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THE THREAT OF ECONOMIC RECESSION AND ITS IMPACT ON GLOBAL TERRORISM

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**THE THREAT OF ECONOMIC RECESSION AND ITS IMPACT ON GLOBAL
TERRORISM**

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Abstract

World economic growth in 2020 is predicted to experience a recession as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. One of the effects of the economic recession is the threat to global security stability, especially terrorism will flourish. This research aims to analyze the impact of the threat of the economic recession of 2020 on the development of a global terrorism network. The method used in this research is an explorative descriptive qualitative method using data collection techniques namely observation and literature study. The results of this study conclude that the potential for the economic recession of 2020 which threatens many countries in the world can be a determinant factor in strengthening the global terrorism network. For the Indonesian context, the Jamaah Islamiah (JI) group, which since the emergence of ISIS chose to become a sleeping cell, with the collapse of ISIS in mid-2019 and supported by economic recession conditions, will make JI freer to rebuild its organization. To anticipate the condition of the strengthening of the global terrorism network, the Indonesian government can make several efforts, including strengthening the cooperation of the government and the community to close the gaps of the possibility of terrorist groups opening a jihad front in Indonesia, because, with the death of al-Baghdadi, ISIS groups will almost certainly leave from the land of Syria and Iraq, and need another earth to serve as a new foothold for jihad. The government must also realize justice because terrorists often make the issue of injustice a medium for mobilizing global and regional terrorism networks. Also, the Indonesian government together with leaders and international organizations, including the United Nations (UN), should enhance intelligence cooperation by also involving the public and private sector.

Keyword: *Economic recession, Covid-19 Pandemic, Global Terrorism, Jamaah Islamiah (JI)*

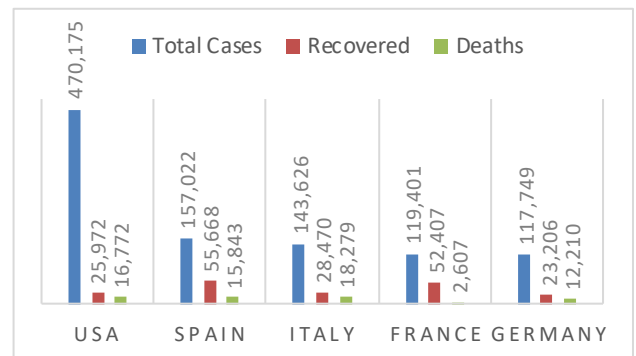
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BACKGROUND

Covid-19 pandemic which hit many countries in the world in early 2020 became a nightmare for the economic sector both in terms of trade, investment, and tourism. Hopes for economic improvement in 2020 after an agreement between the United States and China the first phase on January 15, 2020 to stop the trade war between the two countries as if it was the only hope. If in the 2009 economic crisis the source was from the financial sector, this time the crisis threat came from the health and public security sector due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Based on data from Worldometers until 10 April 2020, as many as 210 countries in the world were hit by the Covid-19 pandemic. The total positive cases of Covid-19 worldwide have touched 1,625,213 patients, claimed 87,298 lives, and 366,444 survived. This data is still dynamic, can be increased. Of the 210 countries hit by the Covid-19 pandemic, the United States, Spain, Italy, Germany, and France have the highest number of cases in the world (www.worldometers.info).

Figure 1: Covid-19 cases in the world (10 April 2020)



Source: Worldometers, 2020

Indonesia as one of the countries affected by this disaster, according to data from Worldometers until 10 April 2020 the number of infected people reached 3,512 patients. Up to 282 patients recovered and 306 died, and it is estimated that it will continue to grow (www.worldometers.info).

Before the coming of the Covid-19 outbreak, the world economy was expected to experience a recession, with current conditions, could further accelerate these estimates. Because, China as a large world producer, with the current weakening of China due to Covid-19, countries that depend on China's commodity trade will be disrupted economic growth.¹

¹ Many countries depend on commodity export to China. Exporting countries to China will experience a decline in income, while importing countries from China will experience raw

Indonesia, which has been dependent on China, especially in the manufacturing sector, according to the estimation of the Indonesian Minister of Finance Sri Mulyani, as a result of the Covid-19 outbreak, Indonesia's economic growth projection is around 2.3 percent, even the worst scenario of Indonesia's economic growth is minus up to 0.4 percent (Wicaksono, 2020). According to the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Kristalina Georgieva, as a result of Covid-19, it is estimated that one-third of the 189 IMF member countries will be affected and the impact of global economic growth in 2020 will be below the 2.9 percent level (Dewi, 2020).

material difficulties. Chinese exports in the first two months of 2020 fell 17.2 percent, higher than previously thought. A decrease of 17.2 percent in nominal US dollars was recorded higher than previously estimated by analysts. On the other hand, imports to China recorded a decline of around 4 percent in the same period. Commodity imports rose driven by soybean purchases which rose 14.2 percent, iron ore rose 1.5 percent, coal rose 33.1 percent, and liquefied natural gas rose 2.8 percent. The overall trade balance fell to a deficit of US \$ 7.1 billion for the first two months (Sudarwan, 2020).

The Economist also predicts economic growth for all G-20 member countries.² As a result, Covid-19 brought almost all G20 countries to the brink of recession. More than half of the countries included in the G-20 ranks are predicted to experience negative economic growth. The Economist's data shows that only three G-20 countries are predicted to still show positive economic growth throughout 2020, namely China, India and Indonesia (Ulya, 2020). The three countries are predicted to still experience positive growth.³

² G-20 or 20 major economic groups are a group of 19 countries with large economies in the world plus the European Union. The G-20 is officially called The Group of Twenty (G-20) Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors or the Group of Twenty Ministers of Finance and Central Bank Governors. Members of the G-20, namely, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, and the European Union.

³ As a result of Covid-19, it is estimated that China's economic growth will be at 1 percent by 2020, from a previous estimate of 5.9 percent. While India, GDP in 2020 was 2.1 percent from the previous estimate of 6.9 percent. While Indonesia's real GDP in 2020 is at 1 percent, from a previous estimate, predicted to grow 5.1 percent.

An economic recession occurs if the economic condition of a country has reached a negative number in two consecutive quarters. Citing the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) in general, a recession occurs when the country enters a period of collapse in economic activity, spread across all economic sectors, and has been going on for more than a few months, generally more than 3 months (Idris, 2020).

The economic recession has hit several countries in the world. In 2019, there were recorded several countries that have faced a storm of recession, including, Turkey, Mexico, Hong Kong, and Venezuela. Vulnerable in 2008-2009 some European countries also experienced a storm of recession.⁴ In 2010 Thailand also experienced a recession. Indonesia itself experienced a severe recession in 1998 (Idris, 2020).

If the economic recession will occur in 2020, based on the data, facts and predictions above as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, one of the impacts is the threat to the stability of global

⁴ The economic crisis hit the European Union countries in 2008-2009. This crisis resulted in at least 17 countries in the region entering a recession, some of which were Greece, France, Portugal, the Republic of Cyprus, Spain, Ireland, and Italy.

security, especially terrorism will flourish. According to Fatkhuri (2012) citing Gottlieb (2009) that in the theory of liberal economics, every individual has the motivation to live materially well (material well-being), then those who are socio-economically experiencing misery (distress) and deprivation) will tend to act radically, and it is likely to use violent means including violent terrorist movements (Fatkhuri, 2012: 08).

In line with Gottlieb's view, Hippel (2009) also argues that poverty will make it easy for someone to act radically and carry out acts of terror, because they are interested in getting charity from other parties (Fatkhuri, 2012: 09).⁵ On the other hand, according to the Director of the Deradicalization of the National Counterterrorism Agency (BNPT) Prof. Dr. Irfan Idris MA, radicalism that occurred in Indonesia as a result of

⁵ Hippel (2009) provides an example that some Islamic groups and political parties, including the al-Qaeda movement, can widen their influence only by assisting the poor. Hippel (2009) pointed out the fact that several terrorist movements in Pakistan and Afghanistan developed their movements by providing direct assistance to the poor and it was evident that several people who carried out suicide bombings came from poor families.

poverty, injustice or disappointment (Avalokita, 2015). Prof. Opinion Irfan Idris was strengthened by the results of Djelantik's (2006) research in West Java. The results of the research stated that one of the factors supporting radicalism and terrorism is due to public dissatisfaction with government policies that are not fair to the ordinary people.

Terrorism is not born from a single factor, many factors accompany it. For example in the case of Charlie Hebdo terrorism in Paris, France in November 2015, the world public was still presented with the mainstream and monolithic views of world leaders voiced by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu that the cause of the terrorist acts was related to radical Islam (Rohman, Syaiful & Nurhasanah, Siti, 2019). Though several studies and studies of terrorism experts show that the main root of the birth of terrorism is economic-social and political injustice (Irawan, 2019)

Based on the background of this study, this study aims to analyze the impact of the threat of the economic recession of 2020 on the development of a global terrorism network.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Economic Recession

Recession is a macroeconomic term that refers to a significant decline in economic activity after two consecutive quarters of decline, which is reflected in Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The decline usually impacts five economic indicators, namely real GDP, income, employment, manufacturing and retail sales (www.wartaekonomi.co.id). Recession is also defined as a condition where GDP has decreased or real economic growth has a negative value for two consecutive quarters or more than one year (id.wikipedia.org)

A country will experience an economic recession if several indicators are found, including, slow or declining economic growth for two consecutive quarters (six months),⁶ high inflation or deflation,⁷ the value of imports is greater

⁶ Economic growth is used as a benchmark in determining the good and bad conditions of a country's economy. This economic growth refers to national income (GDP / GDP) which is the total amount of consumption, investment, government spending, and exports (minus the value of imports).

⁷ High inflation means that the price of production and commodities become expensive so that it cannot be reached by the community, especially for the lower middle class. Besides, high

than the value of exports,⁸ high unemployment rate,⁹ and the imbalance between production and consumption (*koinworks.com*).¹⁰

Among the factors causing the recession are as follows (*www.simulasikredit.com*): First, inflation. Inflation is triggered by rising production costs, higher energy costs, and national debt. Second, the loss of confidence in the investment. The loss of confidence in investing results in slowing economic growth, the impact of the unemployment rate will increase.

deflation can also cause an economic recession. Commodity prices that dropped dramatically can affect the level of income and profits of the company. Until in the end, the company suffered losses due to production costs that are not covered.

⁸ For the stability of the country's economy, lest import activities are greater than exports because it could risk a deficit in the country's budget, so that national income will eventually decline.

⁹ A country with a high unemployment rate could be indicated to experience a recession shortly.

¹⁰ If a high amount of production is not followed by a high amount of consumption, there will be a buildup of stock of manufactured goods. However, if the amount of consumption is more than the amount of production, then the needs of the community are difficult to meet.

Third, high-interest rates. Increased interest rates that are too high will burden the debtors, resulting in bad credit. Bad loans in large amounts will have a systemic impact on the banking world, when the banking world collapses, there is a recession.

Fourth, the fall of the stock market. This factor is related to the loss of investor confidence, the impact of the withdrawal of funds or large-scale capital from third parties may occur and result in the fall of the stock market.

Fifth, the collapse in prices and home sales. The collapse in prices and home sales due to property values that plummeted not only harms property owners but also has an impact on banks, as a result, it could end in the confiscation of assets that could be the cause of the recession.

Sixth, government policy. Mistakes in adopting economic policies will have an impact on the implementation of the wrong strategy as well, the impact of economic growth would decline.

Seventh, deflation. When the price of goods and services decreases over time, the impact can be worse than inflation, the impact of the demand for these goods and services decreases, resulting in a recession.

Following its name which means lethargy or deterioration, the recession resulted in a simultaneous decline in every activity in the economic sector, such as employment, investment, and also corporate profits. The impact will be a lot of unemployment due to termination of employment (FLE).

Economic recession also has a domino effect on economic activity.¹¹ For example, when investment plummets during a recession, it will automatically eliminate several jobs that make the number of layoffs rise significantly. Production of goods and services has also fallen, thereby reducing national GDP. Then, the minus trade balance will directly affect foreign exchange reserves. In its real scale, many people lost their homes because they were unable to pay the installments due to weak purchasing power. As a result, many businesses are forced to close down (Idris, 2020).

The Roots of Terrorism

In-Law Number 5 of 2018 article 1 paragraph (2), it is mentioned that terrorism is an act that uses violence or

¹¹ If it is not immediately resolved, the domino effect of the recession will spread to various sectors such as bank credit crunching to inflation that is difficult to control, or also on the contrary deflation occurs.

threat of violence that creates an atmosphere of terror or widespread fear, which can cause mass victims, and/or cause damage or destruction to objects vital strategic, environmental, public facilities, or international facilities with ideological, political, or security threats.

Meanwhile, according to The Global Terrorism Index (GTI), the definition of terrorism is the use of force or violence illegally and threatening, by non-state actors to achieve political, economic, religious, and social goals through fear, coercion, and intimidation (Francis & Heliati, 2019: 65).

According to Chomsky the concept of terrorism is still unclear and in general people differ from each other about the definition of terrorism. The term terrorism is still relatively new, especially in Indonesia (Mubarak, 2012: 242).

Besides, according to Jainuri (2006) the term terror and terrorism has become a social science idiom that was very popular in the 1990s and the early 2000s as a form of religious violence.

Howard (2001) provides three activity criteria that fall into the category of terrorist acts. First, activities related to the initiation of propaganda or attract the attention of the international world by

showing the ability (show of force). Second, activities related to efforts to weaken the enemy. Third, the provocation movement and ensuring that the enemy can be deceived which in turn can attract international sympathy that their goals have been achieved (Keling et al, 2009: 32).

The purpose of terrorism is to declare war against three aspects, namely injustice, oppression, and slander (Jainuri, 2002). In that context, the war was directed at the West, namely the United States (US). The siding of world political institutions to the West is the main trigger, such as disarmament by the US in Palestine, even the US allows Israel to increase its stockpile of weapons. The US double standard was then disappointed by a group of Muslims, including the political elite. Radicalism then accuses the Muslim ruling elite of being Western puppets. Entering the 21st century, relations between West and East in this case Islam are indeed not harmonious.

Concerning radical or militant Islamic movements, Abuza (2007: 67) divides four categories into this group. First, militant Muslims. This group launched its action with violence to a certain extent. They are referred to as reactive

jihadists, where violence is used to respond to certain situations or events.

Secondly, Islamic militant groups. This group has a sporadic movement, tends to use violence, and the group's knowledge and interpretation of Islamic values is very textual.

Third, groups consisting of radical students or campus-based groups. This group is very anti-Western, where followers tend to be sympathetic to more radical causes.

Fourth, pure Salafi organizations and proselytizing organizations, such as Hizb ut-Tahrir who see political action and military action as interference from the purpose of purifying religion on their agenda.

An important dimension of this new terrorist network model is that it requires a foothold for its operational purposes.¹² This network looks for places to operate in weak countries and countries fail for several reasons (Dugis, 2008: 04).

First, issues related to territoriality and ease of control. Terrorist networks prefer one "house" in a certain area rather than

¹² New terrorist organizations like al-Qaeda, they were born in connection with the end of the Cold War and the acceleration of globalization. This new terrorist organization is different from traditional terrorist organizations such as the PKK (Kurdish) or IRA (Ireland).

having several houses in several areas to serve as a base of operations.

Second, countries fail to have weak capabilities in law enforcement. Weak laws allow terrorist networks to carry out illegal activities, such as drug smuggling and money laundering to finance operations.

Third, failed and weak countries have high unemployment rates. Such conditions are fertile ground for recruiting and supporting terrorist network activities. This condition can be found in several Central Asian countries such as Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan.

Fourth, countries fail to try to maintain their sovereignty by refusing foreign interference in their internal problems. This makes it difficult to cross-border efforts to eradicate terrorist networks because terrorist networks deliberately try to keep this failed state from international relations.

Previous Research

Research on the impact of the economic recession on the growth of terrorism has been conducted before. Research conducted by Michael Fransiskus and Ratni Heliati (2019) with the title *The Relationship Between Terrorism and Economic Growth in*

Indonesia 1985-2017. This research reveals that terrorism in Indonesia can affect economic growth through the tourism sector, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), reallocation of resources, and the reduction in investment funds. These factors will then drive the level of unemployment, inequality, and poverty which will again trigger the growth of terrorism. Terrorism can also affect the capital stock with damage and destruction to public capital goods. Besides terrorism also affects trade. The risk of insecurity and additional costs in trade will reduce the international market share.

Furthermore, findings in a 2017 national survey on Diversity in Schools and Universities conducted by the Center for Islamic and Community Studies (PPIM) Jakarta State Islamic University (UIN) published in an article titled *Fire in Husk: Muslim Diversity Gen-Z* concluded that 23.35 percent of students claimed terrorism through suicide bombings was recognized in Islam, and 37.71 percent admitted Jihad was a value in Islam aimed at non-Muslims. This study also found four factors that cause a person to be intolerant and radical, namely student learning processes, internet access to religious knowledge,

the ineffectiveness of religious organizations in embracing young people, and perceptions about government performance. In terms of perceptions about government performance, the majority of them assess economic conditions and the gap between rich and poor are very severe at 52.29 percent and 43.46 percent rate the economy is sufficient. Intolerant and radical attitudes and opinions accompanied by an assessment of economic conditions that are not conducive will be an easy target for jihadists and terrorist groups to direct young people in acts of terrorism.

Next, Nobel Hiroyoma (2015) in his article entitled *The Effect of Relative Gaps and Globalization on the Emergence of Terrorism* states that according to the socio-psychological theory of relative inequality, terrorism appears as an action caused by a gap that occurs or is felt due to a comparison made by a person or group of what is owned or not owned by what is owned by another person or group, which of course has more than the group doing the comparison. The perceived gap then forms an injustice reaction and creates anger over the gap. Such a striking difference between them creates gaps and

leads to acts of terror. Many people think that contemporary terrorism is formed because of religious background, or the basis of a certain individual or group fundamentalism that bases religious values that are considered true to be a justification for acts of terror or attacks on certain parties they do not like. However, the main basis of acts of terrorism can be concluded because there are gaps and struggles for justice from the creation of inequality, especially the economy between developing countries and developed countries. Especially with the emergence of economic globalization which necessarily brings new capitalism and imperialism in a developing country. Terrorist groups that grow and then experience politicization and are ridden by certain elements who put religion or ideology are initially only a form of struggle against global capitalism (*jurnalintelligence.net*).

Finally, a study conducted by Fathuri (2012) with the title *Supporting Factors for the Establishment of Radicalism and Terrorism in Indonesia*. This study describes that radicalism and terrorism grow due to two fundamental factors, namely economic deprivation and political injustice. In the economic context, this study explains that poverty

drives radicalism and terrorism because of the prolonged frustration and economic disparity of the people caused by the government's discriminatory policies.

METHODOLOGY

The method used in this research is an explorative descriptive qualitative method using data collection techniques namely observation and literature study. As for checking the validity of the data in this study, researchers used a triangulation technique. The data source in this study is a variety of literature that is from various books and previous studies.

RESULT AND ANALYSIS

The Roots of 21st Century Terrorism

21st-century terrorism has a different pattern from the previous era.¹³ The 21st-century terrorist network began after the fall of the Berlin Wall in November

¹³ Terrorism of the 21st century is spread globally because their operations are flexible, making it difficult to prevent and prevent pre-emptive strikes of target countries. The nature of their attacks is lethal because the ability to make bombs independently is far greater. 21st-century terrorists have innovative networked organizations and ways of working. They move in small cells that are separate but connected via devices with high digital communication capabilities (Nainggolan, 2019).

1991, which was marked by the emergence of al-Qaeda, al-Shabab, and Boko Haram as tamkin terrorists.¹⁴ Among the Tamkin, Osama bin Laden emerged as a leader and symbol of resistance that controlled certain areas but had international reach (Nainggolan, 2019).

In the 21st century, acts of terrorism entered the territory of the United States (US) far from the Middle East, where the early generation of terrorist groups were born. The target of the attack has been underestimated by threat analysts in America, including the National Security Council and the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) because the US geographical position is difficult to reach from any ocean. But the September 11, 2001 attacks by al-Qaeda undermined these estimates (Nainggolan, 2019).

After the dark events of 9/11 nine-eleven that undermined the symbol of US capitalism, practically all the thoughts and energies of world citizens were directed at the issue of terrorism. Terrorism is the main dish at many

¹⁴ Tamkin terrorists are organic groups that claim to be fighting for independence for certain areas that have ideological heritage, such as in Papua, Poso, Maluku, or Aceh (Reza, 2019).

discussion tables, both among civil society and especially for the military. The US through President George W. Bush aggressively condemned the act of terrorism as a global crime of humanity and declared war on terrorism. The terrorist group most responsible for the nine-eleven tragedy is al-Qaeda.¹⁵ The birth of the al-Qaeda terrorist group is a real threat to the western world in general and especially against the US.

However, the emergence of al-Qaeda has a strategic position for the US. Because in 2003 the US began to build propaganda that Saddam Hussein's regime in Iraq had links to al-Qaeda.¹⁶ Not only that, but Saddam was also

¹⁵ Al-Qaeda is known as a non-state group or network. This group was born as a result of rebels who opposed the Soviet invasion in 1979. So in the 1980s al-Qaeda leader and founder Osama Bin Laden recruited these fighters to be trained and funded to fight against communist and Western imperialism.

¹⁶ The US allegations against Saddam who considered him to be an accomplice to the Al-Qaeda terrorism group were just an excuse, because the main purpose of the US to fight Iraq was oil. Before the 2003 invasion, almost all Iraqi oil fields were controlled by the state. After the invasion, the oil fields changed hands to foreigners. Giant oil companies, such as ExxonMobil, Chevron, British Petroleum, Shell, including Halliburton, now control Iraqi oil.

considered to have weapons of mass destruction. With unilateral accusations, the US freely invaded Iraq, Saddam's regime was successfully overthrown.

Before the presence of US troops in Iraq, there were no militant groups such as al-Qaeda and the like. However, after the US invasion which sparked anti-foreign army sentiment, militant groups began to mushroom, including Al-Qaeda. The al-Qaeda group in Iraq has become an important embryo of the Islamic State of Iraq (ISI). In 2013, the ISI group joined a similar group in Syria and formed the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS). So, instead of fighting terrorist groups associated with Saddam Hussein, the US invasion of Iraq gave birth to more violent terrorist groups, one of which is ISIS (Kurnia, 2016).

On the other hand, in 2009 Syrian President Bashar al-Assad rejected the Qatar pipeline project.¹⁷ Instead Assad approved the Iran pipeline project, this makes the US and the West even angrier with Assad. For the west and its allies,

¹⁷ The planned Qatar pipeline project will flow natural gas from Qatar to the European market. The gas pipeline will go through Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Turkey and of course Syria. If this project succeeds, European dependence on Russian natural gas will be reduced.

the Iranian pipeline project will only enrich and strengthen the Shiite state's influence in the Middle East (Samuel, 2017).

Since then the US began to look for ways to depose Assad. Initially, the US encouraged anti-Assad protests. However, because it was not successful, the US used a tougher method by creating armed groups Free Syrian Army (FSA).¹⁸ In addition to encouraging the birth of the FSA, as a result of the US war in Syria, the US also supported the presence of terrorist groups in Syria to fight Assad, including al-Qaeda, ISIS, and Jabhat al-Nusra (Napang, Marthen & Nurhasanah, Siti & Rohman, Syaiful, 2019).

Potential Recession in 2020

A recession occurs when the level of GDP growth is negative (negative growth) in two consecutive quarters or more (Indrastiti, 2019). Several countries in the world are entangled in the economic recession in 2019. First, Mexico. Mexico officially entered a

¹⁸ The FSA is the main armed opposition structure operating in Syria that has been active during the Syrian civil war. The FSA was officially announced to the public on July 29, 2011. Members of the FSA consisted of Syrian Armed Forces personnel and volunteers (*id.wikipedia.org*).

recession after experiencing economic contraction in two consecutive quarters. In the third quarter of 2019 Mexico recorded an economic contraction (negative growth) of 0.3 percent. In the previous quarter, the economy of the State of Telenovela contracted 0.8 percent (Sebayang, 2019).

Second, Turkey. Turkey's economy has been entangled in a crisis since last year due to the country's currency crisis. On a year-on-year basis, the Turkish economy recorded a 1.5 percent contraction in the second quarter of 2019. However, the figure was better than expected.

Third, Hong Kong. Hong Kong officially slipped into a technical recession in the third quarter of 2019, as the economy shrank 3.2 percent from the previous quarter, the first annual contraction since the 2009 financial crisis. The economic slowdown that occurred in Hong Kong was caused by anti-government demonstrations that have taken place since last June. As the economic slowdown that occurs in almost 90 percent of countries in the world in 2019, the IMF projects the world to lose GDP of nearly US \$ 500 billion (Agustiyanti, 2020).

Entering 2020, China as the second-largest economy in the world experiences an economic downturn due to Covid-19, this condition is predicted to have an impact on the global economy in 2020. This is evident from the projections made by several institutions.

The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) reduced the global economic growth target from 2.3 percent to 2.2 percent.¹⁹ While the World Bank estimates 2020 economic growth of 2.4 percent, down from the previous estimate of 2.5 percent. Moody's Analytics research institute in the Coronavirus: The Global Economic Threat (2020) projected China's economic growth in the first quarter of 2020 (year on year) eroded to 2 percent. Meanwhile, every 1 percent decline in the country's GDP of China will reduce the world economy by 0.4 percent (Fitra, 2020).

The potential economic recession in 2020 will be faced by many countries,

¹⁹ EIU didirikan pada 1946 dan berpusat di London Inggris. EIU adalah sayap bisnis Economist Group yang Menyusun prakiraan dan rekomendasi melalui penelitian dan analisis, misalnya laporan bulanan tentang suatu negara, prakiraan ekonomi negara lima tahunan, laporan risiko negara, dan laporan industry (www.eiu.com).

including the US superpower, also inseparable from the threat of recession.²⁰ On the other hand, Indonesia, whose economy has grown at a rate of 5 percent, is also quite alarming, because the trend continues to decline. Badan Pusat Statistics (BPS) recorded economic growth in the first quarter of 2019 of 5.07 percent. Then, in the second quarter of 2019 it was only 5.05 percent, and in the third quarter of 2019 it was only 5.02 percent (<https://www.bps.go.id/>).

Economic Recession and Terrorism

The economic recession in 2020 could be a determinant factor in strengthening the global terrorism network, especially the ISIS group which since mid-2019 has no regional basis. Weak economic conditions and extreme inequalities are very vulnerable to many interests, including infiltrating terrorism.

Referring to Nobel Hiroyoma's (2015) article entitled The Effect of Relative Disparity and Globalization on the Emergence of Terrorism states that according to the socio-psychological

²⁰ US growth showed an improvement in the third quarter of 2019 by 2.1 percent. This is better than the second quarter of 2019 which was only 2 percent, but it still slowed down compared to the first quarter of 2019 which reached 3.1 percent.

theory of relative inequality, terrorism appears as an action caused by a gap that occurs or is felt due to a comparison made by someone or the group will have what is owned or not owned by what is owned by another person or group, which of course has more than the group doing the comparison.

Poverty as a result of the economic recession that continues to overshadow the community can trigger the birth of the terrorist movement. Likewise with low education, those who can be persuaded to become suicide bombers have relatively little education and religious knowledge.

Groups that experience under-pressure and prolonged frustration is vulnerable to two things, namely doing radicals (violence) and easily influenced by outsiders (certain groups) for various kinds of interests. As a result, this condition will greatly facilitate terrorist leaders (jihadists) to indoctrinate with misleading teachings, because radicalism and terrorism are easily born as a result of the frustration of several groups of poor people who cannot survive in their lives.

Besides, government policies in certain fields, especially economics which marginalizes the grassroots society

also result in public dissatisfaction which in turn gives birth to radical acts on a person. Although not influenced by outsiders for certain interests such as religion, marginalization and discrimination, in the end, it sparked public dissatisfaction especially the poor so that the group made it easy to take action.

Countries are weak and fail to provide greater opportunities to become the basis for operating terrorist groups, because countries fail to have weak capabilities in law enforcement, which allows them to carry out illegal activities, such as drug smuggling and money laundering to finance operations. The poor economic, political and social conditions of people in failed countries are a means to facilitate terrorist networks to carry out their activities.

Weak and failed countries that have high unemployment rates are fertile ground for recruiting and supporting terrorist network activities. The recruitment of residents is used to fill the power vacuum in the country due to the failure of the government in carrying out state activities and the weakness of civil society.

Terrorist networks easily take advantage of failed states to become

training ground for terrorist guerrillas, take over the government or establish new places of activity by exploiting widespread public dissatisfaction, high levels of corruption, economic stagnation and political repression. Poor economic conditions in failed countries also encourage officials to easily accept bribes from terrorists to ease some of their goals.²¹

Countries that fail to try to maintain their sovereignty by refusing foreign interference in their internal problems. This makes it difficult to cross-border efforts to eradicate terrorist networks because terrorist networks deliberately try to keep this failed state from international relations. But countries fail to experience difficulties in controlling their borders, which makes it easy for the volume of drugs, weapons and human traffic to increase.

The Future of Global Terrorism

The ideology of extremism and radicalism is indeed never going to disappear one hundred percent of the earth. This ideology is difficult to erode as long as there are people who are

²¹ Such conditions can be found in several Central Asian countries such as Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, also found in China and Russia.

trapped and interested in learning and applying it.

The death of ISIS leader Abu Bakar al-Baghdadi in mid-2019 did not become the end of the war against growing radical groups and terror or continued to recruit new members. Claims of victory over ISIS with the death of al-Baghdadi did not necessarily stop the terror operations of the tens of thousands of its members remaining in Syria and Iraq, including in Indonesia. According to James Jeffrey, the US special envoy to the Global Coalition Against ISIS, in the middle of March it was estimated there were still 15,000 to 20,000 ISIS members operating in the two countries through the formation of terrorist cells.

The death of al-Baghdadi strengthens the threat of terrorism, because there is a potential backflow of ISIS combatants and sympathizers. The defeat of al-Baghdadi will make thousands of foreign militants or ISF members who return to ISIS return to their home countries including Southeast Asia.

Should the collapse and weakening of ISIS at the center be able to weaken the movements of its members and sympathizers throughout the world, including in Indonesia? But the hope is the opposite, al-Baghdadi's death could

trigger the revival of other terror groups such as Jemaah Islamiyah (JI) affiliated with al-Qaeda.²² The emergence of ISIS in Indonesia through the Jamaah Ansorud Daulah (JAD) group was used by JI for consolidation,²³ JI quietly rebuilt the organization, when ISIS fell they were ready to rise.

CONCLUSION

Economic recession is a condition that cannot be avoided by many countries in 2020 as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. One of the most pronounced impacts of the economic recession of 2020 is the threat to global security stability. In the 21st century the most obvious threat from global security is terrorism. The massive emergence of terrorist groups in the 21st century is still widely considered to be formed from the

background of religious fundamentalism, but there are main factors that are the parent of individuals or groups who fight for their goals through terrorism, namely the struggle against poverty and economic inequality as a result of global capitalism. Poverty can be a trigger for the birth of an act of terrorism because the poor are vulnerable to being influenced by outsiders for a variety of interests.

The potential economic recession of 2020 which threatens many countries in the world can be a determinant factor in strengthening the global terrorism network. For the Indonesian context, the Jamaah Islamiyah (JI) group, which since the emergence of ISIS chose to become a sleeping cell, with the collapse of ISIS in mid-2019 and supported by economic recession conditions, will make JI freer to rebuild its organization.

Recommendation

The Indonesian government can anticipate the strengthening conditions of the global terrorism network by strengthening the cooperation of the government and the community to close the gaps in the possibility of terrorist groups opening a jihad front in Indonesia because, with the death of al-Baghdadi, it is almost certain that the ISIS group will

²² Jama'ah Islamiyah (JI) is an al-Qaeda network that exists in Indonesia. As long as ISIS appears in the Middle East, JI tends to be a sleeper cell. The existence of JI which has the aim to form the Caliphate in Indonesia is still quite strong. JI is considered capable of consolidating by utilizing momentum while the government is handling the existence of the ISIS group.

²³ JAD is part of the Jamaah Ansharut Tauhid (JAT) group, a fractional group from the Indonesian Mujahidin Council (MMI) led by Abu Bakar Baasyir. The JAD group has strong affiliations with ISIS groups in Syria and Iraq.

leave the Syrian and Iraqi lands. They need another earth to be used as the basis of a new jihad.

Furthermore, the government must realize justice and maintain peace, because terrorists often make the issue of injustice an axis for mobilizing global and regional terrorism networks.

Finally, to prevent and reduce future terrorism, international leaders and organizations, including the United Nations, should increase intelligence cooperation by also involving the public and the private sector.

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