Prevention of Radicalism and Terrorism in Higher Education: Regulation and Implementation

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Abstract
In recent years, the global landscape has witnessed an alarming rise in radicalism and terrorism, posing significant threats to societal stability
and security. Higher education institutions, traditionally regarded as bastions of knowledge and intellectual development, have increasingly found themselves at the forefront of efforts to prevent the radicalization of students and the potential for terrorism to take root within academic communities. This paper explores the multifaceted challenges faced by higher education institutions in addressing and mitigating the risks associated with radicalism and terrorism. The research delves into the regulatory frameworks implemented by governments and academic bodies to counteract the infiltration of extremist ideologies on campuses. By examining international case studies and drawing insights from diverse cultural contexts, the paper seeks to identify effective strategies for preventing radicalization within higher education settings. Furthermore, it analyzes the nuanced implementation of these regulations, taking into account the complex socio-political dynamics that influence their success or failure. The study emphasizes the importance of fostering a conducive educational environment that promotes critical thinking, inclusivity, and cultural understanding. It explores the role of academic curricula, extracurricular activities, and campus initiatives in shaping a resilient and tolerant student body. Additionally, the paper investigates the collaboration between universities, law enforcement agencies, and community stakeholders to create a comprehensive approach to counter radicalization. As higher education institutions navigate the delicate balance between preserving academic freedoms and ensuring security, this research contributes valuable insights into the evolving landscape of radicalism prevention. By synthesizing global experiences and proposing evidence-based recommendations, this paper aims to guide policymakers, educators, and administrators in developing proactive measures to safeguard the integrity of higher education institutions and foster environments that actively discourage radicalization and terrorism.

Keywords
Radicalism, Terrorism, Crime Prevention, Higher Education Policy, Law and Policy
A. Introduction

College is one of the educational institutions that plays a crucial role in shaping the character and mindset of students. This is where the younger generation is prepared to become quality individuals who can make positive contributions to society. College institutions strategically develop human resources through the Tri Dharma of College, which includes education and teaching, research, and community service. College institutions, as educational institutions, need to cultivate thinkers, researchers, and experts in various fields, mastering the ever-evolving knowledge and technology while becoming individuals with a broad vision and a strong sense of nationalism.

The college also serves as a place where students from diverse ethnic, racial, and religious backgrounds come together. As part of the younger generation of Indonesia, students have a significant responsibility in upholding and safeguarding the nation’s ideology and unity. Protecting unity and togetherness is a trust that must be carried out based on the noble values of Pancasila, which have been passed down by the nation’s founders. However, in fulfilling this trust, various challenges arise, especially in terms of changes in the way students think, which are vulnerable to being infiltrated by radicalism and terrorist ideologies.1

1 Basri Basri dan Nawang Retno Dwiningrum, “Potensi Radikalisme di Perguruan Tinggi (Studi Kasus di Politeknik Negeri Balikpapan),” *JSHP: Jurnal Sosial Humaniora dan Pendidikan* 3, no. 1 (2019): 84–91, https://doi.org/10.32487/jskp.v3i1.546. The highlighted cases underscore the imperative for a comprehensive approach encompassing multifaceted measures and preventive strategies in addressing the challenges posed by radicalism and terrorism. These instances emphasize the complexity of the issue, advocating for a well-rounded and nuanced response that goes beyond reactive measures. A comprehensive approach involves not only addressing the immediate manifestations of radicalization but also understanding and mitigating the underlying factors that contribute to the emergence and sustenance of extremist ideologies. This entails a blend of proactive measures, such as preventive education, community engagement, and the development of inclusive policies, to create a resilient and harmonious societal environment capable of deterring the roots of radicalism. See also Harmaji Harmaji, "Tackling Terrorism, an Indonesian Style on Penal and Non-Penal Policy Perspective: A Book Review Gaya Indonesia Menghadang Terorisme, Ali Masyhar." *Journal of Indonesian Legal Studies* 3.1 (2018): 147-150; Okti Putri Andini, "Cyber Terrorism Criminal Acts in the
Etymologically, radicalism comes from the word "radical" which means reaching its roots or completely. According to the Big Indonesian Dictionary, radicalism refers to an ideology or view that encourages social and political change by justifying the use of violence as a way to validate beliefs that are considered correct. Therefore, radicalism can be interpreted as a political ideology that aims to bring about massive social change and revolution to achieve significant progress. Meanwhile, the word terrorism comes from the French "le terreur", which originally referred to the actions of the French government after the French Revolution which used extreme violence to suppress anti-government movements. According to the Big Indonesian Dictionary, terrorism is defined as the use of violence to cause fear to achieve goals. Based on Law Number 5 of 2018, terrorism is an act that uses violence or threats of violence that creates create widespread terror or fear, which can cause mass casualties, and/or damage auction to vital strategic objects, and the environment. ligand e, public facilities, or international facilities with ideological, political, or security disturbance motives.


4 Undang Nomor 5 Tahun 2018 Tentang Perubahan Atas Undang-Undang Nomor 15 Tahun 2003 Tentang Penetapan Peraturan Pemerintah Pengganti Undang-Undang Nomor 1 Tahun 2002 Tentang Pemberantasan Tindak Pidana Terorisme Menjadi Undang-Undang. In the context of Indonesian legislative processes, this statement implies that amendments have been made to the original Law Number 15 of 2003. These amendments have been formalized through Law Number 5 of 2018, which essentially modifies and updates the legal framework for combating terrorism in the country. Such changes in the law may involve updates to definitions, enforcement mechanisms, and penalties related to acts of terrorism. The aim is often to enhance the effectiveness of the legal system in addressing contemporary challenges and evolving threats associated with terrorism. This legislative process reflects the government’s commitment to adapting and
In its development, radicalism can be a factor that triggers acts of terrorism. People who hold radical views may feel frustrated that their feelings are not represented in existing political or social systems, and that violence is the only way to express their views or achieve their goals. It can be concluded that radicalism and terrorism are not only about ideology but can be related to social, political, and even economic problems.

In fact, according to Murtadlo, recently the world of college was shocked by the results of research which stated that several campuses in Indonesia and their students were exposed to radicalism. Setara Institut (2019) stated that 10 well-known state universities were exposed to radicalism. The ten universities include UI Jakarta, IPB, ITB, UGM Yogyakarta, UNY, Unibraw Malang, Unair, Unram, UIN Jakarta, and UIN Bandung. The highest levels occurred at IPB and ITB. Meanwhile, in the religious college environment, this occurred at UIN Jakarta and UIN Bandung. Other news that adds to the impression of exposure to the campus world was conveyed by R Ryamizard Ryacudu, when he was

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still Minister of Defense, who stated that 23.4% of Indonesian students were exposed to radicalism.\(^7\)

Radicalism and terrorism are two highly complex and challenging issues to address\(^8\). Moreover, when it involves students who are at the core of educational institutions.\(^9\) The phenomenon above serves as a reason that research on the prevention of Radicalism and Terrorism in college institutions is crucial to conduct. Furthermore, efforts need to be made at the university level to curb the growth of radicalism and terrorism among students through regulation and implementation plans. As one of the efforts to address the issues outlined above, the proposed solution is through a research proposal titled "Preventing Radicalism and Terrorism in College: Regulation and Implementation (A Study at Universitas Negeri Semarang)."

Based on the issues outlined earlier, the research questions in this study encompass three main aspects: First, how is the policy for preventing radicalism in college institutions (a study at Universitas Negeri Semarang)? Second, how is the implementation of policies for preventing radicalism and terrorism at Universitas Negeri Semarang? And third, what efforts does the Universitas Negeri Semarang campus undertake to address students or faculty members exposed to radicalism and terrorism?

**B. Method**

In this scientific research, one of the grand methods that can be utilized is Library Research, which is a scholarly work based on literature or references. Another option is Field Research, involving on-site investigations, and the third is Bibliographic Research, focusing on the ideas contained in theories. Based on the subject of study and the type of problem at hand, for this research, the Library Research method will

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be employed, commonly referred to as "Legal Research".¹⁰ Research in law of this kind does not involve field research because the subject of study is legal materials, making it a library-based research that focuses on reading and analyzing primary and secondary materials.

C. Results and Discussion

1. The Policy of Preventing Radicalism and Terrorism in College (A Study at Universitas Negeri Semarang)

The obligation to adhere to Pancasila and the Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia of 1945 is one of the fundamental principles in the life of Indonesian citizens. Pancasila, as the foundation of the state, embodies five values that must be upheld: belief in one God, humanity, unity, democracy, and justice. Additionally, the Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia of 1945 emphasizes the rights and duties of citizens. Every Indonesian citizen is required to respect and implement the values of Pancasila in their daily life, such as preserving diversity, respecting human rights, and contributing to the development and progress of the nation. Adhering to Pancasila and the Constitution is an integral part of the identity and responsibility of every Indonesian citizen in building and maintaining this nation.

Universitas Negeri Semarang is a legal entity state university established according to Government Regulation Number 36 of 2022 concerning Legal Entity State Universities (PP No. 36 Tahun 2022). Article 7 of PP No. 36 of 2022 stipulates that Universitas Negeri Semarang adheres to the fundamental values of Pancasila. Consequently, this article implies that all elements of the academic community, various university-level and faculty-level regulations, as well as all behaviors and activities within Universitas Negeri Semarang, must be based on Pancasila and should not contradict any of the values within Pancasila. The application of Pancasila values in all aspects of university life, including the behavior and activities of the academic community, is a relevant step in preventing radicalism and terrorism. By emphasizing the importance of values such as unity, democracy, and social justice, Universitas Negeri Semarang encourages its students and

staff to develop a strong understanding of inclusivity, tolerance, and diversity.

The obligation to adhere to Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia is reflected in Article 8, paragraph (2), letter e of the Rector’s Regulation of Universitas Negeri Semarang Number 19 of 2016 concerning the Ethics and Student Code of Conduct at Universitas Negeri Semarang. In essence, within the academic domain, students are prohibited from participating in activities that deviate from religious teachings and the norms of Pancasila, as well as the 1945 Constitution of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia. This article illustrates the university's commitment to upholding the academic integrity and morality of students, especially in the context of academic activities. This is a highly relevant step in maintaining consistency with the fundamental values of the Indonesian state, which encompass Pancasila as the state ideology and the 1945 Constitution as the constitution that governs the foundations of the state.

In the context of preventing radicalism and terrorism, the above-mentioned article has a significant impact. By prohibiting students from engaging in activities that contradict religious teachings, the norms of Pancasila, and the Constitution, the university not only ensures that the academic environment remains neutral from the potential influence of extremists but also shapes responsible, tolerant students who understand the importance of diversity in society.

In another regulation issued by the Rector, the obligation to adhere to Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution in the context of not participating in radicalism and terrorism activities can be observed in the Universitas Negeri Semarang Rector’s Regulation Number 49 of 2022 concerning the Procedures for the Formation and Registration of Student Organizations and Activities at Universitas Negeri Semarang (Rector’s Regulation No. 49 of 2022). Article 6, letter a, states that every student organization is prohibited from engaging in activities that contradict the Pancasila ideology and the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia. In the previous Rector’s Regulation, specifically Rector’s Regulation Number 45 of 2018 concerning Student
Organizations within Universitas Negeri Semarang, this prohibition was not explicitly mentioned.\textsuperscript{11}

The regulations mentioned above serve as concrete evidence of the strong commitment held by Universitas Negeri Semarang in its efforts to prevent all forms of radicalism and terrorism within the university environment. By introducing and implementing these regulations, Universitas Negeri Semarang takes proactive steps to ensure that its academic environment remains safe, peaceful, and free from ideologies that could threaten social stability and national security. These measures reflect Universitas Negeri Semarang’s role in educating and guiding its students and academic staff to become responsible citizens, critical thinkers, and staunch advocates of the national values enshrined in Pancasila and the Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia. Universities are not just places for academic learning but also centers for the cultivation of strong character and a profound understanding of the importance of combating radicalism and terrorism.

2. Implementation of the Policy on Preventing Radicalism and Terrorism at Universitas Negeri Semarang

The ideology of radicalism continues to exhibit worrying developments in Indonesia, causing deep concerns among the public regarding the threats of radicalism and terrorism. Amidst these concerns, Universitas Negeri Semarang has made a firm commitment to confront and counter the spread of such ideologies. Universitas Negeri Semarang has taken various strategic steps in its efforts to prevent radicalism and terrorism within the university environment. While Universitas Negeri Semarang has established relevant policies, it is acknowledged that having policies alone is insufficient to address the root of this issue. To achieve more tangible results, there is a need for the actual implementation of these policies.

The implementation of the policy for preventing radicalism and terrorism at Universitas Negeri Semarang can be observed through a series of actions aimed at creating a safe, inclusive, and intellectually supportive environment for students, as follows:

a. Seminar on the Prevention of Radicalization and Terrorism at Universitas Negeri Semarang

Quoting from the official website Universitas Negeri Semarang.ac.id, Universitas Negeri Semarang has organized several webinars and seminars with the theme of preventing radicalization and terrorism within the university environment. One example is on August 4, 2020, when Universitas Negeri Semarang conducted a National Seminar online via the Zoom application with the theme "Pencegahan Radikalisisasi di Lingkungan Perguruan Tinggi". Through this seminar, Universitas Negeri Semarang aims to enhance understanding and awareness of the threat of radicalization within the university environment, as well as provide a platform for sharing knowledge, experiences, and best solutions in preventing and addressing this issue.

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This seminar can provide a better insight to the academic community on how radicalization can develop among students and within the university environment.

b. **Collaboration between Universitas Negeri Semarang and BNPT**

The vulnerability of students as potential targets for radical groups has become an increasingly pressing issue in counter-terrorism efforts. In response to this problem, Universitas Negeri Semarang has collaborated with the National Counterterrorism Agency (BNPT) in an event organized as a gathering and meeting on June 8, 2020, to address the threat of radicalism in college. The presence of radicalism within the campus environment has been a focal point of concern because universities are places where ideologies and ideas rapidly develop. Campuses provide students with a platform for discussion, debate, and the development of their worldviews. However, within the framework of academic freedom that must be respected, radicalism can instill thoughts that potentially undermine peace and social stability. Recognizing the complexity of this issue, Universitas Negeri Semarang and BNPT have realized the importance of collaboration between educational institutions and the government in preventing and addressing radicalism among students.¹³

c. **The Establishment of Pancasila Education as a General Basic Course at Universitas Negeri Semarang**

Universitas Negeri Semarang Rector, Prof. Dr. S. Martono, M.Si., stated that Pancasila education is a mandatory course for students in all faculties and programs at Universitas Negeri Semarang to support the development of students' character.¹⁴ The establishment of Pancasila education as a general basic course at Universitas Negeri Semarang

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serves a highly important purpose, namely as a concrete step in the effort to prevent radicalism and terrorism. This decision not only impacts the understanding of Pancasila values as the state ideology but also serves as a preventive measure in addressing the threat of radicalism that can undermine the nation’s foundation. Pancasila education at Universitas Negeri Semarang provides an opportunity for students to comprehend the fundamental principles that underlie Indonesia, such as democracy, pluralism, and tolerance. By understanding these values, students become more capable of fostering social harmony and avoiding falling into radical ideologies that have the potential to endanger the country’s stability through acts of terrorism. This step is a tangible manifestation of Universitas Negeri Semarang’s commitment to supporting the development of students’ characters that are characterized by integrity, quality, and a strong sense of national identity, making them the vanguards in preserving the unity and integrity of the Indonesian nation. Therefore, Pancasila education at Universitas Negeri Semarang is not just a course but also tangible proof of Universitas Negeri Semarang implementing its policies as an effort to prevent and mitigate the potential for radicalism and terrorism within the campus environment.

d. **Supervision of Student Activities at Universitas Negeri Semarang**

According to Article 1, number 5 of Universitas Negeri Semarang Rector’s Regulation Number 45 of 2018 concerning Student Organizations within Universitas Negeri Semarang (Rector’s Regulation Universitas Negeri Semarang No. 45 of 2018), Student Activities refer to extracurricular activities aimed at personal development, expanding knowledge, enhancing scholarship, and fostering personal integrity in pursuit of college goals. Extracurricular activities, as defined in this context, encompass activities related to reasoning and scholarship, entrepreneurship, interests and talents, student welfare development, and community service. Student activities constitute a vital aspect of developing students’ potential and character. These activities can take various forms, including organizations, academic pursuits, arts, culture, sports, social engagement, entrepreneurship, and others. Student activities should ideally bring benefits to the students themselves, the university, the community, and
the nation. However, in an era of rapid globalization and information technology advancements, student activities also face various challenges and threats. One of these challenges is the infiltration of radicalism and terrorism ideologies, which can undermine the values of Pancasila, Bhinneka Tunggal Ika (unity in diversity), and the 1945 Constitution. Radicalism and terrorism ideologies can disrupt national unity, threaten national security stability, and pose significant risks in today’s rapidly changing global landscape.

In Article 19 through Article 22 of Universitas Negeri Semarang Rector’s Regulation No. 45 of 2018, permissions and recommendations for activities, activity requirements, and off-campus activities are regulated. These rules constitute a form of oversight by Academic Leadership overall student activities. All student organization activities must obtain permission from the Vice-Rector for Student Affairs and Partnerships and receive a recommendation letter from the respective faculty, which is issued by the Dean through the Vice Dean for Student Affairs and facilitated by the Head of the Academic Affairs and Student Cooperation Bureau (BAKK). In addition to activity permissions and recommendation letters, student organizations, whether at the university or faculty level, conducting off-campus activities must be accompanied by a maximum of 2 Faculty Advisors. Therefore, this supervision aims to prevent and counteract any indications or signs of radicalism and terrorism among students. This oversight also intends to guide and nurture students to have a tolerant, moderate, democratic, and nationalistic attitude.

3. Efforts to Counter Students or Lecturers at Universitas Negeri Semarang Exposed to Radicalism and Terrorism

Crime prevention policy, or criminal policy, is a rational effort as a response to criminal activities. As a part of law enforcement policy, crime prevention policy should have the capability to direct every element within the legal system toward a supportive and implementable approach to curbing criminal activities. This involves increasing legal awareness in society so that they are willing to actively participate in crime prevention efforts. Therefore, crime prevention policy must be
implemented through rational and comprehensive planning as a response to criminal activities.\(^\text{15}\)

Universitas Negeri Semarang is one of the college institutions committed to realizing its vision as an excellent conservation-oriented university with an international perspective. In pursuit of this vision, Universitas Negeri Semarang consistently strives to uphold national values, tolerance, and harmony among religious communities within the campus environment. Achieving this vision would be challenging if radicalism and terrorism ideologies were rapidly spreading within the campus. Therefore, efforts are required to curb and eliminate these ideologies before they manifest into actual actions, potentially causing instability in society, the campus environment, and the nation. One approach to counter radicalism and terrorism at Universitas Negeri Semarang is to implement a crime prevention policy proposed by Barda Nawawi Arief, which includes\(^\text{16}\):

a. Penal Policy (criminal law), in this context, emphasizes a more "repressive" approach to crime, focusing on law enforcement actions after a crime has occurred. Essentially, criminal law is an integral part of law enforcement efforts, so criminal law policy is inherently part of law enforcement policy. When radicalism and terrorism have manifested into actual actions causing instability in society, the campus environment, and the nation, addressing this issue becomes the responsibility of the government, as regulated by Law Number 5 of 2018 concerning Amendments to Law Number 15 of 2003 concerning the Determination of Government Regulations in place of Law Number 1 of 2002 concerning the Eradication of Terrorism Acts into Law. However, universities can also take action by imposing sanctions on students and lecturers who are involved in or exposed to radicalism and terrorism, such as dismissal, freezing of student or lecturer status, prohibition from participating in campus activities, counseling support, or disciplinary actions by campus regulations. The primary purpose of these sanctions is to protect


the integrity and security of the campus and encourage individuals involved to return to a path that aligns with the values and principles upheld by the educational institution.

b. Non-penal policy, which is the policy of crime prevention through "non-penal" means, is primarily focused on preventive measures before crimes occur. Therefore, its main target is to address the conducive factors that cause crimes, which are centered around social problems or conditions that can directly or indirectly lead to or foster criminal activities. From the perspective of crime prevention policies, these non-penal efforts have a strategic position and play a key role that needs to be intensified and made effective. The forms of non-penal policies in efforts to combat radicalism and terrorism in the environment of Universitas Negeri Semarang are as follows:

1) Establishing a special unit tasked with early detection and prevention of indications of radicalism and terrorism within the campus environment.

2) Developing curricula and course syllabi that integrate values of conservation, nationalism, tolerance, and interfaith harmony.

3) Encouraging students or lecturers to actively participate in student organizations, religious, social, cultural, or artistic organizations that are inclusive and pluralistic.

Furthermore, Universitas Negeri Semarang (UNNES) employs various non-penal policies to counteract the threats of radicalism and terrorism within its academic environment. Firstly, the establishment of a specialized unit dedicated to the early detection and prevention of signs of radicalism and terrorism stands out as a crucial initiative. This unit plays a proactive role in monitoring campus activities, identifying potential indicators of extremist ideologies, and implementing preventative measures to maintain the safety and integrity of the university community.

Secondly, UNNES focuses on the educational aspect by integrating values of conservation, nationalism, tolerance, and interfaith harmony into its curricula and course syllabi. By infusing these values across academic programs, the university aims to instill a sense of civic responsibility, cultural understanding, and inclusivity among its
students. This approach not only serves as a preventive measure but also contributes to the broader mission of cultivating socially conscious and responsible graduates who can actively contribute to a harmonious and tolerant society.

Additionally, UNNES encourages active engagement in diverse student organizations, encompassing religious, social, cultural, or artistic domains. The emphasis is placed on inclusivity and pluralism, fostering an environment where students and lecturers can participate in activities that promote understanding and collaboration across various backgrounds. This approach recognizes the importance of social integration and community building in preventing radicalization, as inclusive spaces contribute to breaking down potential barriers and fostering a sense of shared identity and purpose within the university community.

D. Conclusion

In conclusion, this study highlights Universitas Negeri Semarang’s proactive measures in mitigating the risks of radicalism and terrorism within its academic milieu. Through the establishment and rigorous enforcement of pertinent regulations, the university underscores its unwavering dedication to fostering an environment of security, peace, and upholding national values. These regulations, serving as both monitoring mechanisms and educational tools, play a pivotal role in instilling a sense of responsibility and awareness among the university community regarding the imperative task of countering radicalism. This emphasis on prevention underscores the indispensable role of universities as key contributors to social stability and national security, thereby reinforcing their commitment to shaping a resilient and conscientious society.

E. References


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Acknowledgment
Authors are express the thankfulness to all parties involved on this research and program, especially to Research and Community Services Unit at the Faculty of Law UNNES, Anti-Radicalism and Terrorism Studies Center, Legal Aid Center, and Penal Study Club Universitas Negeri Semarang.

Funding Information
This research funded by Universitas Negeri Semarang (DPA Faculty of Law UNNES of 2023).

Conflicting Interest Statement
There is no conflict of interest in the publication of this article.

Publishing Ethical and Originality Statement
All authors declared that this work is original and has never been published in any form and in any media, nor is it under consideration for publication in any journal, and all sources cited in this work refer to the basic standards of scientific citation.