to ensure that participative and democratic policies will be espoused. Members of provincial and regent local councils are required to have strong capacity to understand democratization matters, regional autonomy, legislative techniques, budgeting, local Politics, and political marketing. Thus, it is important to empower members of local councils.

In order for local councils to be able to response every problem that will come out as a result of any policy implemented by the central government or local governments, the Indonesian Institute invites the leaderships and members of local councils to undergo training to improve their capacity.

WORKING GROUP

The Indonesian Institute believes that a good public policy process can be held with some engagement and empowerment of the stakeholders. The Indonesian Institute takes a role as one of mediator agencies to facilitate some forums in which the Government, Council Members, Private Sectors, NGOs and Academicians can meet in interactive forums. The Indonesian Institute provides facilitation on working groups and public advocacy.

The Indonesian Institute takes the role of mediator and facilitator in order to encourage the synergy of public policy work between the stakeholders and policy makers and also to have a synergy with funding agencies (donors).

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ISSN 1979-1976
9 771979 197640