1-30-2018

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Recommended Citation

Wirantoko, Dodik and Wahyudi, Bambang (2018) "Counter Narrative Strategy of Terrorism Mitigation National Agency in Preventing Terrorism through Online Media," *Journal of Strategic and Global Studies*: Vol. 1 : No. 1 , Article 4.

DOI: 10.7454/jsgs.v1i1.1003

Available at: <https://scholarhub.ui.ac.id/jsgs/vol1/iss1/4>

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Counter Narrative Strategy of Terrorism Mitigation National Agency in Preventing Terrorism through Online Media

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ABSTRACT

The spread of terrorist radicalism could not be stopped by government and various related agencies' policy with their decisive actions such as blocking the sites, blogs, accounts, or even arresting the site or account owner. The explicit approach through legal enforcement is very important, however it needs integrative effort through collaboration of soft approach such as counter-narrative efforts which applied by BNPT in order to get the core of problem. This research attempts to analyze counternarrative effort held by BNPT through counter-narrative theory of Sarah Zeiger (2016) in preventing the spread of terrorism through online media. This research used qualitative descriptive method such as literature review and in-depth interview with numbers of figures from BNPT and the experts. The results of study found that monitoring through online media needs to be done at any time as an early detection process in order to obtain accurate information of potential terrorism spreading which is mostly representing ideology and religion. The counter-narrative strategy is carried out through two approaches, first through online on BNPT's website and second through offline by conducting direct meeting with audience in form of socialization, workshop and training. Furthermore, all components of society needs to be involved especially the audience as media community. The number of counter-narrative strategy for audience in responding the potential threat of radical terrorism through BNPT's site is relatively small compared with number of internet users. However, together with the strengthening of national insight, diversity and love for Indonesia through counter-narrative could contribute more for National Resilience.

Keywords: Counter Narrative Strategy, Prevention, Terrorism, online media, and National Resilience.

1. Introduction

Online media has a significant impact on human life, both positively and negatively. Positive impact occur when online media is used for the benefit of the society, and on the contrary it can also cause a negative impact when it is used as a means of creating damage in the environment. The presence of online media (internet) can be very dangerous when exploited by the terrorist group, it can serve as an effective way in enhancing propaganda, network construction and new recruitment facilities. The process of disseminating activities of terrorist groups in the community such as propaganda, new members recruitment, funding support, logistical support, training, unlawful paramilitary formation, planning, implementation of terrorist attacks and hideouts that can be grouped within terrorist main activities. Previously the activities was done conventionally, however it can now be easily done through the presence of online media such as

sites (websites), youtube and other social media networks (Golose, 2015: 34-37). Activities undertaken by terrorists both individually and in groups aim to defend and build terrorist organizations or groups or networks to promote the ideology of terrorism, spread fear or terror, and impose the goal of terrorism through violence.

Gabriel Weimann in his research pointed out that the development of websites owned by terrorist radical groups always increase from year to year. Data shows that in 1998 radical terrorism group had only 12 sites, which further increased in 2003 as many as 2,650 sites. In 2014 radical terrorism groups have been identified by managing over 9800 sites. With the massive use of online media for terrorism act caused by sophisticated and convenience facilities possessed by the media, such as the absence of clear government controls and regulations regarding internet usage, online media capabilities in reaching a wide audience, can be accessed anonymously, information can be distributed rapidly, it can be used for media interaction, cheap in creating and maintaining the site, multimedia and internet become the source of media mainsream (Weimann, 2006).

Therefore, one of the most perceived impacts of internet users in Indonesia today is the alleged influence of violence and terrorism act as a result of websites with hate speech, hostility, sedition, violence and other negative issues potentially dividing the nation and destroying people's mindset. Narratives or messages containing ideas and ideologies submitted via the website by terrorist groups will then be disseminated by utilizing social media networks such as youtube, twiter, facebook, blogs and other media accounts.

Online media is one of the effective technique used by radical terrorists as an instrument to promote their message, propaganda and member recruitment, in this case the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) militant group in 2014. Based on a study by the Brookings Institution, there are at least 46,000 twitter accounts expressed in association with ISIS supporters by the end of 2014 with ISIS accounts on average having more than 1000 followers (Antaranews.com, 2015). In addition to twitter, youtube also became an important arena for ISIS in spreading their existence and power to the whole world through videos with violent nuance, sadism, successful attack and threats propagated to those considered opponents. So as a result the internet media contains full narratives nuance of sedition, hatred, and violence. With the massive sites that contain radical narratives will potentially create online radicalization of internet users, especially youth groups as the main target of terrorist groups. One certainly does not immediately become radical and to arrive at a radical stage, one will go through a process.

The impacts resulting from these acts of terrorism are complex, ranging from the political, social, economic and security fields. The existence of radical movements of terrorism cause nothing but a major problem for a country. Political instability can happen even to the sovereignty of the nation itself. On the other hand, the community as the main component in a nation experiences concerns about security in the society. So in the end terrorism is really a big issue and will always affect the ideological resilience of a nation, political security, defense and security that impact on national resilience.

Given the increasingly massive movements and actions of terrorist radical groups in spreading provocation and propaganda through the online media, it is questionable to what extent the counter-narrative strategy undertaken by the National Agency for Combating Terrorism (BNPT) as an effort to prevent the spread of terrorism through online media. So it is interesting to investigate whether the strategy of counter-narration conducted BNPT is in accordance with the provisions in overcoming the spread of terrorism through online media.

2. Literature Review

In a crime prevention strategy, in this context is the effort of coping with terrorism (as a form of crime), according to Beatrice de Graaf (2010: 18), "Terrorism is the theater, Brian M. Jenkins observed in the 1970s. The same holds true for counterterrorism. The public forum is the stage, and government, political parties, civil society, media, and citizens are all actors, performing one role or another." (Terrorism is a theater, as Brian M. Jenkins observes on 1970. The same thing also happened to counterterrorism, the public forum is the stage, and governments, political parties, the media, and society are actors that influence and influence each other). Beatrice de Graaf's opinion attaches that in dealing with the problem of terrorism, there is a need for synergy between several related stakeholders such as government, political parties, media, and society. Related to prevention effort of terrorism by BNPT in the form of counter-narrative strategy through online media, it is also necessary for cross institutional cooperation. Thus, the existence of coordination efforts and cooperation with other institutions in implementing counter terrorism is a thing in accordance with the theory Beatrice de Graaf.

Meanwhile, according to W.D. Casebeer and J.A. Russell (2005: 1-16), "The terrorist is a performer. Yet counterterrorism too is about performance: it involves not only target hardening, surveillance, prevention and pursuit. The terrorist is a player, but counter-terrorism is also an action: the terrorist is a player, which involves not only increasingly difficult targets, surveillance,

prevention, and pursuits. This effort also includes against the making of images and stories or propaganda that the "Western" State seeks to change the cultural, religious, or ethnic minorities. Terrorist efforts that launch images, stories, and propaganda have adapted to online media usage, so that

A counter-narrative strategy is used to find out the best position to convey a good message from a good key point to the effectiveness of a counter-narrative strategy. According to Richardson, an effective counterterrorism strategy goal is not only limited to terrorist eradication, but also the prevention of acts of terrorism (Richardson, 2006: 6). So for the effectiveness of the implementation of the counter-narrative strategy, it is necessary to address not only those vulnerable to extremist messages, but also people on the road to radicalization and those who are already radicalized (Jacobson, 2010: 75).

In compiling counter-narrative feuds there are four main activities that must be undertaken, among them are (Jacobson, 2010: 75): 1) Destructive or undermining the authority and legitimacy of terrorist leadership, 2) Highlighting the suffering of civilians and Muslims in the hands of terrorists, 3) Highlighting the hypocrisy of terrorist narratives and portraying terrorists as criminals and 4) Focusing on life as a terrorist.

The definition of terrorism conveyed by P. Reihard Golose, ie any action that is against the law by widely spread to the community with threats or violence, whether organized or not, and cause the result of physical and / or psychological suffering in prolonged time so categorized as acts extraordinary crime and crime against humanity (Golose, 2010: 8). Meanwhile, according to Tb. Ronny Rahman Nitibaskara the definition of terrorism is the use of violence systematically for the purpose of spreading fear among the wider community. (Nitibaskara in Erlangga Masdiana, 2006: ix)

Online media is any type or format of media that can only be accessed via the Internet which contains text, photos, video, and sound. Online media is also interpreted as a means of online communication such as email, mailing list (mills), websites, blogs, whatsapp, and other social media (Syamsul., 2012: 34). The peculiar concept of online media is related to media in the context of mass communication. Where mass in the field of mass communication science has certain characteristics, such as publicity and periodicity.

Online media is seen as a new way of communicating. Gilmor (2004: 25) suggests that if the current pattern of communication consists of one-to-many or from one source to many audiences (such as books, radio, magazines, newspapers and TV), and patterns from one source to one audiences or one-to-one (such as calls and letters), then the communication patterns existing in online media can be many-to-many and few-to-few. Communication that occurs in essence occurs because there is a computer connection device with other computer devices. The term is known as 'internet', which connects (interconnected) computers globally.

The meaning of the national weakness defined by Lemhanas (based on Ministerial Decree of the Minister of Defense / Sanctionary of SKEP / XII / 1975) is a dynamic condition of the nation containing tenacity and toughness which contains the ability of developing national power in dealing with and overcoming all threats, challenges, obstacles, and disturbances coming from outside as well as from within the country, which directly and indirectly endangers the integrity, identity, survival of the nation and state and the goals of national struggle (Sunardi, 2004: 3-4).

In another sense, National Resilience (Tannas) is a dynamic condition of a nation, full of tenacity and resilience to develop national strength in dealing with ATHG (Threats, Challenges, Constraints, and Disturbances) both from within and from abroad. Accessible as two places with two sides of security (security) and prosperity (prosperity), which can run in accordance between the welfare and security owned by a democratic society (Usman, 2003: 93)

In connection with the spread of terrorism through online media (internet) in order to gain the greatest support in performing their actions / activities on internet from the users who are mostly young age groups, which is a threat, challenge, obstacle and disturbance that matter of increase of national resilience itself. In Indonesia many cases of terrorism acts has occurred and for now in Indonesia is still not eradicated. The act of terrorism creates a national threat that is a structured effort through various aspects of life and / or transnational crime that is predicted to endanger the order and interests of the nation and state. Terrorism crimes are committed in various physical and mental forms, within national and international scope.

3. Research Methodology

This research is conducted by using qualitative descriptive method, that is to describe thoroughly, broadly and deeply, and using inductive method that is based on facts found in the field then constructed into hypothesis or theory. In qualitative research, researchers prefer the

process of the results by focusing on the process of data collection and data analysis in building a concept, hypothesis and theory in detail.

The analytical unit used in this research is the National Agency for Combating Terrorism (BNPT) in the Sentul-Bogor region, the positions or the competent person in the counter-narrative strategy as part of prevention and prevention efforts against the spread of terrorism through online media. As well as involving other resource persons who are competent outside BNPT such as informants from Kemenkominfo, BAIS and academics.

4. Results and Discussion

Early detection process that can be done by BNPT in this case Media Center of Peace (PMD) to potential spread of terrorism through online media, that is by doing supervision or monitoring at any time to sites, blogs or social media potentially contain messages or radical narrative. Monitoring of activities, instruments and messages (content) spread by radical terrorism groups in online media is done by monitoring, analyzing the trend of pattern and characteristic of all forms of radical propaganda and radical terrorism, that is by gathering good information originating from the site and personal.

Another action taken by BNPT in the effort to strengthen the activities of counter-narrative, namely by involving all components of society with various educational background, profession and age are considered to have an important role in prevention and early detection of potential terrorism. The involvement of all components of the community both in the city center and in the region is done by BNPT in the form of dialogue, seminars, workshops, trainings and other activities in order to actively participate in building counter-narration either through online or offline media. Prevention of terrorism in the form of counter-narrative that is form of offline media is to meet directly with the various components of society in the city center and area is an effective activity. Direct meetings are held in the form of dialogues, seminars, workshops, trainings and other activities to assist and support the writing of positive messages or narrations. So from the writing of the narrative will dissebarluaskan by BNPT either through online media and offline media as an effort to straighten and weaken the radical narratives spread by radical terrorism group.

In essence, the prevention of terrorism is so complex that it takes cross-sectoral handling and various stakeholders in accordance with their duties and functions. Through the strengthening of institutional synergicity by BNPT is very necessary, as well as the synergicity of BNPT with

17 agencies / ministries in the effort to prevent terrorism. One of them is the prevention of terrorism through the online media, which must include Kemenkominfo (ministries of communication and information) as a regulatory body / agency in the field of information and communication, so prevention is no longer done in a sectoral manner. As in this case delivered by Deputy Redpel PMD - BNPT. Institutions or organizations that are closely linked to BNPT's performance against terrorism prevention efforts are realized by the synergy of the web or sites of several organizations and individuals through peaceful sites or portals owned by BNPT. The synergy of this website or website aims to create a balanced and coordinated media and counter-denial of inciting information, creating hatred, violence and radical terrorism. As one of the synergicity or cooperation between BNPT and religious leaders in a religious organization such as MUI, Muhammadiyah, NU and others can help convey the enlightenment of true religious issues through online media. The enlightenment of religious matters can be conveyed in the form of comparative or rectifying narratives that tend to be exploited by terrorist radical groups in spreading misleading religious and misleading provocations.

The pattern of recruitment applied by the spreaders of terrorism-based websites is generally targeted at internet users who are not well educated. This is evident from the site address used is not clear and is a free site. If someone knows well related to information literacy from the internet, of course blogspot address or wordpress will not be a reference in getting information. Thus, it is likely that only people who do not know or have not understood the problem of information literacy taking information from these non-payment sites. Recruiting such a society is not difficult because internet users in Indonesia are very numerous, based on data from the Association of Internet Service Providers Indonesia (APJII), the number of Internet users in Indonesia in 2016 is as many as 132.7 million users or about 51.5% of the total population of Indonesia 256.2 million. But who has understood the problem of site literacy and information on the internet is very little. Visitors to this radical site can of course be recruited and propaganda in accordance with the purpose of the creator of the site. Thus it becomes a threat for Indonesia if the actors who want to spread terrorism are able to recruit less educated followers through online media.

Based on the number of website visitors graph (website) at <http://jalandami.org> run by PMD-BNPT themed ideology with one of the titles "Pancasila And Nationalism, Breathe With Islamic Theology" as a counter-narrative site displayed between April 2016 until March 2017 with a total visitor count of 99 audiences and an average reading duration of 5'33 ". The number of visitors each month varied, where the largest number of visitors in October 2016 as many as 32

audiences with average opening / reading ranges from 5'25 ". This shows the presence of awareness and response from the audience on the theme of ideology of the Indonesian nation, namely Pancasila which is served by BNPT.

Based on the number of website visitors graph at <http://jalandami.org> run by PMD-BNPT under the heading "Learning from Jihad and Hero of KiaiAs'ad" as a counter-narrative site on jihad issues narrowed down by radical terrorism groups. This counter narrative site is displayed from April 2016 to March 2017 with a total audience of 75 audiences and an average reading duration of 2'56 ". The number of visitors each month varied, where the largest number of visitors in November 2016 as much as 68 audiences with average opening / reading time ranges from 2'43 ". It also shows the concern and response of the target audience to the theme of the real jihad issue conveyed by BNPT.

Faced entirely with aspects from all counter narrative material submitted on the site <http://jalandamai.org> as many as 2455 titles with various site addresses as many as 349 reference urls (reference site), displayed from March 2015 to March 2017 based on statistical graphs PMD-BNPT through the site www.histats.com/viewstats currently has a total of 270,924 visitors and 221,075 new visitors. This indicates a sufficient number can represent the target audience in responding and caring about the potential threat of radical terrorism in cyberspace, although the number is still low according to author analysis when faced with the number of internet users today is 132.7 million audience in 2016 or about 51.5% of the total 256.2 million population of Indonesia based on survey results Association of Internet Service Providers Indonesia (APJII).

The strengthening of nationalism, diversity and belief in NKRI becomes very important as part of terrorism prevention strategy through counter-narrative effort which is conveyed through online media to fortify society especially young generation group from radical terrorism aspect. So that the strategy of preventing terrorism through counter-narrative efforts with the content of nationalism can contribute greatly to National Resilience. BNPT persistence and persistence in developing counter-narrative program with messages or discourses that lead to nationality, diversity and love of NKRI which must be reappointed in order to stem the discourse and narrative of terrorist radical groups.

5. Conclusion

Early detection efforts include: 1) monitoring activities on radical propaganda and radical ideology of terrorism as an effort to prevent the development of radical terrorism ideology propaganda through online media, 2) monitoring radical sites at any time through the media center; and 3) monitor at all times the proliferation of youthful ages of online media through a graphical display maintained by the media center. Monitoring through online media needs to be done at any time (real time) with the aim of obtaining accurate information related to the potential spread of radicalism of terrorism. After carrying out early detection efforts, effective preventive measures conducted in the context of online media are: proposals from BNPT through Kemenkominfo to give warning to site owners to improve their narrative or radical messages and include suggesting blocking of sites that still display radical messages. Control and resistance or counter in the form of literacy and counter radical book. Kominfo together with ICT volunteers build and encourage people to get good information. Preventive action can be undertaken jointly and by anyone such as BNPT, mass organizations, religion, politics, other government agencies, and the community itself. In terms of technology for effective preventive measures is by filtering all internet sites to a more positive, and Kemenkominfo provide whitelist so that internet sites that should not be accessible not contained in the whitelist. Blocking or closing of radical sites which is the authority of Kemenkominfo. This action is also not fully effective because it is only temporary. These sites may appear in the future with different IP addresses.

Every content development and counter-narrative material logic follows the similar structure and logic of the terrorist narrative itself. The material and logical formulation is a positive narrative (peace narrative), strategic counter-narrative, ideological and religious counter-narrative, tactical counter-narrative. BNPT also conducts offline radical terrorism prevention through film, tite (video), print media, and face-to-face or socialization to various regions in order to provide information on terrorism prevention. The media (platform) used by BNPT in the dissemination of messages / narratives both online and offline has adapted to the platforms used by the general audience. Dissemination of the material / narration is done according to the development schedule of radical issues / themes of terrorism at that time. The contra narrative material is adapted to the theme or radical theoretical issues based on the results of monitoring / monitoring either automatically by the search engine (search engine) or manually by BNPT analysts.

In relation to the total of counter narrative material submitted on the website <http://jalandamai.org> as many as 2,455 titles by using the site address as many as 349 url (site address) reference (reference). Based on the PMD-BNPT statistics chart from March 2015 to March 2017, through the site www.histats.com/viewstats the number of visitors is 270,924 visitors and the number of new visitors is 221,075 visitors. This amount can adequately represent the target audience in responding and caring about the potential threat of radical terrorism in cyberspace. Although the number is still low according to the author's analysis when faced with the current number of internet users which amounted to 132.7 million audies in 2016 or about 51.5% of the total population of Indonesia which add up to 256.2 million based on survey results Association of Internet Service Providers Indonesia APJII). For the sake of effectiveness and efficiency, BNPT must establish cooperation with other government and non-governmental institutions that have the tasks and functions of preventing radicalism and terrorism. Government agencies are Ministry of Religious Affairs, Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, Ministry of Communication and Information, Ministry of Manpower, Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Youth and Sport, PPATK, TNI and Polri. While non-governmental organizations include Muhammadiyah, NU, Komnas HAM, and include FKPT in 32 Provinces which are strategic partners of BNPT. FKPT consists of academics and governmental elements, especially Kesbangpol, youth organization and religious element, and has its own mechanism.

Actions to neutralize radical understandings that have spread in the online media, can be done with approaches such as, religious approach, national insight approach, and economic approach. Give priority to the correct narrative of religious understanding through the media. Then, others through the insight of nationalism, and Pancasila education. The development of a large and integrated database system throughout Indonesia, as an early detection to monitor the spread of radicalism of terrorism through online mediation. Maximizing the synergy of BNPT with all components of the community, especially the audience of the internet world as part of the community media community in the effort to prevent terrorism through online media in Indonesia.

Enhance humanist communication and mutual trust between government and society in the effort to face the threat of radical terrorism groups especially in the online media. Optimizing the feedbacks from media communities in Indonesia in order to enrich the counter-narrative discourse both online and offline through terrorism prevention strategies.

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