

EDITOR *in* CHIEF COMMENTARY **Legal Reform in Indonesia**

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LEGAL scholars have been discussing two important roles of law: social control and social engineering. As a social control, law is designed and introduced to control the behaviours of society members in accordance with particular values and norms agreed upon by the community. In this context, the law has a power to sanction and punish the unlawful members of society. As a social engineering, law is intended to create an ideal society in accordance with, again, particular values and norms agreed upon by the community. Hence, law is not for law. Law is created to serve human beings. Law is introduced for the well-being of the society members.

As the law is for human, and human's situations and problems are changing, then law also needs to change and adapt to the context of the times. Here, the concept of legal reform is a key. Every society, including the Indonesian society, sometimes needs to reform the law to make it more relevant and suitable for the needs of the society.

To highlight the significance of law reform for the society, this Journal volume is dedicated to discuss several issues related to the legal reform in Indonesia. Jhody and Rodiyah, for example, discuss the ideas of poverty reduction through a public service reform. Using a legal perspective, they analyze how the Sragen local government has managed to reform its public services in order to reduce the poverty level in the regency of Sragen. Another author, Winarsih, discusses how legal reform is needed to resolve current disputes in the contexts of customary law. She analyzes the contribution of

the new law on village – that is, Law No. 6 Year 2014 on resolving the disputes occurred in the context of “Desa Adat”. An article by Setiawan, Sulistianingsih, and Yudistira focuses specifically on the regulation and protection on non-traditional trademarks in Indonesia. They argue that the new Law No. 20 Year 2016 has accommodated the ideas of legal protection on non-traditional trademarks in Indonesia. Yet, the problem is on the aspect of legal implementation, which according to them, needs to be resolved by the government.

I would like to thank all the authors who have contributed their articles for this JILS edition. I would also like to extend my sincere gratitude to the board of editors and administrative staff of the Journal of Indonesian Legal Studies, who have made a great effort to make this edition possible. For the readers of this Academic Journal, I wish this edition provides you with some new insights on the practices of the legal system in Indonesia. Enjoy!

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