

The Armed Conflict in Papua Regarding the Sovereignty of Republic of Indonesia

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Abstract. Indonesia is a country that cannot be separated from the nature of pluralism or the plurality of society so it is easy for conflicts to arise. The armed conflict in Papua is the desire of a group of separatists who want to liberate Papua from Indonesia. The inability of law enforcement is one of the factors that cause armed conflict in Papua to continue. First, there is a thought that Papua is left behind economically with other regions in Indonesia where Papua has natural resources and gold mining. However, in terms of economic backwardness in Papua this is also related with the uneven development of several infrastructures in Papua, the most basic of which is the armed conflict that continues to occur in Papua because at the beginning of the handover of territory by the Dutch to Indonesia there were several groups who were not satisfied with the joining of Papua with the Indonesian state.

Keywords: law enforcement; criminal law; conflict

1 Introduction

Papua, which is located in the easternmost region of the unitary Republic of Indonesia, was included in the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia on November 19, 1969, through UN resolution no. 2504. This is also an acknowledgment of the integration of Papua into Indonesia according to international law. Subsequently, Papua became a legitimate autonomous region for Indonesia in the same year through Law No. 12 of 1969 concerning the Establishment of the Autonomous Region of West Irian and the Autonomous Districts of West Irian Province. [1]

The conflict in Papua shows the emergence of a sense of nationalism as indigenous Papuans towards outsiders which is a form of political awareness of the Papuan people. According to Natalie Pigay (2001), the nationalism conflict occurred between three different groups. First, the conflict between Papuans as an indigenous ethnic group and the Dutch, which began in 1828-1962; second, the conflict between Indonesia and the Netherlands that occurred in 1946-1962; and third, the conflict between Papuans and Indonesians that occurred in 1962 until now. [2]

Conflicts in Papua occur, among others, due to several reasons that can be qualified as follows:

1. There are racial differences with the Indonesian population in general, where the race of the Papuan population, in general, is Melanesoid Papua which has dark skin color characteristics while the Indonesian population in general is Mongoloid and a small part of Veddoid, and several races from Asia, Arabia, and Europe. Racial differences

may not seem to be a problem for some people, but this race creates diversification in separatist thinking in Papua.

2. The development of the Papua region is quite slow and the distribution of welfare is lacking, this is also related to the local government's lack of attention and even in 2022, there is an astonishing thing, namely the alleged corruption committed by Lukas Enembe and Ricky Ham Pagawak as regional leaders in Papua.
3. Interventions from other countries, this has always been a hot topic of discussion, which is one of the reasons for the birth of the idea of separatism in Papua. It is undeniable that Papua is an island full of natural resources, namely: gold, forests, and so on, this causes foreign "interested" parties to always intervene in creating or maintaining conflicts that occur in Papua.
4. The basic idea that Papua should be independent of Indonesia, this thought has arisen since the PEPERA (Public Opinion Determination/PEPERA) was conducted. Through the PEPERA in 1969, in general, the Papuan people chose to "remain" in the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia.

Their dissatisfaction was strengthened by the signing of a mining contract between the Government of Indonesia and Freeport America. This triggers the disappointment and anger of the affected indigenous peoples because their customary lands are controlled by foreigners. This is further exacerbated by the injustice of their economic welfare, infrastructure, and human resources even though their customary land has been destroyed and turned into one of the largest mines in the world with a very large income.

Although the anger that exists in some Papuans has not subsided, and the problems that have occurred have not been resolved, the Government of Indonesia is trying persuasively to improve human resources in Papua by providing scholarships and sending young Papuans to study in Java. However, instead of getting better, this is a disappointment for Papuan students in Java because they have witnessed for themselves how rapidly the infrastructure, economy, and technology of the island of Java are inversely proportional to their hometown, not to mention the problem of racism experienced by some Papuan students. in Java which occurred in 2019 in Surabaya and Malang.

As is known, riots broke out in Manokwari, West Papua, Monday, August 19, 2019. The crowd burned the Manokwari DPRD building and several public facilities. Not only in Manokwari, but demonstrations also took place in Jayapura, Papua. [3]

Problem Formulation

1. What are the possible solutions to the problem of armed conflict in Papua?
2. What is the form of armed conflict in Papua?

2 Findings and Discussion

1. Resolving the Problem of the Armed Conflict in Papua

The Indonesian government realizes that natural resources and mining in Papua are important assets of the Indonesian state, so to avoid increasing the strength of the separatist rebellion, it is necessary to strengthen the values of Pancasila and the state from an early age so that the seeds of a rebellion mindset can be prevented or even eliminated. must go hand in hand with the welfare of the Papuan people.

In solving problems in Papua where people are increasingly carried away by armed conflict from separatist groups who reject Indonesia as their country and the alleged intervention of other countries, a comprehensive approach is needed, in this case, the author provides several kinds of solutions that can be taken by the Government in resolving armed conflicts. in Papua, as follows:

- [1] Law enforcement, law enforcement should be a preventive measure, therefore it is necessary to introduce laws that apply to the Papuan people in particular and Indonesia in general. Law enforcement has the principle of equality before the law, which means that everyone is equal in the eyes of the law so that the law can reach both horizontal and vertical aspects of the hierarchy of society. Hence, the community can participate both supportively and passively in assisting the law enforcement process and avoiding other forms of obstruction of justice if there is a crime committed by the regional government in Papua,
- [2] It is undeniable that the armed conflict in Papua is allegedly caused by the intervention of other countries, therefore the Indonesian government in overcoming this intervention must improve the human structure and building structure. Starting from the improvement of the human structure/human structure is the most important thing in preventing the intervention of other countries, the author believes that the most powerful filter in preventing intervention from entering Papua is the Papuan people themselves, therefore "good propaganda", an example of the application of good propaganda is "Two examples of propaganda include the Uncle Sam army recruitment posters from World War I or the Rosie the Riveter poster from World War II. Both examples use symbols to represent strength and a sense of urgency as they encourage United States citizens to join the war effort" [4]

Building Structure is also an important aspect in preventing the intervention of other countries in Papua. The "Whispers" which include the thought that if Papua liberates itself will become more advanced and prosperous than it is today, are the original enemies in the Papuan armed conflict, the presence of these whisperers arises because of the uneven structure of development and economic prosperity in Papua, even fuel oil in Papua is more expensive than other regions in Indonesia. The author believes that with the improvement of the Building's Structure, the "whisperers" can be automatically rejected by the Papuan people.

- [3] It is necessary to make military efforts but accurately and efficiently with intelligence and a code of silence to find out where the firearms used by members of the separatist rebels (KKB) come from, and where their military budgets come from, as well as whether there is intervention from other countries and leaders. -character. However, if you only use this effort, the problem of armed conflict in Papua has been resolved long ago. The author, in this case, proposes a resolution to take the hearts of the members of the United Nations and provide an understanding that the actions taken by the Indonesian security forces (TNI and POLRI) are to maintain stability and security. in Papua, so that the UN does not only view that the Indonesian government has violated Human Rights.

2. Separatism and Armed Conflict in Papua

Understanding Conflict According to Taquiri in Newstrom and Davis (1977), conflict is a legacy of social life that may occur in various circumstances as a result of the emergence of a state of disagreement, controversy, and conflict between two or more parties continuously. [5]

Separatism is an idea or activity that advocates the separation of a group or territorial unit from a state (state), state institution, or larger group, usually in the form of autonomy or independence. Examining the complex relationship between the intensity of separatism and its goals and motivations across national lines or within individual countries is one of the main lines of inquiry in the social sciences. Systematic analyzes of this phenomenon are available in political science, sociology, anthropology, social psychology, and geography. [6]

The separatist movement in Papua has existed since the "PEPERA" / Act of free choices of free which was organized by the United Nations, then from those who were dissatisfied with the PEPERA formed a separatist movement and introduced themselves as the Free Papua Organization (OPM), which is then often also called the Armed Criminal Group (KKB).

The KKB often commit extraordinary crimes, namely murder and other crimes against humans, this is certainly contrary to their initial idea of establishing a state.

This heinous act carried out by the KKB was very disturbing, even on July 16, 2022, 10 residents were killed, one of which was the priest Eliaser Baye who died as a result of being attacked by the Armed Criminal Group (KKB) in Nonggoloit Village, Nduga, Papua, Saturday (16/7). morning local time. Two other residents were injured in the attack. [7]

This crime has happened many times and does not look at the race or origin of the victim, but the question is why the UN seems to be silent without taking any action, and the ineffectiveness of law enforcement actions carried out by security forces in Indonesia. Is there a reason that the Indonesian government seems slow and inefficient in eradicating KKB?

In eradicating KKB, the author believes that several reasons make law enforcement slow and inefficient, for the following reasons:

1. The terrain/geographical conditions of the land of Papua are very influential in the law enforcement process, there are still many areas in the form of forests, mountains, and organized KKB actions in conducting guerrillas.
2. Community understanding that when assisting law enforcement officers, their lives and property are at stake. Hence, it is quite difficult to obtain information on the existence of KKB because people are afraid to provide information, as well as the location of KKB which often moves from place to place.
3. Political elements and their relation to human rights, many think that the Indonesian military and police are strong enough and respected in Asia and the world, only deploying troops in a repressive and massive way might solve the KKB problem. However, this triggers the attention of the World (UN) in which the KKB group is not only in Papua but also conducts political guerrillas and calls for the "Free Papua Movement" in various countries. Hence, countries with an interest in Papua will contribute to clouding the atmosphere by interfering in Papua-related affairs.

3 Conclusion

1. Armed conflict in Papua is a complicated problem that can not only be solved by repressive actions by law enforcement officers against the KKB. Also, it is by actions to improve the Human Structure and Building Structure in Papua so that the satisfaction and welfare of the Papuan people. it will naturally lead to a sense of nationalism and legal awareness that increases along with the increase in people's welfare.
2. Separatism in the ideology of the KKB in Papua is a form of accumulation of a sense of wanting to rebel, a sense of wanting to use natural resources independently,

a sense of dissatisfaction with the performance of the Indonesian government, a sense of being alienated from the Indonesian state, as well as the existence of political impulses both from within and from outside. In order to prevent this separatism from remaining fertile in the land of Papua, it is possible to investigate and stop the smuggling of weapons supplied to the KKB and stop the food supply route which is the main need for the KKB.

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