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THE TREND OF CONFLICT IN INDONESIA 2016

M. Adnan Madjid

Lecture– Peace and Conflict Resolutions, Faculty of National Security - Indonesia Defense University-IPSC Sentul-Bogor 16810, Indonesia
adnan.madjid@idu.ac.id

Eri R. Hidayat

Lecture – Peace and Conflict Resolutions, Faculty of National Security - Indonesia Defense University-IPSC Sentul-Bogor 16810, Indonesia
eri.hidayat@idu.ac.id

Ningsih Susilawati

Asisstant Professor – Peace and Conflict Resolutions, Faculty of National Security - Indonesia Defense University-IPSC Sentul-Bogor 16810, Indonesia
ningsih.susilawati@idu.ac.id

Abstract

Indonesia with various diversities is a country that has a high potential conflict. In general, the conflict in Indonesia is still not in spite of structural problems as a result of lack of uneven development and distribution of development outcomes. The inability of stakeholders and policy makers in managing conflicts are allegedly very likely to trigger large-scale social conflicts that have broad impact in a long time. Intensification of the conflict will be impact the development if the conflict resolution approaches that do less qualified or cannot extract the root of the real problem.

The research approach used in this research is qualitative approach. Furthermore the type of research approach of this research is descriptive; the research seeks to do a current problem solving based on the data.

The result showed that the vulnerable areas of conflict are DKI Jakarta and Papua province. Meanwhile, the provinces completely unrecorded have significant conflicts are Bali, Bangka Belitung, Banten, Bengkulu, Gorontalo, East Java, South Kalimantan, North Kalimantan, North Maluku, West Nusa Tenggara, West Papua, Central Sulawesi, North Sulawesi, West Sumatra and South Sumatra. In this case, Batam is a reflection of the rapid development of Indonesia with a good development condition which also increases the population growth.

Based on the data obtained and the analysis conducted in this research, it is shown that there is a change of dynamic of conflict in Indonesia between this year and the previous years (compare to Map of Conflict 2014). In this case, DKI Jakarta still seems as a province with the highest number of conflict issues in Indonesia. On the other hand, it is recorded that Papua is still becoming an area with the most conflict issues though the number is less than the previous year.

Keywords

Conflict, Indonesia, Conflict Resolution, Trend of Conflict

1. Preface

Indonesia is one of multicultural countries in the world, it can be seen from the sociocultural condition and the geographical features of Indonesia which is very complex, various and wide. Indonesia is also a various nations because of having a number of tribes, customs, local languages and religions. The diversity in Indonesia is in all areas in Indonesia, from Sabang to Merauke.

The situation above becomes one uniqueness for Indonesia people who are united in a strength and harmony in praying also doing things which relates to the state and nation which should be done consciously. However, the heterogeneity often brings many problems and potential conflicts that lead to the disunity. This thing portrays that basically it is not easy to unite diversity without the support of public awareness of multicultural people. A variety of the cultures is a challenge and also a chance for Indonesian people. As a challenge, since if it is not well-organized and well-handled, the variety of cultures will cause a rising of social conflict. As a chance, because if the variety of cultures is guided and directed correctly will make a strength or potency in developing Indonesia itself.

Uneven development of Indonesia and mobility of people which is still growing make Indonesia should be having an intact and complete conflict picture which is sustainable over time and reviewing various dynamic conflicts that are happened in Indonesia. Moreover, the dynamic of area that might lead to the conflict, local as well as national, regional and international, need a further investigation since the position of Indonesia is so vulnerable to the dynamics of the area. The changes that occur if it is anticipated with the possibility of conflict mapping will be very useful as materials of consideration and a planning of development strategy especially in defense and security strategy.

Intensification of the conflict then can give a bad impact to the development of the country if the approach to the conflict resolution is less qualified or unable to parse the root of the real problem. The difficulty in terms of the conflict completion or conflict resolution drives the need of continuity research about alternatives to conflict resolution so that the conflict resolution process can run well. Especially Indonesia which has a very high level of heterogeneity, local mechanisms for conflict resolution or local wisdom, can also be used as an alternative solution to the conflict.

2. Research Method

The research approach used in this research is qualitative approach, a research that aims to understand the phenomenon of things experienced by the subject of the research thoroughly, and by a descriptive method in the form of words and language, in a natural and specific context and with using various scientific methods (Moleong, 2007:6). Furthermore the type of research approach of this research is descriptive; the research seeks to do a current problem solving based on the data.

3. Discussion

Analysis of conflict and after-conflict situation and condition should be dynamic as explained in the theoretical framework. Through empirical experience, conflicts can rise out of the five components. Conflicts can arise from the escalation of the conflict that is allowed to continue to rise but it can also arise from the powerful factors triggering conflict. It can also arise because of effective conflict provocateur that pursue a group becomes aggressive and easy to be triggered. Therefore perspectives used in viewing conditions and situations of conflict must be holistic and integrated in viewing the five components in this framework, because all

are mentioned as regions with low intensity of conflict such as in Bali, Bangka Belitung, Banten, Bengkulu, Gorontalo, East Java, South Kalimantan, North Kalimantan, North Maluku, West Nusa Tenggara, West Papua, Central Sulawesi, North Sulawesi, West Sumatra and South Sumatra.

Furthermore, there are three factors that cause conflict: 1) Elements of conflict triggers are factors that appear suddenly in the event of conflict, can be murder, fight, or violence. These triggering elements can be analogous to the fire which snatch and directly burn dry grass. 2) Elements of conflict accelerators are reactions that arise as a result of conflict, this reaction if it is left unchecked will continue to expand and deepen. Accelerators are catalyst to sow discord in all directions. It is analogous to the hot winds that spread the fire so the fire is more widespread. 3) The root element of conflict. The structural causes of conflict is a conflict which actually the most basic thing which is relevant with the policy of the country and global policy in accessing and controlling of resources that relates to life. Discrimination and unfair treatment. The chaos of a government in organizing the people and resources and the occurrence of crimes against humanity and corruption. It is analogous as dry grass which is flammable. These elements will be a precondition that encourages escalation of the conflict.

Thus, from the data obtained, the highest conflict in Indonesia in 2016 was still related to social issues that focus on social problems, with a percentage of 30% or 18 events. The conflict based on natural resource issues or cases of agrarian, especially in Sumatra, also shows a quite high number of events which is 15% or 11 events, followed by the conflict based on economic issues, with 10 events or 18%. DKI Jakarta is still dominant as an area that raises social and economic problems considering this area as the central government as well as a business center.

The issues above that become a conflict can occur due to a trigger such as murders, brawl between students, fights, violence and provocative actions that can be developed into a big issue because of the absence of prevention and completion by stakeholders. The conflicts mentioned above may occur because of number of structural problems in Indonesia, such as social inequality, poverty and discrimination.

Based on the data obtained, it is recorded there are five (5) highest conflict actors in Indonesia; the general people, political parties, police officers, private corporations and associations. Meanwhile, in some areas of the army, an unknown group and regional government can also trigger conflict.

Malik (2014) states that the conflict actor is a component who contributes immensely to escalate the conflict. There are three categories of actors in conflict prevention and conflict resolution; the first category is actor provocateur, this category is the main actors involved in the conflict. The actors sometimes have abnormal logic about the events that occur or factors that cause the conflict. Their abnormal logic is usually delivered in the form of distorting information. Abnormal logic about the situation which is spread without confirming by the provocateur is usually accepted without confirming by a vulnerable group which is actor in the second category. Perception of vulnerable group and the statement of provocateurs will lead to further escalation of the conflict. The third category of actors in the conflict is a functional group, this category is the group which their main responsibility is to stop the violence and prevent the spread of conflict. Based on the law, the functional actors which have responsibility to prevent and resolve the conflict are police officers and government in region and nation. Usually the functional actor failed to cut the influence of provocateurs to vulnerable groups, and late or unable to coordinate with parties concerned (stakeholders) to stop the conflict.

In a number of cases of conflict in Indonesia there are several political groups or organizations which can become provocateurs and spread abnormal issues to the vulnerable groups such as general people. The general people especially the less educated ones are categorized into vulnerable groups. Meanwhile, military, police and government are the functional actors whose job is to stop the escalation of the conflict along with NGOs and academicians. They are assigned to give an understanding to the vulnerable groups as an effort to minimize conflict. Central government as a stakeholder also plays a role in decision and policy making for conflict prevention and resolution efforts.

4. Analysis of Batam as a Representative of Indonesia

Batam is a reflection of the rapid development of Indonesia with a good development condition which also increases the population growth. The growth of Batam population is around 100.000 people per year with the migration around 65% and birth rate around 35%. (Department of Population and Civil Registration Batam). A statement that said that Batam is a miniature reflection of Indonesia is surely can be seen if Batam is heterogeneous city, the growth of population which is very rapid, the growth of economy which is quite high and lack of natural resources that starts to be felt. The rapid growth of economy in Batam causes the emergence of

urbanization that makes Batam as an urban city. This condition is really much different when Batam Island is beginning opened as a region to rival Singapore.

The conflict situation in Batam so far can be handled well. Bappeda representative in Batam, Ismiyati stated that the main conflict in Batam although exist but it can be handled well. As an industrial area, social conflicts almost never happened. However, conflict between the workers and the company, especially related to the city minimum wage (UMK) has several times happened. The conflict between the worker organization and the company about city minimum wage (UMK) generally occurs because there are differences of understanding regarding the wages.

The conflict conditions in Batam so far can be said easily-de-escalate, or can be easily handled as far as relating to social conflict. According to informants from government, the private sector, the security forces and media, social conflict can be said is not exist, however, conflict that is related to economy issue is still becoming the main problem, especially after Batam is designated as a Special Economic Zones. In this conducted research, it is concluded that the economic problems are still the root conflict which happened in Batam.

Conflict of development in Batam is currently happening because of the active interaction between various groups. However, as stated by Rudolph Napitapulu - Kakesbangpol Batam that "... considering 99% population in Batam are immigrants, also the minimal conditions of natural resources, and that can be offered is only services, so the condition of Batam should be safe, there should not be any violence, because if there is riot it means no work." Awareness of the importance of good and well-managed conflict situation makes Batam residents is quite able to manage the conflict properly so it does not cause a prolonged conflict. Building a sense of brotherhood as a fellow "strangers" makes a number of conflicts which exists are drowning out. But on the other hand, the emergence of various associations on behalf of ethnic and regional groups is also considered reducing the level of cohesiveness and a sense of unity and responsibility as residents of Batam. Inter-ethnic conflict was ever recorded occurred in 2001 between Batak people and Flores people community because of social conflict, but this case is not very long (Ismiyati: 2016).

Environmental Management Strategy in Batam is intended to 1) Increasing the supervision of environmental management in industry or business activity, 2) increasing law enforcement efforts consistently, 3) optimize infrastructure and environmental protection and management of natural environment (both laboratory and post complaints) to meet the public demand for good

and healthy environment, 4) improvement of environmental information to the public and stakeholders in protecting and managing the environment, 5) improvement of environmental studies as a reference for decision making or policy environment by using global environmental issues in order to carry out sustainable development and environment, 6) include officials for education and training that is relevant and appropriate to the needs, and 7) conduct supervision and evaluation properly.

Conflict related to labor issues has been a dynamic area of Batam especially after the enactment of Batam as a Special Economic Zone. Competition between Batam with cities in ASEAN which is also designated as Special Economic Zones should be considered by all stakeholders. The tight competition between Batam and Johor Bahru (Malaysia) lead to the relationship of investors that could cause not quite good conditions. The condition of Batam with a variety of overlapping regulations, conflicts related to land and labor make the "prestige" of Batam is going down in the eyes of investors (Candra Ju: 2016).

The problem of human trafficking is also regarded as a problem that is quite complicated which is related to human trafficking, drug couriers or other forbidden interaction. Supervision which is supported by good facilities and infrastructure is needed to be improved, especially after a few times Batam become the entrance for suspected terrorists or those who might consider as a threat related to the dynamics of regional security and also the increasing activities of ISIS in ASEAN.

Peaceful condition is absolutely needed for sustainable development. Although development condition of Batam can be said quite good as Batam has their local regulation such as Plan of Organizing Regional Area (RTRW) Batam 2004-2014 or Long and Short-Term Development Plan Batam, lack of transparency and good governance make the implementation of both regional rules were impressed as odd and overlapped jobs. This thing is caused by the existence of two institutional stakeholders in the city development, the city government and the board member of Batam.

5. Conclusion and Suggestion

Based on the data obtained and the analysis conducted in this research, it is shown that there is a change of dynamic of conflict in Indonesia between this year and the previous years (compare to Map of Conflict 2014). In this case, DKI Jakarta still seems as a province with the highest number of conflict issues in Indonesia. On the other hand, it is recorded that Papua is still

becoming an area with the most conflict issues thought the number is less than the previous year. The number of conflict issues in West Java also has decreased significantly though West Java is still in the list of ten provinces with the highest number of conflict issues in Indonesia.

Meanwhile, based on the categorization of the highest issue in Indonesia in 2016 is still related to social issues that focus on social problems, with 30% or 18 events. Conflict that is related to natural resources or agricultural cases is also high which is 15% or 11 event especially conflict in Sumatera, followed with economical conflict with 10 events or 18%.

In chronological aspect, based on the conflict data, by the conflict time, conflict trend indicates that June is a month with the highest conflict intensity since there are one significant conflict case, while August that only has one conflict case is a month with the least conflict intensity.

Furthermore for actor of conflict, it can be concluded that the highest five conflict actors in Indonesia is the general people, political parties, police officers, independent corporation and organization. While armies, unknown organization and regional government can also cause conflict in several area.

The research that is conducted in Batam also showed that peace and conflict resolution is not only about problems of national security. Peaceful condition and conflict especially in border area is really influenced by the condition of dynamic of area. As a strategic area, Batam has got a fast development when it is prepared to be a rival of Singapore. Moreover, the location of Batam is also considered important as a relation between gas and oil company and logistic both national and also international. The development in this recent decade shows that government's politic will and the good coordination are not really significant, the development which is still going well from 1970 to 1990 is defeated by anticipative local policy towards the ego-sectorial national-global development.

Regarding the conflict, Batam is very potential to have a conflict. Though it is mentioned that social conflict based on races or tribes and religion is unlikely to be happened since the heterogeneous and tolerance act is already built among the people, intergroup conflicts mainly related to economic problems seem very likely to be happened. The extreme condition like this should be supported by security and defense officers should be whole united. The officers also should be equipped with well infrastructure especially infrastructure that is related to ICT, transportation and weaponry.

6. Suggestion

6.1 Theoretical suggestion

Theoretical suggestion in this research is there is the need of improvement of the researches to do a further analysis of conflict trend in Indonesia in 2017 by adding analysis categorization so the gained result is more comprehensive. Furthermore, the further research should find another area as a main focus of research that can describe and support the result of research.

6.2 Practical suggestion

There is several practical suggestions that can be related to this research, for instance:

- 1) For the central government - Continuity of development policy is really needed to lessen the possibility of conflict. Supervision and control from central government and development direction is very crucial to give clear guidance for regional government.
- 2) For the regional government – Policy of development should be in regional side therefore there will not be any anxiety among the people. Policy of development should be supported by supportive regional rules to make sure the existence of binding basic law.
- 3) For the stakeholders – The good coordination and communication is really important to be done in term of doing early detection and prevention of conflict escalation.

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