

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING THE YEAR 2016

REPORT

CHAPTER INDONESIA

INTRODUCTION

There are 5 (FIVE) serious problems being a trending topic in Indonesia at this time, which is dealt with by the Indonesian nation. These problems are: 1) religious intolerance that began to develop into radicalism to extremism and terrorism. This situation has even entered into the schools and campuses¹; 2) the issue of managing religious differences (intra and inter), which include the issue of Freedom of Religion and Belief. For examples, there are still emerging cases of difficulty in obtaining permission to build a house of worship, closure and cessation of forced religious activities, not only among Christians but also Muslims, Buddhist, even that is developing now is "solidarity destructive", in defense of "he same" religious groups (individual or groups of the same religion-who are victims, may retaliate against any individual or group of the actors, though located in different areas); 3) corruption, which still active done by the elite government (executive, legislative, judicative), increasingly and transparent ; 4) Drugs, not only among young people, college/university students, but also to the elite ranks of the government and the Indonesian National Army forces and police; 5) Violence among school children caused by the influence of social media; 6) Environment, forest and water resources are increasingly experiencing heavy losses.

These issues must have underlying causes and not just a socio-cultural phenomenon in general. However, there are fundamental questions that need to be answered, resolved the fundamental solution, which also has access to the profound changes and the long-term effects. What is that? How to do it? For example, the effects of changes demography in public life in one particular area. What happend with the dynamic of religious and ethnic diversities? How to manage religious and ethnic divercity, which are increasingly prevalent? Those are the things that need to be pursued, not only by the Government, but also by the various stakeholders who owned the nation, such as schools, university, as well as NGOs - such as the Institute for Interfaith Dialogue in Indonesia (Interfidei) or Religious Organizations like Indonesian Committee of Religions and Peace (I Com-RP) or Indonesian Conference of Religions and Peace (Icon-RP).

¹ The results of collaborative research Ministry of Religion of the three provinces in Java: East Java, Central Java and Yogyakarta in 2016 - not including West Java, the province's most intolerant in Indonesia, according to research by The Wahid Institute 2014, Jakarta. Also the study of Interfidei from the information of the teachers, who are teaching Religions and Civic Education in Schools in different provinces. They all were as participants in different kind of workshops, done by Interfidei.

Various activities have been and are being made by the three institutions as the Indonesian Chapter of ACRP, is not yet fully engaged with the problems mentioned above in a comprehensive manner. But there are activities carried out respectively, both as prevention , anticipatory as well as the settlement or the nature of support.

ACTIVITIES

The activities of each institution throughout 2015, generally, as follows:

1. *Indonesian Conference of Religions and Peace (ICON-RP)*. In addition to the regular activities such group discussions, seminar and conference related to the topical issues in Indonesia, which are involving various circles of different religions, including the religions, which "unrecognized" yet officially by the State, Icon-RP often involved in the Coalition of Pluralism Movement in Indonesia to fight for their rights as "religious minorities" groups. Now, Icon-RP together with several other institutions are preparing a draft of legislation on 'religious freedom' that will be proposed to the Government (executive and/or legislative). In addition, Icon-RP also has managed to create a module of Religious School activities, which is usually held every month in Icon-RP office in Jakarta. This program usually cooperated with the Islamic State University in Jakarta and other network of Icon-RP.

2. *Indonesian Committee of Religions and Peace (ICOM-RP)*. Through Center for Dialogue and Cooperation among Civilizations (CDCC) and FKKI (a Christian Community Forum in Indonesia, which is organized by Mr. Theophilus Bela), ICOM-RP perform various discussions, conference and seminar, which involving various religions, both at the level of leaders of religions as well as youth in Jakarta, and internationally involving many parties, including Government.

3. *Institute for Interfaith Dialogue in Indonesia (Interfidei)*. The Year 2016 is the 25 Years of Interfidei (1991-2016, August 10th). Throughout 2015, Interfidei do some activities on the basis of two things: a) How to bridge the differences that exist among religions (intra and inter- including theological matters), so that the difference is not a catastrophe but it became a joint force that gives a positive power for the live of people and for the nation? b) How can religions being brave and critical-positively to run the "calling" to create a life that is fair, true, peaceful and civilized in the midst of challenges and ongoing threats faced by the nation? For those issues, Interfidei keep doing a various activities in some areas. First one, in the field of informal education. There are several models, among other things: learn to manage the differences (stereotyping, dialogue), learn to conduct a social analysis, human rights, investigation, advocacy and journalistic writing. There are three target groups: Youth (student activist); Teachers of Religion and Civic Education; as well as the head of the Community-based Religious Leaders. Also, in 2015 Interfidei continued the program on

Interfaith School. This year is already for the 7th year. This program has been doing in cooperation with 3 (three) Religious based Universities (Protestant/UKDW, Catholic/USD, Islam/UIN). This activity is usually followed by students from other universities, too. The theme of last year program was "Religions and Disability Issues in Indonesia". Besides those, Interfidei also doing advocacy in coalition with Indonesia Interfaith Network, and the local network level. Usually the advocacy was dealing with the problems of discrimination in the field of Freedom of Religion and Belief, also in the problems of violence, which done by the intolerant groups. Also, Interfidei doing Seminars, Conferences, FGD on different issues, for examples: Environment, Drugs, LGBT, etc. In carrying out various activities such as those mentioned above, Interfidei always working in collaboration with various stakeholders, including the Religious Institutions and the Government, local or national, Police Institution, etc. Interfidei also carry out capacity building activities of the interfaith network, publication (books and NL), social media (website, facebook and twitter) as well as continue to support the activities of Religions Leaders in Papua and the Papua Peace Network for Papua, Land of Peace. The details of the activities can be read, for example in Newsletter, July-December 2015 (attached).

CLOSING

Indeed, ACRP Chapter Indonesia has never been implementing activities, which is designed and implemented jointly by the three institutions, but in each, the activities above is always carried out, with the hope that all relevant to the vision and mission of ACRP. Our report therefore, may be an inspiration and encouragement to all of you, as our partner in Asia.

With our Regards and Hope,

ACRP Chapter Indonesia

- Indonesian Committee of Religions and Peace (ICOM-RP), Jakarta
- Indonesian Conference of Religions and Peace (Icon-RP), Jakarta
- Institute for Interfaith Dialogue in Indonesia (Interfidei), Jogjakarta