

Strategy for Optimizing the Role of the Kapuas Hulu Police in Combating Drug Trafficking to Maintain Public Security and Order

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eradication efforts to achieve a conducive public order and security.

Abstract: *This study aims to analyze the legal regulations and strategies for optimizing the role of the Kapuas Hulu Resort Police (Polres) in combating drug trafficking in order to maintain public security and order. The problem of drug trafficking in Indonesia is a serious threat that impacts social stability and public security, thus requiring comprehensive countermeasures. This study uses a normative juridical legal research method with a statute approach and a conceptual approach. The legal materials used include laws and regulations, legal literature, and doctrines relevant to combating narcotics crimes and the role of the police in law enforcement. The results of the study indicate that regulations regarding narcotics countermeasures in Indonesia have been firmly regulated in Law Number 35 of 2009 concerning Narcotics and supported by the authority of the Republic of Indonesia National Police as stipulated in Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the Republic of Indonesia National Police. In its implementation, the Kapuas Hulu Police have made various efforts to combat drug trafficking through repressive, preventive, and preemptive actions. However, various obstacles remain, including limited resources, extensive surveillance areas, and evolving modus operandi of drug trafficking networks. Therefore, optimization strategies are needed through increased human resource capacity, strengthened inter-agency coordination, the use of information technology, and increased public participation in drug prevention and*

Keywords: *Polres Kapuas Hulu; Drug Prevention; the Role of the Police*

Introduction

The circulation of narcotics in Indonesia has shown a steadily increasing trend over the past few decades and poses a serious threat to social life, public health, and national security. The development of narcotics distribution networks is not only local but has evolved into organized networks involving cross-regions and even cross-national boundaries (Amalia 2024). It makes narcotics a complex crime with broad impacts on various aspects of society. The abuse and illicit trafficking of narcotics not only damage the younger generation but also have the potential to disrupt public order and security (kamtibmas), such as increased crime, social disintegration, and a decline in the quality of human resources (Bahaduri 2022). Therefore, the state, through various legal instruments

and public policies, has placed narcotics control as a top priority in the national law enforcement system.

Law Number 35 of 2009 concerning Narcotics, which aims to guarantee the availability of narcotics for the benefit of health services and scientific development while preventing and eradicating narcotics abuse and illicit trafficking, provides comprehensive normative regulation of narcotics in Indonesia. Law Number 35 of 2009's Article 4 highlights that the goals of drug regulation include preventing, safeguarding, and rescuing the Indonesian people from drug abuse, eliminating illegal drug trafficking, and guaranteeing the availability of drugs for medical services and scientific advancement (Rahman 2021). In addition, Articles 114 and 112 of the Narcotics Law emphasize the threat of severe criminal penalties for anyone who, without authority or against the law, offers, sells, buys, acts as an intermediary, possesses, stores, or controls narcotics. These provisions demonstrate that the state places narcotics crimes as crimes that must be seriously addressed through an integrated criminal policy that combines penal and non-penal efforts (Koswara 2022).

Within the framework of law enforcement, When it comes to eliminating drug-related crimes, the police play a crucial strategic role. It is in line with the terms of Law Number 2 of 2002 regulating the Indonesian National Police, which states that the police serve as a governmental tool in charge of upholding law and order, protecting the people, and offering services (Hariyanto 2018). Articles 2 and 13 of Law Number 2 of 2002 expressly indicate that the Indonesian National Police's principal responsibilities are to uphold public safety and order, enforce the law, and offer community services and protection. Additionally, Article 14 paragraph (1) letter g highlights that the Indonesian National Police is responsible for carrying out investigations and inquiries into all criminal activities in compliance with statutory rules, including offenses involving drugs (Fitriani 2021). In practice, the police's role is implemented through preemptive, preventive, and repressive approaches as a comprehensive strategy to combat drug crime.

In implementing law enforcement at the regional level, the presence of the Resort Police (Polres) plays a crucial role as the spearhead of police functions in their respective jurisdictions (Kristiyani 2023). One region facing serious challenges in combating drug trafficking is Kapuas Hulu Regency, which is geographically quite extensive and shares borders with other countries. The zone may be exploited by drug trafficking networks as a distribution route or a transit point for illicit drug trafficking. The situation undoubtedly has implications for the increased risk of drug abuse in the community and has the potential to disrupt public order and security in the region. Therefore, the role of the Kapuas Hulu Police is highly strategic in implementing various prevention and enforcement efforts against drug crimes to maintain security and stability in its jurisdiction.

In performing its duties and functions, the Kapuas Hulu Police have made various efforts to combat the circulation of narcotics, both through repressive measures in the form of law enforcement against perpetrators of narcotics crimes and through preventive and preemptive efforts such as counseling activities, socialization of the dangers of narcotics, and cooperation with local governments, related agencies, and the community. These efforts align with the provisions of Article 75 of Law Number 35 of 2009 concerning Narcotics, which grants investigators the authority to conduct inquiries and prosecutions of narcotics crimes (Hutagaol 2019). Furthermore, narcotics countermeasures policies also require

synergy between law enforcement agencies, including the Indonesian National Police and the National Narcotics Agency (BNN), as stipulated in various laws and regulations that emphasize the importance of coordination in narcotics eradication. However, in practice, these efforts still face various obstacles, both structural and cultural.

Some of these obstacles include limited human resources and law enforcement infrastructure, the vast legal area that must be monitored, and the increasingly complex and organized modus operandi of narcotics trafficking networks. Furthermore, public participation in providing information and support for narcotics eradication efforts remains suboptimal, thus impacting the effectiveness of law enforcement efforts. The situation indicates the need for a more effective and comprehensive strategy to optimize the role of the Kapuas Hulu Police in combating drug trafficking. Therefore, research on strategies to optimize the role of the Kapuas Hulu Police in combating drug trafficking is essential to formulate a more effective handling model to maintain public security and order in accordance with the constitutional mandate and applicable laws and regulations.

Methodology

This research employs a normative juridical legal research method, namely research that positions law as a norm or rule that applies in the legal system and as a guideline for behavior in social, national, and state life. Normative juridical research is conducted by examining various legal materials related to the research problem, particularly regarding the prevention of narcotics crimes and the role of the police in maintaining public security and order. The approaches utilized in this research include a statutory approach and a conceptual approach. Examining numerous laws and regulations pertaining to the research object, such as Law Number 35 of 2009 concerning Narcotics and Law Number 2 of 2002 respecting the Indonesian National Police, is how the statutory approach is implemented, and other laws and regulations relevant to the prevention of narcotics crimes and the maintenance of public security and order. Meanwhile, a conceptual approach is employed by examining legal concepts, legal theories, and doctrines developing within legal science related to law enforcement, criminal policy, and drug crime prevention strategies. Through these two approaches, this study aims to gain a comprehensive understanding of legal regulations and strategic concepts for optimizing the role of the Kapuas Hulu Police in combating drug trafficking to maintain public security and order.

Result and Discussion

Legal Regulations and the Role of the Police in Combating Narcotics Crimes in Indonesia

Regulations regarding the combating of narcotics crimes in Indonesia are essentially part of criminal law policy aimed at protecting the public from the dangers of narcotics abuse and illicit trafficking (Busnarma 2019). Law Number 35 of 2009 about Narcotics, which extensively controls the control, supervision, prevention, and eradication of narcotics addiction and criminal trafficking, is the main normative legal framework governing narcotics. Law Number 35 of 2009's Article 4 highlights that the goals of drug regulation are to guarantee the availability of drugs for the advancement of science and health services, to prevent and shield the public from drug misuse, and to end illegal trafficking (Nurlatifah 2022). These provisions demonstrate the state's constitutional responsibility to strictly

supervise narcotics use and take decisive action to combat illicit drug trafficking, which can harm people's lives and threaten national security (Putra 2023).

As a form of public protection, Law Number 35 of 2009 also regulates various criminal provisions that impose strict sanctions on anyone involved in illicit drug trafficking. These criminal provisions include Articles 111, 112, 114, and 127 of Law Number 35 of 2009, which prohibit the unauthorized or unlawful cultivation, possession, storage, control, sale, purchase, or intermediary of narcotics (Silalahi 2020). For example, According to Article 114 paragraph (1), anyone who offers for sale, sells, buys, receives, or acts as an intermediary in the sale, exchanges, or transfers of Class I narcotics without authorization or in violation of the law faces a minimum prison sentence of five years, a maximum sentence of twenty years, and a fine (Alifia 2020). These severe criminal sanctions indicate that narcotics crimes are viewed as crimes with serious impacts on people's lives and therefore require firm and systematic countermeasures through law enforcement mechanisms (Ashari 2023).

Law enforcement agents play a critical part in the national law enforcement system's efforts to eradicate drug-related offenses. The Indonesian National Police is one law enforcement organization with strategic authority. This is highlighted in Law Number 2 of 2002 about the Indonesian National Police, which establishes the police as a governmental tool in charge of upholding law and order, protecting the people, and offering services. Article 13 of Law Number 2 of 2002 specifically indicates that the Indonesian National Police's key responsibilities include upholding public safety and order, executing the law, and offering services, protection, and advice to the community. When it comes to combating drugs, the police's law enforcement role is essential in bringing charges against those who abuse drugs or engage in illegal trafficking.

Additionally, Law Number 2 of 2002's Article 14 paragraph (1) letter g, which states that the police are tasked with conducting investigations and inquiries into all criminal acts in accordance with statutory provisions, affirms the police's authority to enforce the law against criminal acts. In carrying out these duties, the police have the authority to take various legal actions such as arrests, detentions, searches, and seizures of perpetrators of narcotics crimes in accordance with the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code (KUHAP). This authority is an important instrument in the process of law enforcement against narcotics crimes because it enables police officers to uncover narcotics distribution networks effectively and take repressive action against narcotics crime perpetrators who are increasingly developing in an organized manner.

In an effort to eradicate narcotics crimes, Law Number 35 of 2009 also grants law enforcement officials the authority to conduct inquiries and prosecutions into various narcotics-related crimes. These provisions are regulated, among other things, in Article 75 of Law Number 35 of 2009, which states that investigators have the authority to undertake various actions in the context of investigating narcotics crimes, such as wiretapping, undercover purchases, and other investigative techniques in accordance with statutory provisions. In addition to the police, another institution with authority in narcotics eradication is the National Narcotics Agency (BNN), as stipulated in Article 64 of Law Number 35 of 2009, which confirms that the BNN is a non-ministerial government agency

tasked with preventing and eradicating narcotics abuse and illicit trafficking. Therefore, effective counter-narcotics efforts require synergy between various law enforcement institutions.

Based on these various legal provisions, it is understandable that combating narcotics crimes in Indonesia is a shared responsibility between the state, law enforcement officials, and the public. The police, as one of the law enforcement institutions, have a very strategic role in maintaining public security and order from the threat of narcotics abuse and illicit trafficking. Through the authority granted by Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the Indonesian National Police, as well as regulatory support contained in Law Number 35 of 2009 concerning Narcotics, the police have a strong legal basis to carry out various law enforcement efforts, both through preventive measures and prosecution against perpetrators of narcotics crimes. Thus, optimizing the role of the police in combating narcotics is very important in order to create a conducive environment for public security and order, and protect the nation's generation from the dangers of narcotics abuse.

The Role and Efforts of the Kapuas Hulu Police in Combating Drug Trafficking

The implementation of the responsibilities and functions of the Indonesian National Police (Polres) in upholding security and public order at the regional level includes the Kapuas Hulu Police's participation in fighting drug trafficking. In practice, the Kapuas Hulu Police serve as the spearhead of law enforcement, directly addressing various forms of crime, including drug abuse and illicit trafficking. Kapuas Hulu Regency's vast geography and borders with other countries make it potentially vulnerable to the entry of cross-regional and cross-border drug trafficking networks. This situation demands an active role for police officers in monitoring, preventing, and prosecuting various activities related to drug trafficking to maintain security and public order within the Kapuas Hulu Police jurisdiction.

In efforts to combat drug trafficking, the Kapuas Hulu Police, through relevant functional units, particularly the Narcotics Investigation Unit, actively enforce law enforcement against perpetrators of drug crimes. Investigations and inquiries into numerous drug misuse and illegal trafficking cases that fall under the purview of the Kapuas Hulu Police are used to carry out these actions. Through these activities, police officers strive to uncover drug trafficking networks, both local and those linked to broader networks. Law enforcement by the Kapuas Hulu Police is not only focused on drug users, but also directed at uncovering the network of drug dealers and suppliers who are part of the drug distribution chain in the region.

In addition to a repressive approach through law enforcement, the Kapuas Hulu Police also undertake various efforts to prevent drug abuse through preventive and preemptive activities. These efforts include outreach and education activities regarding the dangers of drug abuse to the community, particularly students, youth, and residents in areas considered vulnerable to drug trafficking. These outreach activities aim to raise public awareness of the negative impacts of drug abuse and encourage active community participation in supporting drug eradication efforts. Through this approach, it is hoped that

the public will gain a better understanding of the dangers of drugs and play an active role in creating an environment free from drug abuse.

The Kapuas Hulu Police also collaborate with various parties to increase the effectiveness of drug trafficking prevention efforts. This collaboration includes local governments, relevant agencies, educational institutions, community leaders, and various community organizations that play a strategic role in preventing drug abuse. Synergy between these institutions is crucial because drug problems are not only related to law enforcement but also to social, educational, and public health aspects. Therefore, a collaborative approach between law enforcement officers and various community elements is a strategic step in creating a more effective drug abuse prevention system in Kapuas Hulu Regency.

In carrying out its duties, the Kapuas Hulu Police also conducts various operational activities, such as police operations, aimed at reducing drug trafficking in its jurisdiction. These operations are conducted through patrols, raids at various locations deemed vulnerable, and monitoring routes potentially used as drug distribution facilities. This activity is part of the police's strategy to detect drug trafficking activity early and prevent the development of drug trafficking networks in the Kapuas Hulu region. Through this activity, police officers strive to create a deterrent effect for drug offenders while also providing a sense of security to the community.

Despite various efforts, in practice, the Kapuas Hulu Police Department still faces numerous challenges in combating drug trafficking. These challenges include the vast area of control, limited human resources and infrastructure, and the increasingly sophisticated modus operandi of drug trafficking networks that utilize various methods to evade law enforcement. Furthermore, some members of the public are still not fully aware of the need to actively participate in providing information to the police regarding drug trafficking activities in their neighborhoods. This situation indicates that combating drug trafficking requires a more comprehensive and sustainable strategy, so that the Kapuas Hulu Police Department can increasingly optimize its role in maintaining public security and order from the threat of drug abuse and illicit trafficking.

Strategy for Optimizing the Role of the Kapuas Hulu Police in Combating Drug Trafficking

A strategy for optimizing the role of the Kapuas Hulu Police in combating drug trafficking needs to be implemented comprehensively by strengthening various institutional and operational aspects, as well as community involvement. One concrete step that can be taken is to improve the human resource capacity of police officers, particularly those assigned to the Narcotics Investigation Unit. The capacity building can be achieved through specialized education and training related to narcotics crime investigation techniques, an understanding of the latest modus operandi of drug trafficking networks, and the use of technology to solve narcotics cases. With this increased competency, police officers are expected to address narcotics cases more professionally, effectively, and with a focused approach, uncovering increasingly complex drug trafficking networks.

Another strategy that can be implemented is to strengthen the surveillance system in areas considered vulnerable to drug trafficking. Given Kapuas Hulu Regency's vast territory and diverse geographic characteristics, a more systematic and integrated surveillance system is needed. The Kapuas Hulu Police can increase patrol intensity, map areas prone to drug trafficking, and strengthen police intelligence activities to detect drug-related activities early. Through this mapping and strengthening of intelligence functions, police can take preventive measures more quickly before drug trafficking spreads further within the community.

Optimizing the role of the Kapuas Hulu Police can also be achieved through increased cooperation and coordination with various relevant agencies. The drug problem is complex and cannot be effectively addressed by a single agency. Therefore, the Kapuas Hulu Police need to strengthen synergy with the local government, the National Narcotics Agency, other law enforcement agencies, educational institutions, and community organizations. This collaboration can be realized through joint programs such as drug education activities on the dangers of drugs, information exchange regarding drug trafficking networks, and the implementation of integrated operations to eradicate drugs in the Kapuas Hulu Regency.

In addition to strengthening inter-agency coordination, an equally important strategy is increasing community involvement in drug abuse prevention efforts. The Kapuas Hulu Police can develop a community-based approach (community policing) by involving community leaders, traditional leaders, religious leaders, and youth organizations in drug prevention activities. Through outreach, education, and dialogue with the community, it is hoped that collective awareness will grow regarding the dangers of drug abuse and the importance of the community's role in supporting drug eradication efforts. Active community participation can also assist police in obtaining information related to drug trafficking activities occurring in their communities.

Another strategy is the use of information technology to support drug trafficking prevention efforts. The Kapuas Hulu Police can utilize various technological tools, such as a digital-based reporting system, social media monitoring, and the use of technological devices in investigations and information gathering. This use of technology can assist police in monitoring the movements of drug trafficking networks, expedite the information gathering process, and increase the effectiveness of law enforcement against drug offenders. Furthermore, the use of technology can also facilitate the public in submitting reports or information related to suspected drug trafficking activities. Optimizing the role of the Kapuas Hulu Police in combating drug trafficking requires an integrated approach combining firm law enforcement with ongoing preventative measures. Consistent law enforcement against drug offenders must be balanced with public education efforts about the dangers of drugs and strengthened surveillance systems in areas vulnerable to drug trafficking. By implementing this comprehensive strategy, it is hoped that the Kapuas Hulu Police will be more effective in combating drug trafficking and creating more conducive conditions of security and public order in its jurisdiction.

Conclusion

Based on the discussion, it can be concluded that the Indonesian National Police's authority, as outlined in Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the Indonesian National Police, and Law Number 35 of 2009 concerning Narcotics provide a solid legal foundation for the eradication of drug-related crime in Indonesia. In this context, the police play a crucial role in upholding public safety and order as well as enforcing the law against drug misuse and illegal trafficking. At the regional level, the Kapuas Hulu Police play a vanguard role in implementing various drug eradication efforts through repressive measures, including law enforcement against narcotics perpetrators, and through preventive and preemptive measures such as outreach activities, counseling, and collaboration with various parties. However, in its implementation, the Kapuas Hulu Police still face various obstacles, including limited resources, the vast area of surveillance, and the increasingly sophisticated modus operandi of narcotics trafficking networks. Therefore, a comprehensive strategy is needed to optimize the police's role in eradicating drug trafficking to maintain public security and order.

Based on these conclusions, it is recommended that the Kapuas Hulu Police continue to improve human resource capacity and strengthen facilities and infrastructure to support drug eradication efforts. Furthermore, coordination and cooperation between the police and relevant agencies, such as local governments, the National Narcotics Agency, and various community elements, are needed to create a more integrated and effective drug control system. Preventive efforts through an educational approach to the community also need to be increased to increase public awareness of the dangers of drugs and optimize public participation in supporting drug eradication efforts. With an integrated strategy between law enforcement, prevention, and community involvement, it is hoped that efforts to combat drug trafficking in the Kapuas Hulu region can be more effective, thereby creating a more conducive environment for security and public order.

Beyond describing narcotics law enforcement efforts, this study contributes to Criminal Law and public security governance scholarship by developing a governance-based approach to narcotics control that integrates repressive, preventive, and preemptive measures within a unified law enforcement framework. The study demonstrates that the effectiveness of narcotics law enforcement is not determined solely by the application of criminal sanctions but also by the institutional capacity of law enforcement agencies, inter-agency coordination, and community participation. In the field of Criminal Law, the research contributes to the understanding that combating narcotics crime requires a balanced approach between punitive enforcement and preventive interventions to address the structural factors facilitating drug-related offenses. In public security governance scholarship, the study proposes a collaborative governance model in which police institutions, local governments, specialized narcotics agencies, and community actors share responsibility for maintaining public security and preventing narcotics-related threats. By identifying the relationship between institutional constraints, enforcement effectiveness, and community involvement, the study provides a conceptual framework for strengthening integrated narcotics control policies and enhancing public security governance in regional contexts.

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