



LAW ENFORCEMENT AGAINST NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING CRIMES IN TAPAKTUAN (Research Study at the South Aceh Police)

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Abstract

This study discusses law enforcement against narcotics trafficking crimes in the jurisdiction of the South Aceh Police, namely Tapaktuan. Although various preemptive, preventive, and repressive efforts have been carried out in accordance with the provisions of Law Number 35 of 2009. The analysis uses Soerjono Soekanto's law enforcement theory which emphasizes three main elements, namely, legal structure, legal substance, and legal culture. Where the legal structure is one of the most important factors. Because the quality of law enforcement, one of which is the police, greatly affects the success or not of law enforcement. In its implementation, law enforcement carried out by the South Aceh Police has not been optimal. Which shows that the main obstacles lie in the limitation of personnel, inadequate infrastructure, low public legal awareness, and the complexity of the increasingly organized narcotics trafficking network. The method used is empirical legal research with a qualitative approach through direct interviews with the South Aceh Police Narcotics Headquarters and secondary data collection. These findings underscore the need for a comprehensive strategy involving strengthening apparatus resources, improving operational facilities, and intensive collaboration between the police, local governments, and the community to reduce the rate of narcotics trafficking in South Aceh

Keywords: *Law Enforcement, Crime, Narcotics Trafficking, Police*

A. Introduction

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According to Soerjono Soekanto, law enforcement theory is an activity to harmonize the relationship between values described in rules or a stable and manifesting view of values and attitudes of action as a series of final stage value elaboration to create, maintain, and maintain peace of association. Law enforcement is a process to realize the ideas of justice, legal certainty, and the usefulness of the law into reality. He emphasized that there are three elements of enforcement, namely, Legal Structure, Legal Substance and Legal Culture (Soekanto, 2010)

Law enforcement is the enforcement of ideas and concepts that are abstract. Abstract in this case is the idea of justice, legal certainty and social utility. To realize law enforcement, there are legal offices or legal offices such as the Court, Prosecutor's Office, Police, Correctional Institutions and also Laws and Regulations Bodies. Therefore, it can be said that the implementation of the law does not solely mean the implementation of the law, although in reality in Indonesia the tendency is so (Khairi Mustaqbal, 2023).

The law enforcement process is one of the duties and authorities of the National Police, this is in accordance with Article 13 of Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia. The implementation of law enforcement duties by the Indonesian National Police (Polri) includes various interrelated aspects, such as structural and cultural structure aspects. Overall, the duties of the National Police in law enforcement include maintaining public security and order, enforcing laws and regulations, and providing maximum service to the community (Fadhlurrahman, 2023).

In the context of narcotics trafficking, law enforcement has a high urgency considering the destructive impact of the abuse and illicit circulation of narcotics on the community, the younger generation, and social stability. Therefore, efforts to eradicate narcotics are not only repressive, but also reflect the ideal implementation of the law in the form of real actions by law enforcement officials, namely the police.

The rules on narcotics trafficking in Indonesia are to use Law Number. 35 of 2009 concerning Narcotics, which in the Law stipulates that, Every Person, this element indicates that the subject of the law that can be sanctioned in the Narcotics Law is any individual, whether an individual or a corporation, Without Rights or Against the Law, this element indicates that acts related to narcotics must be carried out without a valid permit or contrary to the provisions of the applicable law (Undang-Undang No. 35 Tahun 2009 Tentang Narkotika, 2009).

The following are the number of cases handled by the South Aceh Police against the crime of narcotics abuse and trafficking.

Data table of the number of narcotics cases at the South Aceh Police in 2022 to 2024

Yes	Year	Number of cases
1	2023	43
2	2024	58

Based on the table above, it can be seen that there are 43 narcotics cases handled by the South Aceh Police in 2023. In 2024, there will be 58 cases of narcotics. The table above illustrates that narcotics cases in the jurisdiction of the South Aceh Police have increased.

The following is one of the narcotics trafficking cases handled by the South Aceh Police. The South Aceh Police Drug Task Force arrested a recidivist man who was suspected of being a courier and a housewife suspected of being an orderer. Both are residents of Tapaktuan and are suspected of being involved in the criminal act of trafficking methamphetamine-type narcotics. The Head of Public Relations revealed that the two suspects were arrested in different places, the courier was arrested first on Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at around 12.30 WIB in Gampong Lhok East Bengkuang, Tapaktuan District, South Aceh. "From the results of the arrest, the officers managed to secure 1 package of Methamphetamine type narcotics with a gross weight of 0.37 (zero point thirty-seven) grams, which had previously been thrown away by the courier when chased because he fled when stopped by officers on the public road of Batu Hitam Village," explained Adam according to the explanation of the Head of Narcotics Iptu Narsyah Agustian, S.H., M.H., on Wednesday, January 22, 2025.

Based on the description that has been conveyed above, a more in-depth study is needed on the law enforcement efforts carried out by the South Aceh Police in handling narcotics trafficking crimes. Although the South Aceh Police has implemented various law enforcement measures, the reality is that cases of narcotics abuse and trafficking still show an increasing trend in the last two years. And Tapaktuan is one of the areas that is often used as an entrance for narcotics trafficking from North Sumatra through land.

B. Method

The research method is a series of activities in seeking the truth of a research study, which begins with a thought that forms the formulation of the problem so that it gives rise to an initial hypothesis, with the help and perception of previous research, so that the research can be processed and analyzed which finally forms a conclusion (Sahir, 2022).

The method used in this study is empirical legal research with a qualitative approach. The data used is primary data, namely data collected directly by the researcher from the original source, namely the South Aceh Police, in other words, the researcher will immediately go into the field to conduct interviews and documentation. The second data is secondary data, which is literature that provides an explanation context for primary data, both in the form of journals, scientific papers, and other legal articles and writings related to the title of the research conducted (Muhaimin, 2020).

C. Findings and Discussion

1. Law Enforcement Against Narcotics Trafficking Crimes

Soerjono Soekanto emphasized that one of the important factors for law enforcement is the legal structure, namely law enforcement agencies and their apparatus. Law enforcement factors include officials, organizations, and supporting facilities. The quality of law enforcement greatly affects the success or failure of law enforcement. The success of law enforcement cannot be separated from the existence of three important elements, namely the legal structure, the substance of the law, and the legal culture.

Legal structure refers to law enforcement institutions or officials such as the police, prosecutor's office, courts, advocates, and correctional institutions that have the duty and authority to carry out the law. The second element is the substance of the law, namely the entire laws and regulations, norms, and decisions that serve as guidelines in the implementation of law enforcement. The substance of the law must be clear, fair, and able to adapt to the development of society so that it can be applied effectively. Meanwhile, legal culture includes people's values, attitudes, awareness, and behavior towards the law. Public legal awareness is a determining aspect, because no matter how good the rule of law and the strength of law enforcement officials, without the support of a good legal culture, law enforcement will not run optimally. Thus, the three elements are interconnected and must run in balance so that the goals of law enforcement, namely justice, legal certainty, and benefits can be achieved.(Soekanto, 2010)

Law enforcement is an effort made by law enforcement officials to the public to comply with applicable laws. Enforcement has three elements, namely legal certainty, usefulness and justice. Justice is a very important element in law enforcement in Indonesia. The law enforcement process is one of the duties and authorities of the National Police, this is in accordance with Article 13 of Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia. In law enforcement of narcotics abuse (Fadhlurrahman, 2023).

Some important aspects of law enforcement by the National Police, the first is a structural aspect, namely law enforcement by the National Police including a structured organization and authority regulated by law. Adequate facilities and infrastructure, such as offices, vehicles, and communication tools, support work effectiveness. The number and competence of members also play an important role. Sufficient financing ensures smooth operations. If all aspects are met, the National Police can work more optimally and professionally.

Second, there is a cultural aspect, the cultural aspect plays an important role in supporting law enforcement by the National Police. The values of ethics, professionalism,

and integrity are the moral basis of members. Good relationships with the community that are built on trust help maintain security. Public trust increases if the National Police is transparent and responsible, including when taking action against internal members. The principles of transparency and accountability must be applied. This strengthening of culture encourages the quality of sustainable law enforcement (Undang Undang Republik Indonesia Nomor 2 Tahun 2002 Tentang Kepolisian Negara Republik Indonesia, 2002).

Law enforcement against drug trafficking perpetrators in Indonesia has been expressly regulated in Law Number 35 of 2009 concerning Narcotics. This law not only regulates the eradication and criminal sanctions for narcotics abuse, but also against acts of narcotics abuse related to the narcotics production process. In an effort to provide a deterrent effect, this regulation stipulates criminal sanctions in various forms, such as a special minimum penalty, imprisonment for 20 years, life imprisonment, and the death penalty. These sanctions are given by considering various factors, including the class, type, size, and amount of narcotics involved in a criminal act. It is hoped that with the imposition of these criminal sanctions, efforts to eradicate narcotics crimes can run more effectively and provide maximum results in reducing the number of narcotics crimes in Indonesia (Rumapea et al., 2024).

In its implementation, law enforcement against the abuse and circulation of narcotics in the jurisdiction of the South Aceh Police shows various challenges and obstacles. Several cases that have been successfully uncovered show that the narcotics trafficking network is still active and difficult to completely eradicate. One of the cases that emerged was the arrest of a recidivist man who was suspected of being a courier and a housewife who was suspected of being an orderer. Both are residents of Tapaktuan and are suspected of being involved in the criminal act of trafficking methamphetamine-type narcotics. The Head of Public Relations revealed that the two suspects were arrested in different places, the courier was arrested first on Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at around 12.30 WIB in Gampong Lhok East Bengkuang, Tapaktuan District, South Aceh. "From the results of the arrest, the officers managed to secure 1 package of Methamphetamine type narcotics with a gross weight of 0.37 (zero point thirty-seven) grams, which had previously been thrown away by the courier when chased because he fled when stopped by officers on the public road of Batu Hitam Village," explained Adam according to the explanation of the Head of Narcotics Iptu Narsyah Agustian, S.H., M.H., on Wednesday, January 22, 2025.

The next case is that the South Aceh Police succeeded in uncovering a methamphetamine narcotics trafficking network with a total of 1,450 grams of evidence. The Narcotics Task Force Police activity, which lasted for two days, from April 14 to 15, 2025, succeeded in securing 5 (five) suspected perpetrators from a number of different locations in the South Aceh Regency and Southwest Aceh Regency areas. The five

suspected perpetrators who were successfully secured each had the initials SR (25), AF (35), RI (30), AN (31), and WA (28). The arrest began from public information about the planned narcotics transaction in Payateuk Village, Pasie Raja District, South Aceh Regency. The Opsnal team then conducted an investigation and succeeded in securing the two suspected initial perpetrators, SR and AF along with evidence of methamphetamine weighing 2.11 grams. From the results of the development, the team arrested RI who was the intermediary of the transaction, then secured AN with evidence of methamphetamine weighing 790 grams. The next search led to WA, who was known to have stored methamphetamine weighing 660 grams in his car and house. Some of the other methamphetamine was found at his parents' house in Abdya Regency.

Law enforcement against narcotics trafficking crimes by the South Aceh Police is carried out through three main approaches, namely preemptive, preventive and repressive. Pre-emptive efforts are carried out in the form of education in schools and counseling to the community to increase understanding of narcotics. Meanwhile, the preventive approach is focused on preventive measures before they occur, by increasing supervision in environments that are vulnerable to narcotics trafficking.

Law enforcement efforts are also carried out with a repressive approach, namely strict action against perpetrators who have been proven to be involved in the abuse and circulation of narcotics. The repressive program carried out by the South Aceh Police Narcotics Task Force aims to provide a deterrent effect and prevent the further spread of narcotics. With firm and consistent action, it is hoped that the circulation of narcotics can be significantly suppressed. However, in its implementation, there are still various obstacles faced, such as limited resources (personnel), lack of public awareness, and difficulty in tracking the increasingly sophisticated narcotics trafficking network.

From the various cases and operations that have been carried out, it can be concluded that law enforcement against narcotics trafficking crimes in the jurisdiction of the South Aceh Police is still facing various obstacles and has not been effective. One of the main challenges is the limitation of resources (personnel), making it difficult to eradicate completely. In addition, public awareness factors also play a role in narcotics trafficking, especially in their areas which are often places of narcotics trafficking. Therefore, a more comprehensive strategy is needed in dealing with this problem, including strengthening facilities and infrastructure to support more effective law enforcement.

2. Obstacles in Law Enforcement by the South Aceh Police Against Narcotics Trafficking Crimes

Obstacles that occur internally in law enforcement against Narcotics Trafficking in the jurisdiction of the South Aceh Police include limited facilities and infrastructure and lack of readiness of human resources, in other words police personnel. This limitation

indicates that there is still a need for additional human resources with good qualifications and competencies. In addition, it is necessary to improve supporting facilities and infrastructure in order to strengthen law enforcement against narcotics crimes. This phenomenon causes law enforcement carried out by the police to be less effective.

The lack of public awareness is also an inhibiting factor in efforts to eradicate narcotics. There are still many individuals who are reluctant to report incidents of narcotics abuse in their environment because they are considered worried about social consequences. Meanwhile, the involvement of local officials in the narcotics trafficking prevention program is also still limited. The lack of support from the government in providing facilities and infrastructure such as rehabilitation facilities also contributes to the lack of effectiveness of law enforcement. The police should be more active in collaborating with various agencies and elements of society, such as the National Narcotics Agency, community organizations, and NGOs to prevent the circulation of narcotics.

Another challenge faced is the difficulty of tracking the increasingly widespread and well-organized narcotics trafficking crime network. The narcotics trafficking network works neatly and secretly, so it requires a special strategy to uncover the circulation of these illicit goods. In addition, limited operational funds are also an obstacle in the implementation of investigations and disclosure of narcotics trafficking cases. Without adequate budget support, efforts to eradicate narcotics will be difficult to achieve maximum results. Therefore, the government needs to pay more attention to the allocation of funds for narcotics eradication operations so that they run optimally.

From the various cases and operations that have been carried out, it can be concluded that law enforcement against narcotics abuse crimes in the jurisdiction of the North Sulawesi Police is still facing various obstacles. One of the main challenges is the limited human resources or lack of police personnel, making it difficult to eradicate completely. Therefore, a more comprehensive strategy is needed to deal with this problem, including increasing public awareness, strengthening cooperation between agencies, and optimizing facilities and infrastructure to support more effective law enforcement. (Rumapea et al., 2024)

3. Solutions to overcome obstacles in law enforcement carried out by the South Aceh Police against the crime of narcotics trafficking

The South Aceh Police increase collaboration with the community, institutions, and organizations in order to strengthen legal awareness and maintain order. This collaboration involves various parties, including organizations, agencies, and community leaders, to support compliance with laws and regulations and create a safe environment. In this effort, the South Aceh Police Narcotics Investigation Unit (SatresNarkoba) implemented a number of strategies.

First, encouraging the active involvement of all elements of society in efforts to prevent and expose narcotics trafficking (Hakim, 2023). This step aims to increase the capacity of competent resources in supporting cooperation with the police. Second, to overcome the limitations of human resources (personnel) in law enforcement against narcotics crimes. Third, conducting routine operations in various locations that are at high risk of becoming narcotics trafficking sites. This strategy is very effective in reducing the number of narcotics trafficking, routine raids in vulnerable areas can create a deterrent effect for the perpetrators. In addition, good communication between the police and community leaders plays an important role in keeping the area safe from narcotics threats and encouraging the public to actively report suspected narcotics abuse.

D. Conclusion

Based on the description of the discussion above, the author concludes that law enforcement factors include apparatus, organizations, and supporting facilities. The quality of law enforcement greatly affects the success or failure of law enforcement. Law enforcement efforts that have been carried out by the South Aceh Police are still ineffective. Because it is hampered by limited resources (personnel) and public awareness, and lack of facilities and infrastructure, so that cases in the last two years have increased. For this reason, the South Aceh Police needs additional personnel from various institutions and the community to prevent and reduce the number of cases of narcotics trafficking crimes.

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