

Indonesian Institute Insists Law on Mass Organizations Urgently Needs Revising



[AH27_231117 AntoniusHerujiyanto_USD_Yk]

The Director of Imparsial Institute, [the Indonesian Human Rights Monitor](#), Al Araf, has said that the Indonesian government has indirectly admitted the weakness of Perppu [or a regulation in lieu of law] No. 2 of 2017 on Mass Organizations [dated on 10 July 2017].

[The very Perppu is the amendment of Law No. 17 of 2013 on Community Organization. It is originally meant as the legal basis for the government to disband the Indonesian Hizbut Tahir or HTI deemed anti-Pancasila (Indonesian ideology) two days after the amendment (on 12 July).]

[According to the government, HTI has been factually found as an Indonesian Islamic organization seeking to establish a global Islamic caliphate in Pancasila Indonesia. Perppu No. 2 of 2017 was, then, ratified Tuesday (on 24 October) by the House of Representatives (DPR) into Law No. 2/2017 on Mass Organizations.]

Mentioning that the government has been transparent, Al Araf said that President Joko Widodo had even stated, welcoming to any revisions on the new Law.

According to him, DPR has also planned to do so in their “Prolegnas Prioritas 2018” or the 2018 Priority National Legislation Programme.

“Both the government and DPR have understood about the substantial problems of the new Law especially in dealing with the idea of strongly establishing democracy in the country,” he said in his office, Jakarta on Monday (20 November).

He further said that it was very important to revise the very new law since some of its articles were potentially becoming the tools to exercise abuse of power. The government might, for example, disband any organizations with an excuse that their activities and ideas deemed to be threats to the country's founding ideology Pancasila.

Source: YGN/MAS, [hidayatullah/berita/nasional/read/2017/11/23/128689/imparsial-beberapa-pasal-uu-ormas-sangat-berbahaya-penting-direvisi.html](#), “Imparsial: Beberapa Pasal UU Ormas Sangat Berbahaya, Penting Direvisi (Imparsial Institute: Some articles of Law No. 2/2017 on Mass Organizations urgently need revising)”, in Indonesian, 23 Nov 17.

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