

The Indonesian Update

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



Main Report:
The Influence of Social Media on Radicalization in Indonesia

Law

The Urgency of Campaign Leave for Incumbents ■

Economics

Looking at the Economy in 2017 ■

Social

The Proposed Full-Day School Program ■

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FOREWORD

Indonesia was terrorized again. This time a suicide bombing attempt occurred at the Catholic Church of St. Joseph Stasi at Jalan Dr Mansur No. 75 Medan, on Sunday morning, the 28th of August. The terror resulted in one priest suffered 'minor injuries on his left arm. The perpetrator of the attack was IAH, an 18-year-old boy.

From his cell phone, officers discovered that IAH also often watched videos related to the teachings of ISIS. Similarly, the security authorities also found a computer that was often used at the cafe his brother (www.kompas.com, 29/8). This event has indicated that the process of radicalization in Indonesia has entered a very worrying level. The spread of radicalism has been targeting young people through social media.

This September 2016 edition of the Indonesian Update will raise important themes on several fields. The main report for this edition is "The Influence of Social Media on Radicalization in Indonesia". On law, it talks about "The Urgency of Campaign Leave for Incumbents". On economic affairs, it talks about "Looking at the Economy in 2017". On the social affairs, it will talk about "The Proposed Full-Day School Program".

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.

The Influence of Social Media on Radicalization in Indonesia

Indonesia was terrorized again. This time a suicide bombing attempt occurred at the Catholic Church of St. Joseph Stasi at Jalan Dr Mansur No. 75 Medan, on Sunday morning, the 28th of August. The terror resulted in one priest suffered minor injuries on his left arm. The perpetrator of the attack was IAH, an 18-year-old boy.

The Coordinating Minister for Political, Legal and Security Affairs, Wiranto, said that the results of the investigation launched by the security authorities revealed that the perpetrators did not belong to any terrorist networks. The perpetrator has been obsessed by terrorist actors from the internet. The security authorities found an inscription saying “I love Al Baghdadi” on the backpack used by IAH to bring a homemade bomb. From his cell phone, officers discovered that IAH also often watched videos related to the teachings of ISIS. Similarly, the security authorities also found a computer that was often used at the cafe his brother (www.kompas.com, 29/8).

This event has indicated that the process of radicalization in Indonesia has entered a very worrying level. The spread of radicalism has been targeting young people through social media.

Social Media and Radicalization

Rapid technological developments have affected nearly all aspects of a community life. Now, technology has been reaching out to the entire planet, unhindered by national borders. One of its forms is internet technology.

Currently, the number of internet users has reached a quite high level, as the internet provides information broadly, as well as providing the necessary features, including an open space of interactions for users.

Interactions and connectivity of many individual users of the internet, as well as information and communication media, have eventually led to a new interaction space for citizens, which is known as social media.

According to the data from We Are Social (2016), with a total population of about 255 million people, now there are about 88.1 million active internet users in Indonesia. With the number of active internet users being around 88.1 million, the number is directly proportional to the number of active users of social media, which is currently totaling to about 79 million people. If compared to the total population, about 30 percent of Indonesia's population is active users of social media. Facebook is still the number one service that has the most active users in Indonesia. Facebook has managed to surpass Google Plus social media and Twitter.

The widespread use of social media in Indonesia has brought some consequences. The Medan bomb case is one example of how social media can help the ISIS terrorist organization to spread its influence.

Bruce Hoffman (2006) in "The Use of the Internet by Islamic Extremists", explains that the internet is an effective means for radical groups to promote the "global dialectic" where awakening, awareness, activism and radicalism can be stimulated at the local level and mobilized to the wider level through protest and dissent.

Talking about the development of ISIS networks in Indonesia, Maria A. Ressa, in "Four Things You Need to Know about ISIS in Indonesia", says that ISIS sympathizers in Indonesia are very active in social media. Social media helps them to broaden the support base, spread radicalism and conduct recruitment. ISIS is believed to have expertise in using social media for propaganda and radicalization. It uploads videos and messages consistently to lure young children.

According to Maria Ressa, there are four stages of radicalization that ISIS does. The first stage is agitation. In this stage, it shows very personal things, like poverty, trauma, injustice without hope, and fear. The second stage is self-identification, where it shows a bond. The third stage is indoctrination, which includes increased capacity and personal guarantees. The fourth stage is vicious extremists, including actions, sacrifice, and self-satisfaction (www.rappler.com, 11.23.2015).

According to a report titled “Online Activism And Social Media Usage among Indonesian Extremists”, there is a decline in the use of Facebook, Google Plus and Twitter by ISIS networks in Indonesia. They have then switched to using mobile phone apps, such as WhatsApp, Telegram and zello, all of which are considered much safer, especially for the communications between the Middle East and Indonesia and between supporters of ISIS in Indonesia (Institute For Policy Analysis Of Conflict, Report No. 24, 10/30/2015).

The Target of Radicalization is Young People

The effect of radicalization through social media is the increased number of young people who become terrorist sympathizers or terrorists. The results of a survey conducted by the Maarif Institute in 98 high school students who attended a Jamboree in December 2015 showed that the seeds of radicalism among young people in Indonesia are in an alarming stage. This is reflected on some of the answers to the questions posed to the students, such as “Are you willing to commit attacks against people or groups deemed insulting Islam?”. As a result, 40.82 percent of the respondents answered “yes”, and 8.16 percent of the respondents answered “very willing”. Meanwhile, the respondents who answered “not willing” were at a level of 12.24 percent and who answered “less willing” was at a level of 25.51 percent (www.kompas.com, 02.03.2016).

About the Islamic state system in Indonesia, the respondents were also asked whether they agreed with the majority of Muslims who wanted to establish an Islamic state in Indonesia. As a result, 19.39 percent said “agree”, and 3.06 percent said they “strongly agree”. Meanwhile, 34.69 percent answered “do not agree” and 37, 76

percent answered “disagree”. Furthermore, these students were asked, “Are you really willing, less willing or unwilling if you are invited to join the war in Iraq and Syria by ISIS?”. A total of 3.06 per cent answered “yes”; and 83.86 percent answered “not willing”. Then the respondents were also asked about their opinion about bombs. 6.12 per cent agreed that the bombings were carried out by Amrozi was a religious commandment. Meanwhile, 79.59 percent said that they disagreed (www.kompas.com, 03.02.2016).

Recommendations

Considering the problems above, it is clear that first, de-radicalization aspects should be a priority in the revised Act (the Act) on Anti Terrorism. Deradicalisation should focus on aspects of education, from primary level to university level. There should be education that teaches the values of respect for cultural diversity, ethnicity, tribals and religion. There should be an attitude that respects and values diversity; that is, an attitude that is very important to be conveyed and internalized to our young people today.

Second, there should be strict supervision on radical teachings conducted on social media. This oversight requires a synergy amongst ministries and institutions, such as the Ministry of Communications and Infomation, the State Intelligence Agency (BIN), the Indonesia National Police, the National Counter Terrorism Agency (BNPT), and the State Signal Institution. After cancelling the National Cyber Bureau, the government needs to re-think this issue of supervision. The formation of a task force to coordinate all the ministries and bodies can become a middle ground. It is expected the formation of this task force can minimize the influence of radicalization through social media.

Third, to enhance the role of the family in protecting youth from the influence of radical thought. Education in the family shapes the character and personality of the child. With a good family education, family is expected to be a deterrent from the influence of radical thought.

Then finally, the fourth, the role of communities. Community organizations such as the Neighborhood (RT) and Rukun Warga

(RW) and community leaders role is to prevent the spread of radical movements by monitoring networks in the surrounding environment.

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- Arfianto Purbolaksono -

Radicalization in Indonesia has entered a very worrying level. The radicals have been targeting young people through social media.

The Urgency of Campaign Leave for Incumbents

Ahead of the simultaneous local elections (Pilkada) that will take place in 2017, a hot issue has surfaced; that is, the debate over the campaign leave for the incumbents.

In early August 2016, the Governor of the Special Capital Region of Jakarta (DKI Jakarta), Basuki Tjahaja Purnama, commonly known as Ahok, questioned about the provision relating to the necessity of taking leave without pay, hereinafter referred to as the campaign leave, for the incumbent candidates during the campaign period in the elections.

The provision has been regulated in Article 70 Paragraph (3) Letter a of Law Number 10 Year 2016 on the Elections of Governors, Regents and Mayors (Regional Elections Law). The article stipulates that Governors and Deputy Governors, Regents and Vice Regents, Mayors and Deputy Mayors who run again in the same regions, must comply with the provision of taking leave without pay.

As the incumbent candidates who will contest the Jakarta Elections in 2017, the provision about campaign leave is certainly closely related to their interests. Re the provision, Ahok filed a judicial review of Article 70 Paragraph (3) of Regional Elections Law to the Constitutional Court (MK). Its main purpose is to ask the Constitutional Court whether the interpretation of leave without pay in the Regional Elections Law is mandatory or optional.

At the preliminary trial of the judicial review of Regional Elections Law (22/08/16), the judges argued that there were still some points of the application that are not complete and should be revised. Among others are changing the object of the review and strengthening the legal status (legal standing) of the applicant; for example, as a citizen or as a public official or others. The constitutional losses because of the enactment of a law should also be included in the review.

After Ahok amended the points of the review in accordance with the assessment of the judges, the Court (MK) then held an improvement trial of judicial review of Regional Elections Law (case number 60/PUU-XIV/2016 on Wednesday, August 31, 2016 (www.mahkamahkonstitusi.go.id, 31/08/16).

During the improvement trial of judicial review of Regional Elections Law, Ahok had improved some review points. The first one was to clarify the article that would be reviewed, which is Article 70 Paragraph (3) Letter a. Previously, the object of the review was Article 70 Paragraph (3), while actually Article 70 Paragraph (3) consists of letter a, which regulates the requirement to take leave without pay, and letter b, which regulates the prohibition of using government official facilities.

The second one, Ahok sharpened the legal standing of the applicant; that is, a citizen who is currently serving as the Governor of DKI Jakarta. The third one, Ahok added Article 27 Paragraph (1) and Article 28 D Paragraph (3) of the Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia 1945 (UUD NRI 1945) as the basis of the constitutionality of Article 70 Paragraph (3) Letter a of the Regional Elections Law (www.mahkamahkonstitusi.go.id, 31/08/16).

The provision on the campaign leave for the incumbents or officials who are still in active service, according to Ahok, curbs their rights as citizens. Ahok basically does not want to leave his duties as the Governor of DKI Jakarta, especially in terms of the discussion of the Draft Budget and Expenditure (RAPBD) of DKI Jakarta for 2017.

He also argues that he will not be optimal in managing RAPBD and overseeing the bureaucracy if he is on leave during the campaign period. Moreover, the campaign leave will be for 4 (four) months if there is one round of elections (26 October 2016-11 February 2016). This is the reason for Ahok, as has been widely reported by various media outlets, not to participate in the election campaign in 2017.

Therefore, Ahok has filed a review for the judicial review of Article 70 Paragraph (3) Letter a of the Regional Elections Law with the purpose to ask the Constitutional Court's interpretation about whether the campaign leave is mandatory or optional for the incumbent candidates, especially about whether the incumbent candidates can choose not to campaign.

Pros and Cons of the Campaign Leave for Incumbents

Many believe that campaign leave for incumbent candidates is mandatory. The reason isn't to prevent the incumbent candidates to use the facilities of the state during the campaign. But, the problem is how about the incumbent candidates who choose not to do a campaign, whether the candidate must take leave or not?

Some parties argue that the campaign leave is supposed to be optional because the basic meaning of 'leave' is a right and not an obligation. If there are concerns of abuse of power by the incumbents who do not take leave during the campaign period, this problem should be reported to the Elections Supervisory Body (Bawaslu).

The duties, powers, and obligations of Bawaslu are regulated through Law Number 15 Year 2011 on the Implementation of the Elections. One of them is to oversee the organization of the elections in the context of prevention, violations and the realization of democratic elections. Supervision is manifested in several ways. For example, to oversee the preparation and implementation phases of election administration. Included in the implementation stage is the implementation of the election campaign as stipulated in Article 5 (3) of the Act elections.

Some other parties, such as Former Chief Justice of the Constitutional Court, Mahfud MD, argue that the campaign leave for the incumbent candidates during the election campaign remains mandatory. Mahfud categorizes leave into three groups, which are the rights, obligations and restrictions. Leave as a right is for employees who every year gets a 12-day leave of absence. The companies can be charge if they do not give it.

There is also leave as restrictions, for example, if there is a disaster in an area, then head of the region should not apply for leave of absence. Leave can only be filed after the problems have been completed. Meanwhile, there is also leave as obligations. Mahfud MD points out that the example is leave without pay (nasional.kompas.com, 22/08/16).

Jimly Asshiddiqie, who is also a Former Chief Justice of the Constitutional Court, has share similar views with Mahfud MD; that is, campaign leave is an obligation. According to Jimly, the leave campaign that is already regulated in the law, in this case is Regional

Elections Law, is no longer a right but an obligation (nasional.kompas.com, 08/08/16).

According to old rules, incumbent candidates must resign six months before the nomination. These rules were ended by a rule issued by the Constitutional Court in favor of the Governor of Lampung, Sjachroedin ZP, in 2008 by replacing the obligation to take leave.

The Urgency of Campaign Leave

Ahok's argument to review Article 70 Paragraph (3) Letter a of Regional Elections Law on the grounds that he cannot monitor RAPBD and cannot give maximum supervision on the performance of the bureaucracy, according to the author is an acceptable reason. The author understands that Ahok is concerned about the running of the government, even though during the leave the position will be replaced by an acting official. There is no guarantee that the government's performance will continue to run stable.

On the other hand, the provision on the campaign leave in the Regional Elections Law is also an important rule. The author also agrees if the leave has to categorize as an obligation, as there are a lot of negative things that can happen when incumbent candidates do not take leave during the campaign. Talking about the campaign leave for incumbent candidates, we should not just talk about Ahok but also the other incumbent candidates.

Some of the negative things that may occur include, the first one, the potential for the abuse of authority (abuse of power). We do realize that heads of the regions have a major influence on policy and budget. The concern is that they may have personal advantage to win the elections.

The second one, the potential for the abuse of facilities that are related to his or her position. The third one, the potential for the incumbent candidates to influence voters, especially voters with the status of civil servants (PNS) in his or her administration. This can occur either directly or indirectly.

Some parties, in the case of Ahok, ensure that there is no motive to abuse of power by Ahok if he does not take the campaign leave. Nevertheless, the author argues that this issue should not only about Ahok but also about our electoral systems. The concerns of

abuse of power are not only addressed to Ahok as an incumbent candidate, but to all other incumbent candidates.

According to the author, all of the potential negatives need to be avoided so that democracy can work well. Of course, all candidates have the right to obtain a guarantee for the implementation of competition. The author also hopes this can be a consideration for the Judges at the Constitutional Court when discussing Ahok's review on the campaign leave.

We also need to understand the issue of campaign as a whole. A campaign is basically a pillar of democratic elections. Through the campaign, for example in the elections, before determining the choices, the voters have a right to know the visions, missions, and programs of the candidates. So, the campaign can be considered as a means of effective political education for the society and also as an important element in the process of leadership succession.

According to the author, we should see the campaign not only as the interests of the candidates but also as a right for voters. This is in line with the views of Said Salahudin, the Director of Synergy Indonesian Community for Democracy (Sigma), that the campaign is one of the parameters for good elections.

Legally, a campaign is part of the implementation stage of the elections as stipulated in Article 5 Paragraf 3 letter g of Perppu Number 1/2014 on Regional Elections. It is not modified in Regional Elections Law (Law No.10/2016). That is means that the campaign is an important stage for elections in realizing the quality of elections in democracy and law. So, according to the author the incumbent candidates should continue to implement the campaign.

- Zihan Syahayani -

Campaign in the process of democratic election is not only about the interests of the candidates but also about a right of the voters.

Looking at the Economy in 2017

On August 16th, 2016, or precisely one day before the 71st anniversary of Indonesia's Independence Day, President Joko Widodo delivered a government statement on the state budget plan and the financial note for the year of 2017 in a plenary session of the House of Representatives.

According to his statement, the government seems quite optimistic about the prospect of the national economy in the future. Indonesia is trusted to be able to perform well economically amidst global dynamics. The government believes that achievements that have been done by many countries will bring good results soon, even the situations are still unstable.

Looking at the macroeconomic assumptions set in the state budget, it is commendable to say that in 2017 our state budget is wise and realistic. Economic growth is not predicted too high, and more importantly, the target for the state revenue from taxation is not set too high.

The Assumptions of Economic Growth

In the 2017 state budget, the government aims the economy to grow moderately at a level of 5.3 percent. Considering that the global economy is still anomalous and that there is the weakening of commodity exports in international markets, this projection makes sense.

However, this not-so-high target of economic growth does not imply that the government is doing nothing. The weakening of international trade activities and global growth, in the short term, will make the national economy depend highly on government spending. Fortunately, nowadays the government is still focusing on building more and more infrastructure to accelerate economic growth

amidst global slowdown. This will also generate tasks for the government to complete, such as overseeing infrastructure projects, which are prone to corruption.

The Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KADIN) has added that for the medium term, economic growth will depend on structural reformation done by the government, like issues on logistic, investment climate, and the trading sector.

In discussing the target of economic growth, it is important to pay attention to the twelve economic packets of policies that have been implemented by the government since the end of 2015. In his speech during the plenary session, Presiden Joko Widodo argued that output from those economic packages will be felt in 2017 and will then be able to stimulate the national economy.

Unfortunately, there are still things that need to be reformed regarding the packages in order to make the output more significant towards economic growth.

The Institute for Development of Economics and Finance (INDEF), an economic studies and financial research institution, has recorded at least three drawbacks of these 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 satisfying, 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 any applicable laws.

The Target of Tax Revenue

After the increased concern shared by the people of Indonesia about the potential shortfall or miss-targetted state revenue in the

last two years, for 2017 the government tries to be more realistic about the state income through the scheme of taxation.

Quoting from the speech of President Joko Widodo in the plenary session, the state revenue will guarantee more economic improvement. Re tax revenue, the increasing in revenue will be achieved via a number of breakthrough policies, such as the tax amnesty in 2016.

This policy is expected to strengthen Indonesia's tax base as well as improving tax payers' obedience in the future. The government will also run a law enforcement program in taxation. Tax policy is set to boost purchasing power, investment climate, and the competitiveness of local industry through fiscal incentives for strategic activities. The tax policy is also intended to control consumption on particular products having negative externalities.

The target of tax revenue that has been set by the government for 2017 is Rp.1,495.9 billion. This target is realistic, taking into account every dynamic transpiring in the globe. This target is being appreciated by many parties, including APINDO, or the Indonesian Entrepreneurs Association that have stated that this target will benefit the real sector amidst global uncertainty.

Tax amnesty will surely provide a golden momentum to increase state revenue. However, the latest issue related to this policy in the past months is that the tax amnesty is not yet fully able to run properly.

One example of the problems is that at the grassroots level there has been misunderstanding. They believe that the tax amnesty will not only absorb money from rich people but also from ordinary people that are being forced to participate in the tax amnesty.

It is again a task for the government or everyone related to have effective and proper policy dissemination programs in order not to confuse the people or to create panic and distrust towards the government, which in turn can make potential tax revenue from every class cannot be absorbed effectively.

- Muhammad Reza Hermanto -

Considering the macroeconomic assumptions set in the state budget, it is commandable to say that in 2017 our state budget is wise and realistic. Economic growth is not predicted too high and more importantly, the state revenue target from taxation is not too ambitious.

The Proposed Full-Day School Program

The Minister of Education and Culture, Muhadjir Effendy, is planning to implement a full-day school system for elementary schools (SD) and junior high schools (SMP). This discourse has received many responses from various circles. Not only parents, from education professionals to politicians in the House of Representatives (DPR) have given their opinions. Basically, they are divided into two sides; namely, the pros and the cons.

Pros and Cons of the Full-Day School System

A full day in this case means to be in school from eight in the morning until five in the afternoon. Those who oppose the idea argue that to be in school from eight in the morning until five in the afternoon will lead to saturation for students, which is believed will make the learning process ineffective. A full-day school is believed will eliminate the role of parents in the education of children.

Another concern is that the right of children to play will be reduced. Playing is an activity that is not only fun, but on the other hand it is also one of the rights that belong to the children so that they can achieve optimal growth and development.

Another reason is that the implementation of the full-day school is not urgent. In fact, there are several other issues related to basic education that must be prioritized. Some examples are the certification system of teachers and teaching materials, such as the Student Worksheet (LKS), which are often outside the context of education.

On the other hand, some of those who support the idea have some experience in the full-day school system. As we know, the full-day school system is not new in Indonesia. There are some private schools that have been applying this system. The question is whether the method that will be applied in the public schools will be the same as those applied to the private institutions?

One of the good practices related to full-day school system is the use of an integrated educational system in which subject matters are not delivered one by one to the students. Instead, there are themes of learning, such as transportation, which consist various aspects of knowledge, such as natural science, social, math, Indonesian language and others.

In addition, teaching methods are used not only in the classroom but also outside the classroom through games or simulations. Furthermore, teaching methods are not only applied one way from teachers to students, but also applied via student discussion groups, schools plays and other activities, which in addition to increasing students' knowledge also fostering their confidence. Learning in a pleasant atmosphere is an important point here.

Recommendations

However, there are a number of points that need to be given attention for if the concept is about to be adopted and be applied in public primary and secondary schools. In the transition phase from the previous system to the new system, school children spend half a day for learning at home. In order to ensure the continuation of the learning process from school to home, there are homework methods (PR) for the the students.

The teachers of the elementary schools are required to master all subject matters, not just certain subject matters. That is, an intensive and comprehensive information dissemination process must be done if you want to adopt this system. Also, the teachers' knowledge and skills teachers need to be added and adjusted to the new system.

Another factor that has to be remembered is the regional autonomy policy that is applied in Indonesia. The education sector is one of the sectors that has been delegated to the local governments. This means that local governments have the authority to set the times of the teaching and learning activities. What is also important is the differences in characteristics of each region in Indonesia. Cultural characteristics, social situations and geographical locations must be considered.

The author notes that the government has not explained to the public a clear concept of their full-day school system. The government must provide a clear explanation. This is because education, especially primary education, is believed to be the key to human liberation from oppression, allowing people to live meaningful lives and to improve living standards.

The author agrees with many parties that discourse on the full-day school policy should be assessed comprehensively beforehand. It also should be remembered that there are consequences of having no small costs, starting from supporting infrastructure improvements in schools, upgrading the skills and knowledge of teachers to the new system.

Finally, any measures taken by the government, especially those related to education, should ensure that children's rights are protected, not deprived.

- Lola Amelia -

The education sector is one of the important sectors because it involves the preparation of Indonesian human resources to face the challenges at the national and global levels. Thus, policies related to education must be preceded by research and evidence-based simulations.

 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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