

# THE NDONESIAN INSTITUTE

C E N T E R F O R P U B L I C P O L I C Y R E S E A R C H

**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 center 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 by promoting good governance principles and public participation in the policy processes in Indonesia.

**TII's** visions are public policies in Indonesia which highly uphold human rights and rule of law, as well as involve participation of various stakeholders and practice democratic good governance principles.

**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, political, and legal affairs. The main activities which have been conducted by **TII** in order to achieve our vision and mission, are: research, surveys, facilitation and advocacy through training and working groups, public discussions, public education, weekly editorial articles ("Wacana" or Discourses), monthly analysis ("Update Indonesia" in Indonesian and "The Indonesian Update" in English), mid-year policy analysis ("Policy Assessment"), annual policy analysis ("Indonesian Report"), and monthly discussion forum on policy issues ("The Indonesian Forum").

### RESEARCH ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

The economy tends to be used as an indicator of the success of the government as a policy-maker. Economy plays an important role as one of the fundamentals of national development. 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.

TII focus on economic issues, such as monetary policy and fiscal policy, as well as issues on sustainable development by using analysis which refer to economic freedom principles. Monetary issues will focus on the Indonesian Central Bank to maintain economic stability, both regarding inflation and exchange rate. Meanwhile, fiscal policy will focus on the discussions over the National Budget and infrastructure development both in the regions and in the cities. In relation to sustainable development, TII research is focusing on productivity, competitiveness, infrastructure development, and development gap. In addition, TII also upholds economic freedom principles in highlighting the importance of individual freedom and involvement of private sectors in increasing development and improving welfare in Indonesia.

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. This stipulation is also confirmed in Law No. 15 Year 2019 on the Amendment of Law No. 12 Year 2011 regarding the Formulation of Laws and Regulations.

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 both from academic and content aspects. Furthermore, academic paper also functions as an early tracking over possibilities of overlapping laws and regulations, so that revocation of local regulations or other related issues which can be caused by legal, economic, or political aspects in the future, can be minimized as soon as possible.

TII offers normative and legal research related to harmonization and synchronization of laws and regulations, especially in making academic papers, legal opinion on harmonization and synchronization of laws and regulations, and legislative drafting for the formulation of local regulations bill drafts or other laws and regulations. In addition, TII also offers openly research on other legal issues related to Constitutional Law and Public Administration, Human Rights, and Political Corruption.

## **RESEARCH ON THE POLITICAL AFFAIRS**

The enactment of Law No. 23 Year 2014 on the latest regulation on the Local Government, has created different relations between the Central Government and the Local Government. Entering the era of Bureaucracy Reform, specification of division of affairs of the Central Government and the Local Government has increasingly demanded the implementation of good governance principles. The government is demanded to be adaptive and responsive towards public aspiration and services. Therefore, public policy research become more important for both the Central Government and the Local Government to analyse context and current issues in the regions. The government must also consider various actors whether political actors or bureaucrats, as well as public's aspiration and other non-state actor in policy processes.

In order to respond those needs, TII research in political affairs offer policy assessment on various policies which were already applied or will be implemented. TII will look at socio-cultural, economy, legal, and political aspects in assessing public policies. Our research will be useful to assist government in formulating policies which are in line with context, priorities, and people's aspiration. TII also offers various breakthrough of transformative policies according to existing contexts in particular and Open Government principles' implementation in general, in order to increase public participation in policy processes, particularly in the era of the openness of public information.

Political Research Division of TII provide analysis and policy recommendations in order to generate strategic policy in the strengthening of democracy and the establishment of good governance both at the national and local levels. Political research forms are offered by TII **(1) Public Policy Analysis, (2) Media Monitoring, (3) Mapping & Positioning Research, (4) Need Assessment Research, (5) Survey Indicator.**

## **RESEARCH ON THE SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

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. Social analysis is important to identify strategic issues which are developing and to make the right stakeholders' mapping to promote significant change in the context of development, public policy, and democracy in Indonesia.

The Social Research Division is present to offer strong and valid recommendations to produce strategic, relevant, efficient and effective, and impactful policies, in addressing to existing various issues. For example, issues related to education, health, population, environment, women, children, and elderly. 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.**

### **Evaluation**

#### **EVALUATION OF PROJECT OR PROGRAM**

One of the activities that have been performed and experienced offered by TII is a qualitative evaluation of the projects and programs of non-governmental organizations and government. Evaluation activities are offered TII stages of mid-term evaluation of the project/program (mid-term evaluation) and also the final evaluation at the end of the project/program (final evaluation).

As we know, the evaluation is an important step in the implementation of a project or program. Mid-Term Evaluation of the project or program is intended to look at and analyze the challenges, the overall learning takes place during the project or program, and make recommendations for the continuity of the project or program. Meanwhile, the final evaluation allows us to view and analyze the outcomes and the lessons learned to ensure the achievement of all the objectives of the project or program at the end of the project or program.

### **Public Discussion**

#### **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.

## **Training & Working Group Facilitation**

### **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).

## **Board of Advisors**

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**Executive Director**

**Adinda Tenriangke Muchtar**

Adinda Tenriangke Muchtar is the Executive Director of TII starting in 2018. She is also Analyst of Political and Public Policy Affairs, concerning issues on democracy, good governance and good governance). She completed PhD in Development Studies at Victoria University of Wellington with New Zealand Scholarship Program in 2017. Adinda studied International Relations Department at University of Indonesia in 1996 and received Bachelor of Social Science in 2001. Adinda was the First Indonesian Sumitro Fellow (2007), when she did a research on “The Roles of the U.S. NGOs in Promoting Democratization and Governance Reform in Indonesia”. Adinda earned Master of International Studies from University of Sydney (2003) with the scholarship from AusAID. Adinda’s focus of interests are development, international aid, women’s empowerment, and good governance.

**Research & Program Manager**

**Arfianto Purbolaksono**

Arfianto Purbolaksono is the Research and Program Manager of TII starting officially in July 2019. He graduated from the Department of Political Science, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, University of Jenderal Soedirman. He earned Master in Political Science at University of Indonesia in February 2020. Anto has various issues of interests, such as on the study of democracy, defense, human rights, and digital politics.

## Researchers

### **Muhammad Aulia Y. Guzasiah** – Researcher on Legal Affairs

Muhammad Aulia Y. Guzasiah who is familiar with the nickname Aan, is one of the researchers at The Indonesian Institute (TII). He officially joined TII at the beginning of February 2019 as a researcher of legal affairs.

Aan obtained his Bachelor of Law in Constitutional Law at the Faculty of Law at Universitas Muslim Indonesia (UMI) Makassar in 2015, and a Master of Law in the same field, at the Faculty of Law, Universitas Gadjah Mada (UGM) Yogyakarta in 2018. His thesis research which was conducted at the Supreme Court and the Ministry of Home Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia was titled "Legal Policies of the Arrangements of Regulatory Control of Local Ordinances in The Unitary State of The Republic of Indonesia".

Before joining TII, Aan was actively engaged in social activities and legal advocacy in several universities' students' organizations. In addition, he was also involved in several research activities held by the campus community during his study period and helped in compiling academic drafts and bill of local ordinances from certain local governments. The focus of the study that he is currently interested, related to the issues of the arrangement regulation and legislation, political corruption, human rights, and the environment.

### **Nopitri Wahyuni** – Researcher on Social Issues

Nopitri Wahyuni is a researcher in social affairs at The Indonesian Institute. Prior to joining at TII, she was a research assistant at Centre for Innovation Policy and Governance (CIPG). Nopitri earned her bachelor degree from Department of Social Welfare, Universitas Indonesia. Her first research experience relates to community development in Village Fund Planning which was presented in two conferences in socio-economic development.

Nopitri is also interested in gender studies. She has developed a learning community about gender issues, called *On Women Indonesia*. Nopitri has great interests in social policy and planning in general, particularly on social development, labor, and gender issues.

### **Muhamad Rifki Fadilah** – Researcher on Economic Affairs

Muhamad Rifki Fadilah (Rifki) is the Researcher of Economic Affairs at The Indonesian Institute (TII). He obtained a Bachelor of Education in the field of Economic Education at the Faculty of Economics of the State University of Jakarta (FE UNJ) in 2018. At the end of his study period, Rifki conducted thesis research on Tourism and Economic Growth in Indonesia and successfully published his thesis research in the Scopus Q 3 Indexes International Journal in October 2018 titled "The Causal Relationship between Tourist Arrivals and Economic Growth: Evidence from Indonesia". In addition, while studying Rifki was also very active in writing various opinions related to the economy in several mainstream media such as the Sindo newspaper, CNN Indonesia, and the Student Press Institution Opinion column.

His interest in research has begun since he was in the second semester of college when Rifki actively served as the Head of the Sub department of Research and Development at the "Econochannel" Student Press Institute FE UNJ. He was also active as a research assistant for his lecturer at the faculty. Rifki was also active as a speaker and moderator in seminars in the field of research and economics, and as a speaker at the international conference in the field of economics in Malaysia in 2017. His focus of interests is related to the macroeconomic, particularly in the fields of growth and economic development, public economics and monetary, as well as policies in both fields.

### **Rifqi Rachman** – Researcher on Political Affairs

Rifqi Rachman (Rifqi) is an alumnus of Politics and Government Department, University of Gadjah Mada (UGM), Yogyakarta. He graduated in 2017. Rifqi started his career as a media analyst at a media intelligent company. Prior to joining The Indonesian Institute as a researcher on political affairs, he worked as a researcher at a digital media company in Indonesia.

Rifqi is interested in election, digital politics, political parties, and politics of borders. Towards the end of his study, Rifqi wrote a paper on border of politics titled "Beyond Territoriality: Meaning Complexity of Cross-Border Activities in Napan Village, Nusa Tenggara Timur". He presented his paper during *Research Day* at Faculty of Political and Social Sciences of UGM (2016).

### **Vunny Wijaya** – Researcher on Social Issues

Vunny Wijaya joined The Indonesian Institute as a researcher on social affair. She completed her master in Public Policy and Administration Studies, at Faculty of

Administration Science, University of Indonesia in 2019. In the same year, Vunny passed a research program grant for university students at University of Indonesia on the publication on “Human Research Practices: E-Research Application in National Institute of Health Research and Development – Indonesia” which was published through International Proceeding with Scopus index in the 33<sup>rd</sup> International Business Information Management Association Conference.

Previously in 2015, Vunny earned her degree in Development Sociology at Faculty of Social Sciences of State University Jakarta. In 2018, Vunny was a delegate in a university students exchange at the International Summer School at Sungkyunkwan University, South Korea through scholarship from Korea Foundation. Her first book titled, “Heaven under Children’s Headstone” by Institute of Health Research and Development. Vunny has interests in government issues, particularly on human resources, innovation, and health.

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