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The potential of money laundering in the regent election in Indonesia

M. Arief Amrullah.

M. Arief Amrullah; Faculty of Law, University of Jember; Kalimantan Street Nomor 37; Jember; 68121; Indonesia;

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Abstract

Advances in information technology and globalization processes make it easier for transnational criminal groups to use the legitimate economy to disguise their operations and facilitate the rapid transfer of proceeds of crime to avoid investigation by law enforcement authorities. One of the prominent activities of organized crime is profiting from the illicit drug trade, corruption, or other results obtained or obtained, either directly or indirectly, through the execution of crimes that occur in the global financial system. This methodology makes the transaction appear as a legal business. Therefore, efforts to eradicate money laundering are a dynamic process, moreover, organized crime perpetrators are constantly looking for new ways to carry out their illegal goals. Money launderers also have the opportunity to submit their financial contributions for local elections (Pilkada). The practice of money laundering in elections is very likely to occur due to conditions that trigger opportunities for organized crime groups to launder money.

Corresponding Author:
M. Arief Amrullah.
E-mail address: arief.fh@unej.ac.id.

1. Introduction

Society generally interprets crimes and violations in the same context (Hamsir, 2019). The development of crime reflects always increasing figures in various areas, be it in terms of quantity or quality. This is also the case in terms of occurring threats which could slow down the development of a country. These threats could have social, economical, or cultural impacts. The threats and the democratic impacts could be used as the background of an attempt to prevent law officials from revealing the resources of weath obtained from crimes. Therefore, it appears as if this wealth was obtained legally, including money laundering in regent elections.

In Indonesia, a direct, regent election was carried out in 2005. This direct election, as stipulated in Law Number 31 of 2004 concerning Regional Government (Gazetted of 2004 Number 125), October 15th 2004, has already corroborated the development of theories regarding democracy. In books concerning democracy, it is said that democracy is divided into two fundamental categories: direct and representative. In a direct democracy, all citizens, without the involvement of officials, take part in the business of political decision-making. Nonetheless, this system is only suitable in states with a small number of citizens. Oftentimes, this kind of election is exemplified in the era of the ancient Greek, because the population was relatively small compared to the populations of today. As such, carrying out direct democracy today is hardly feasible.

The willingness to hold direct elections is due to the compliance with the direct presidential election. In Indonesia, the discussion of direct elections cannot be separated from the experience of the general election of 1999; during which, the winning party was the PDI-P (Partai Demokrasi Indonesia Perjuangan). Given the victory, the people expected that Megawati Soekarno Putri, the general chief of the PDI-P party, would become the new president. However, the expectation became a total fiasco, as other parties claimed that the current election system operative was representative not direct. Therefore, changing the law was seen to be an option. It was for this reason that Megawati Soekarno Putri could not serve as president, regardless of receiving the most votes; rather, the decision had to go through another election in parliament. As a result, the candidate gaining the most votes was President Abdurrahman Wahid (Gusdur); therefore, Megawati was elected as the vice president.

During which, the public desired the same electoral system in the upcoming election. This was owing to the fact that the election, through the Regional House of Representatives, was merely seen to please those occupying the Regional House of Representatives, and it had yet to be obvious whether Regional House of Representatives' decision would be aligned with what the public desired. Finally, Law Number 32 of 2004 was enacted. However, the law instrument which facilitated the direct election had been issued, as implemented in Article 59, Verse 1 of Law Number 32 of 2004. This article in the law stipulates that the participants of regional general elections were to be candidates proposed by political parties or merged political parties. Simply put, those proposing the candidates (governor, mayor, and regent) were political parties or merged political parties. Thus, political parties acted as promoters.

With the law enacted, new issues arose which dealt with the inclination of political parties misusing the stipulation of Article 59, Verse 1; political parties requested a certain amount of money from the candidates, and this money was

obviously coupled with several reasons which made it difficult sometimes for candidates to turn the money down. This was very likely to bring about the only means or "vehicle" for the electional fruition was political party and "alternative" vehicle was not yet there. Therefore, dependence on political parties emerged, and, because this was the case, it meant that candidates had to spend large amounts of money. Not complying with the political rhythm meant not getting any "vehicle," which resulted in premature defeat. By contrast, for those with exceptional funding (regardless of where it came from), the lack of a "vehicle" and premature defeat would not be an issue as everything could be ruled by money. Meanwhile, the philosophy cushioning direct election is that people seek to elect their own qualified candidate (not only academically bright but also highly dedicated), so the choice would comply with their conscience.

Because the law operative demands such circumstances, the people's desire to elect their own qualified candidate disappears. As a result, the system established by Law Number 32 of 2004, which includes highly dedicated and honest leaders, would no longer be necessary for regional development and expansion. This is because a civilian, for instance, can serve as regent or vice regent so long as they had the money to make it happen. The money used for winning regency or vice regency does not need to be personal. What matters most is gaining sponsors, which consequently demands payback in the form of projects or easy accesses, which is initially consented with the sponsors.

Reminiscent of the large amounts of funding required for electoral victory, the massive funding would open access to sponsors with funds that have been illegally obtained in the form of money laundering. That being said, money laundering in the context of general election is indeed feasible. This adhered to the role of both parties (candidates and sponsors) who needed one another. On one hand, the candidates required large amounts of money, and, on the other hand, those with substantial funding from illegal sources were ready to support. This money may be a result from corruption, gambling, and so forth; which are defined as criminal acts as stipulated in Article 2, Verse 1 of Law Number 8 of 2010 (Lembaran Negara Tahun 2010 Nomor 122) on October 22 2010. These massively wealthy sponsors always strive to launder money through, though not limited to, elections. In the realm of regional elections, the chance of collusion or conspiracy taking place is hard to wipe away, as this is mostly done secretively along with secret agreements between sponsors and candidates.

As a support for this writing, in fact there are many writings related to money laundering, but each has different characteristics. Based on the writings written by Kartina Pakpahan, Maggie, Christian Agung Prawito, Wico Dwi Pratama in the Prima Science Journal, the substance raised is the extent to which statutory regulations regulates the notary principle in recognizing a crime money laundering, under the title research "Principles of Notary In Introduction of Criminal Offenders Money laundering". Therefore, this research will specifically examine the analysis of The Potential Of Money Laundering In The Regent Election In Indonesia (Pakpahan, 2020).

2. Methods

Research Methods in writing articles this is a doctrinal or ordinary research method called normative legal research. This research is a legal research with using a socio-normative approach.

Data used are primary data and data secondary which was analyzed by using quantitative analysis.

3. Result and Discussion

Indonesian nation is facing the era of globalization, where this nation is faced with various challenges and threats from various aspects of life, such as individual apathy lifestyles, world politics, law enforcement, development of the global economy, culture even threats to resilience and security such as the occurrence of money laundering crimes (Mafazi, 2021). The law is for humans, het recht thinkt achter de feiten aan which means the law is always teetering behind from the events that took place. Civilized nation is who aspire to have firm and fair legal norms, giving rise to legal certainty in a nation. The law that is formed from the political process is basis of demands because the resulting law is a rule that becomes an order in social life (Lawrencya, 2021). In principle, criminal law only talks about two aspects, namely the factor of effectiveness and fairness functioning of the criminal justice system (Fauzi, 2021).

Legal Transplantation in eradication criminal law money laundering framework in Indonesia for the first time was did in 2002 with legislated Law No. 15 of 2002 on Money Laundering and Eradication Money Laundering and then in October 2003 amendment with Law No. 25 of 2003 and then regulated in Law No. 8 of 2010 on Prevention and Eradication Money Laundering Crime. Legal transplantation is carried out by incorporating international standards into the national legal system, particularly into Law of Money Laundering and Eradication Money Laundering (Esther. 2022).

Money laundering, which constitutes a part of organized crime, is fundamentally a crime that affects social development and prosperity, serving as a focal interest and concern for national and international parties. The crime of money laundering is very detrimental to the public at large (Wagiman, 2021). Global attention and sympathy towards money laundering is soundly adjusted because the coverage and dimension of the definition are so exceptionally vast that the undertaking possesses the following features: organized crime, white-collar crime, corporate crime, and transnational crime. Even from the development of information technology, money laundering can be a form of cyber crime.

Based on the vast description that has been raised, the question arises: "what is meant by money laundering?" In order to answer that question, there has to be various notions and limits on the definition of money laundering. Money laundering is a term that was first used in the United States. The term in this context refers to the laundering of the mafia's property; that is, the proceeds of the illicitly derived effort which is mixed with the intention of making all the results appear as if they derived from a legitimate source. In short, the term "money laundering" was first used in the legal context in a case in the United States in 1982. The case involved a fine against money launderers regarding the sale of Colombian cocaine. In its development as a crime, the process of money laundering is done in a more complex way and often uses the latest methods in order to seem as if the money obtained is completely legal. The goal of money laundering is to obscure or eliminate traces of the origin sources of acquisition.

Accordingly, in Section 81 (3) of the Proceeds of Crime Act 1987 (Cth) Australia, formulating money laundering, i.e., one can be said to launder money if (Moens, 1994): a). person undertakes money laundering either directly or indirectly, in a transaction which uses money, or other prop-

erty, derived from proceeds of crime; or b). a person accepts, possesses, conceals, gives or transfers money to Australia, or other properties, derived from criminal act; and a person who knows, or should suspect that money or other such wealth is obtained or noticed, directly or indirectly from any unlawful activity.

Hardly different from the definition aforementioned, the enactment of Law Number 25 of 2003 on Amendment to Law Number 15 of 2002 (State Gazette of 2003 Number 108) on 13 October 2003, before repealed by Law Number 8, Year 2010, in Article 1 Number 1. In Article 1 Sub-Article 1 of Law Number 8 of 2010, the definition becomes more succinct as set forth in the previous laws, defining that: "Money laundering is any act which fulfills the elements of criminal act in accordance with the provisions of Law Number 8, Year 2010 "

The money laundered from the proceeds of the crime aims to obscure or eliminate the trace to the source or origin of its acquisition, so that it hopefully is difficult to be traced by law enforcement officers. The method in money laundering process includes three stages: First, it deals with the placement of assets into the financial system through banks or other financial institutions. Countries must have a reporting requirement for large cash transactions, in which transactions are conducted through a larger amount by breaking them into small transactions, called smurfings.

In Australia, most of the methods used to launder money consist of (Moens, 1994): a). Real estate- property or other assets purchased under a pseudonym, such as a company, family or friends; b). Concealed identity- funds deposited, or transferred fund through an account under a pseudonym (not an actual one) such as a company, family or friends; c). Funds sent overseas- the proceeds of the crime are transferred abroad using several means including telegraphic transfers, travelers' checks, or even the money that is brought physically out of the country; d). False income- the counterfeit debt is made by means of the perpetrator as owed by another person and the payment is made from the proceeds of the crime provided to the person. This includes fake deposits of assets owned by the perpetrator, family loans, or loans to companies owned by the offender. Another possibility is that such counterfeit loans are made by way of the perpetrator and is owed to others and the debt will be repaid with the proceeds of the crime; and e). Mingling- funds are run through the business structure to make the funds appear to be part of legitimate business activities.

As pointed out, money laundering is part of organized crime; its operations take place in known networks (Reksodiputro, 2000), which essentially encompass the following: 1). Underlying layers: there are unauthorized service providers called racketeers. This layer is most likely recruited from thugs who usually join organizations of thugs; 2). Middle layers: there are managers called organizers, consisting of professional people engaged in business, politics (connection) and law enforcement; and 3). Top layers: there are funders, called financiers, including big businessman in real estate, contractor, industry, and others.

Therefore, as Hans G. Nilsson (Nilsson, 1994) avers, money laundering has been an issue of interest to the global community for nearly two decades and, in particular, to the Council of Europe which is the first international organization. In a recommendation proposed by The Committee of Ministers from 1980, one particular concern has reminded the international community of the dangers of money laundering to democracy and the Rule of Law. The recommendation also states that

the transfer of crime fund proceeds from one country to another and the process of money laundering through fund placement in economic system has raised serious problems both nationally and internationally. Nevertheless, in nearly a decade these recommendations have failed to attract the attention of the international community towards the problem. Only later, after the explosion of illicit drug trafficking in the 1980s, the recommendation made the international community aware of the fact that money laundering has become a threat to the overall integrity of the financial system and can ultimately pose serious problems to the stability of democracy and the Rule of Law.

The main purpose of this type of crime is to make a profit for both the individual and the group committing the crime. It has been estimated that the result of money laundering activities worldwide reaches one trillion dollars annually. The illicit funds will be used by the perpetrator to fund future criminal activities. In addition, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) states that the total amount of money laundered in the world is estimated to be between two to five percent of the world's gross domestic product. When using the IMF's 1996 statistics, the percentage indicates that money laundering ranges from 590 billion US dollars to 1.5 trillion US dollars. The lowest figure is roughly equivalent to the overall value of Spanish economic products. In addition, based on the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (FATF), it is estimated that every year in Europe and North America money laundering ranges from 60 to 80 billion dollars in the financial system.

Excluding the countries in Asia, the amount of money put into illegal laundering practices raises serious concerns. Likewise, Indonesia is trying to enforce direct democracy as implemented in elections that began in 2005. In this arena, there is a tendency for money laundering to occur, although no evidence has been conclusive. Such an undertaking is done smoothly and secretively, yet it is logically justifiable.

Preventive Measure Through Criminal LAW, Tackling crime means an attempt to control crime within the limits of community tolerance (Reksodiputro, 1994). This means that evil, of all kinds, cannot be totally eliminated from the world because there are certain areas beyond the reach of law (the area of no enforcement), so what is possible to do is to minimize, not abolish, the crime. In criminal politics, the efforts to overcome crime include two approaches, namely penal lines (penal law) and non-penal (not using criminal law). In this section of the research, there is more emphasis on the penal approach as implemented in Law Number 32 of 2004, and attempts to examine whether the criminal provisions contained in Article 116 Paragraph (6) and Paragraph (7) Jo. Article 83 Paragraph (3) and Article 85 Paragraph (1) and Paragraph (2) are construed efficacious in preventing the possibility of money laundering in the Pilkada; these are construed along with the provisions of Article 3 Paragraph (1) Letter D, and Article 6 Paragraph (1) Letter D and E Act Number 25 of 2003 on Amendment to Law Number 15 of 2002 on Money Laundering Crime.

It is necessary to trace, in advance, whether there is a relationship between the potential for money laundering and the implementation of the elections. Tracing the relationship can be related to the provisions of Article 83 of Law Number 5/ 1999. 32 of 2004 which regulates the donation of campaign funds to the candidate pairs of regional regents and the permitted boundaries. In Article 83 Paragraph (1) it is determined that campaign funds can be obtained from: candidate pairs, a political party and/or a coalition of proposed political parties, or donations of other non-binding parties covering private donations and/or private

legal entities. However, of these three sources of funding, the law only limits to individual and/or private legal entities, that is, as stipulated in Article 83 Paragraph (3). The breach of such permitted limits shall be punishable under the provisions of Article 116 Paragraph (6) with a maximum imprisonment of four months or a maximum of twenty-four months and/or a fine of at least Rp 200,000,000.00 or a maximum of one billion rupiahs. The penalty imposed, both to the recipients and donors of the campaign funds, although in the provisions of Article 83 paragraph (3) the limit on the amount of funds, is addressed to the contributors.

Likewise, contrary to the provisions of Article 85 Paragraph (1), the candidate pairs of regional heads are prohibited to receive donations or other assistance for campaigns originating from: foreign countries, foreign private institutions, foreign non-governmental organizations and foreign nationals; donors or aid providers whose identity is unclear; and government, state-owned and local enterprises. Therefore, a candidate who receives these kinds of donations is not allowed to use them. Therefore, the candidates are obliged to report it to the Election Commission (Article 85, Paragraph 2) Violation of this provision. Those who receive and provide campaign funding as regulated in Article 116 Paragraph (7).

Under these provisions, the question arises of whether legal provisions will be effective or efficient in preventing the practice of money laundering around the implementation of Pilkada, especially given the various methods used launder money. The illegal funds to candidate pairs of general elections may be disbursed by means of several private persons or legal entities and break them up in accordance with the amounts permitted by Article 83 Paragraph (3) or the prohibitions stipulated in Article 85 Paragraph (1) and Paragraph (2) Invite-Number 32 of 2004. These articles are thus separated from the network of Article 116 Paragraph (6) and Paragraph (7) of Law Number 32, Year 2004.

When considering the limits mentioned in Article 83 Paragraph (3), along with the need for tens of billions of rupiah (possibly hundreds of billions or even trillions of rupiah), in order to run for elected office, the question is whether a prospective pair of candidatesis capable of providing such funds to finance his activities in the elections, especially if the pair is neither a local head who will run for the second time nor a large entrepreneur. This question also applies for the head of the existing region who wants to run for a second time. If the answer is "yes" (the candidate is capable), it is possible that the next question, "where does the funding come from?" could be addressed with the answer: the proceeds from crime, including but limited to corruption. It is assumed that the limitation of the amount of funds mentioned in Article 83, Paragraph (3) is describing merely a "donation," which only means aid for campaign activities. Whereas the funds for campaign activities require substantial funds; therefore, it appears that money launderers have the ability to outsmart the provisions of Article 83 Paragraph (3) to avoid the bondage of Article 116, Paragraph (6), and this constitutes the effort to avoid the bondage of Article 116, Paragraph (7) for violation of Article 85 Paragraph (1) and Paragraph (2). All of this is highly possible. Therefore, the search for money laundering practices in this activity actually can be done.

In addition, the provisions of Article 85, Paragraph (1) may also be tricked by using the method described by Gabriel A. Moens above, namely, through concealed identity, deposited funds, or having money transferred through an account under a pseudonym, just like how compa-

nies, family, or friends send money overseas. The proceeds of crime are sent abroad by using some means; these means include telegraphic transfers, travelers' checks, or even the money brought physically out of the country. Therefore, for foreign countries, foreign private institutions, foreign non-governmental organizations, and foreign citizens it is possible to send money to Indonesia through a well-managed network; then, the money is channeled through an agent or fund managers (individuals or groups) placed in areas in both the district and the province to candidates of regional elections who need a large amount of funds. Intense relationships are initially built between agents and regional head candidates or through successful teams. Various negotiations are discussed at this level before being forwarded to the top level for fund disbursement.

The possibility or potential occurrence of money laundering in general elections depends on whether the criminal provisions in the Act on Money Laundering can anticipate the occurrence of money laundering in these arenas. Referring to the provisions of Article 1, Number 1 of Law Number 8, Year 2010, money laundering is defined as all acts that meet the elements of criminal acts in accordance with the provisions of this Act. The definition and scope of the aforementioned article is limited to those specified in Article 3 to Article 5 of Law Number 5/1999. 8 Year 2010.

Chapter II Law Number 8, Year 2010, which regulates the Crime of Money Laundering from Article 3 to Article 5, is as follows: 1). In article 3, any person, who places, transfers, transfers, exempts, pays, grants, entrusts, takes abroad, transforms, or exchanges certain amount of money with currency or securities or other deeds of assets known or reasonably suspected as the proceeds of action (1) for the purpose of hiding or disguising the origin of the wealth, shall be liable for a Money Laundering crime with a maximum imprisonment of 20 (twenty) years and a maximum fine of Rp. 10,000,000,000.00 (ten billion rupiah); 2). In article 4, any person who conceals or disguises the origin, source, location, designation, transfer of rights, or actual ownership of any property known or reasonably suspected as a result of a criminal act as referred to in Article 2 paragraph (1) shall be punished for acts money laundering criminal with a maximum imprisonment of 20 (twenty) years and a fine of not more than Rp. 5,000,000,000.00 (five billion rupiahs); and 3). In article 5 (1), everyone who receives or controls the placement, transfer, payment, grant, donation, custody, exchange, or use of assets known or reasonably suspected is the result of a criminal act as referred to in Article 2 paragraph (1) with a maximum imprisonment of 5 (five) years and a maximum fine of Rp. 1.000.000.000,00 (one billion rupiah). (2) The provisions referred to in paragraph (1) shall not apply to reporting parties implementing reporting obligations as stipulated in this Law.

The handling of money laundering cases is a consequence of the application of the principle of legality, which has made criminal law have distinctive characteristics, namely related to sanctions, so that criminal law has a harsh and cruel nature (Tambir, 2019). Judging from the formulation of criminal sanctions, the provisions stipulated in Law Number 8, Year 2010 are higher than those stipulated in Law Number 32 of 2004. These provisions are even higher than those stipulated in the previous law, namely Law Number 25 of 2003 and Law Number 15 of 2002. It is fair because Law Number 32 of 2004 is basically pertinent to a criminal sanctioned by administrative law. Besides, according to Andi Hamzah, administrative legislation concerning criminal sanction usually deals with a violation offense only. However, this is not the case in an Indonesian context because there is admin-

istrative legislation that includes the death penalty. This is different from the Netherland context.

In Indonesia, policies that include criminal provisions in Law Number 32 of 2004, in essence, cannot be separated from the tendency of legislative policies that always enshrine the criminal provisions in administrative law. Administrative law is essentially a regulatory law, namely a law made for the exercise of regulating power or powers. Thus, the use of the term "administrative criminal law" is often also called a criminal law concerning the regulation or criminal law of the rules. Thus, the administrative criminal law is a manifestation of the policy of using criminal law as a means to enforce or implement the norms existing in the administrative law (Arief, 2003).

Furthermore, in terms of the policy of inclusion of criminal provisions, especially criminal penalties as regulated in Law Number 32, Year 2004 and Law Number 8, Year 2010, it is unclear whether sanctions will actually punish money launderers. This is especially unclear if the perpetrator is a legal entity or corporation. Indeed, criminologists, as written by Harry V. Ball dan Lawrence M. Friedman, have generally agreed to use fines as sanctions for violations of the penal law, because, with a fine, the profit earned by private business will be lost (because of the fine). Such penalties (fines) will be able to prevent the proceeds of profit through crime (Friedman, 1977).

Criticizing penal policies in the form of a fine, Mardjono Reksodiputro writes that a high criminal threat, with the intention that the company or organization feels loss for their actions, will reduce the company's profits (Reksodiputro, 1997). However, if the inclusion of a high criminal threat is based on the assumption that the company is very profit-oriented and shareholders who feel the loss will pressure the company to no longer commit a violation of the criminal law, then such assumptions will not mean much to large companies or conglomerates. This is explained by Reksodiputro, who came to the conclusion that high fines are not necessarily able to deter companies from committing crimes because their shareholders interpret them as risks that must be taken to earn substantial profits. In addition, in relation to the payroll of the company's professional managers, the high fine has no effect as it has been regulated in the contract.

In line with that view, Balakrishnan writes that indeed the fine is suitably applied to corporations or corporations, since corporations can not be imprisoned, but that fine, or fines, are not enough (Balakrishnan, 1973). This is owing to the sanctions in the form of criminal fines which will never be felt as a punishment. The presumption is that penalty as punishment is only on paper. In this regard, there needs to be special provisions, such as stopping corporate activities for a period and managing the corporation by the state.

Thus, the alternative to sanctions that enforce fines, as proposed by Reksodiputro and Balakrishnan, is actually based on the doubts regarding the sanction's ability to be imposed on corporations, especially if the corporation is large one. Seeking appropriate alternative sanctions to impose on corporations, Kadish proposed the form of giving the "evil label" to the corporation (Kadish, 1977). According to Kadish, giving a bad label can damage the name of the corporation in regards to its business activities, so it will affect the state of its economy. With sanctions in the form of stigma, corporations will have no opportunity to commit crimes.

FATF's concerns are only regarding the possibility of strengthening funding for terrorist ac-

tivities, whereas the course of money laundering practices does not close the possibility of penetrating into the implementation of regional elections in Indonesia. For further developments, FATF should also start directing its attention to the negative effects of democracy, such as donations of election campaign funds, both in developed and developing countries. In the United States, this issue was disclosed by the Corporate Crime Reporter on July 3, 2003 under the title Dirty Money: Corporate Criminal Donations to the Major Parties. In the report, it was argued that political parties should not receive money from bad corporations. When the WorldCom, ImClone, and Enron scandals emerged, politicians from both political parties (Republicans and Democrats) were under strict supervision from the press as they were insisted to return donations to companies contributing to their finance. However, the two big parties routinely still receive millions of dollars from bad corporations. Furthermore, it was reported that more than 31 bad corporations contributed $9.3 million to Democrats and Republicans during the 2002 election. Republican donations were $7.2 million (77%) and $2.1 million to Democrats (23%). Five of the biggest contributors to the two parties were: Archer Daniels Midland ($1.7 million), Pfizer ($1.1 million), Chevron ($875,400), Northrop Grumman ($741,250), and American Airlines ($655,593). In Indonesia, for example, fundraising campaigns with money-laundering schemes are likely to occur at the election level of members of the House of Representative, Regional Council of Representative, Regional House of Representative, the presidential election, and regional elections.

4. Conclusion

In an organized, transnational crime structure, money laundering is not only a crime, but also a means to open the potential for various crimes to conceal where certain amounts of money are obtained. Money from corruption is an example in this regard, which is a criminal offense defined in Law Number 8, Year 2010, as a crime that strives to hide the source acquisition by the perpetrators. The means for the concealment process, either through banks or non-banks, has been commonly discussed; but, in its development the discussion fails to elaborate as far as general elections as the initial start. Furthermore, if the candidates to the supported region win the election, then money laundering can be done in various projects.

In addition, to all parties (including regulators relating to general election), it is important to be wary of potential money laundering in relation to elections. Also FATF needs to include in its Forty Recommendations the potential for money laundering to occur in elections and the organization needs to appeal to countries in order to create regulations that aim to prevent the occurrence of money laundering using the means of direct elections.

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