

## Muslims as Victims of Govt's Hoax Eradication-Indonesian Legislator



## [AntoniusHeruji yanto AH20\_160318]

The Indonesian Vice-Speaker of DPR or the House of Representatives, Fadli Zon, who is from the Opposition, has complained about the government's idea to name those producing, providing and spreading hoaxes [in the sense of making libellous accusations, informing fake news, producing hate speeches] as "Muslim Cyber Army". He said, thus, that Muslims would be the majority victims of the authorities' actions to eradicate hoaxes. He also stated that the issues of eradicating hoaxes have been made use as political tools in the country.

The legislator's statement was made during a public discussion held by JITU or the United Muslim Journalists in Jakarta on Saturday (10 March). The theme of the event was "#WarOnHoax".

According to him, it is ironical that the authorities' actions in their attempts to eradicate hoaxes have produced impressions of being partial since their actions tend to be directed to only those [Islamic] non-governmental groups, institutions, and individuals.

He also said that the authorities' attitudes made the people have the impression that the term "War on Hoax" had been used to justify to immediately arrest those criticising or being critical to the government. On top of that, the very critical people were even discredited by media controlled by political parties which were not in opposition to the government.

Fadli Zon also complained that the government had done otherwise, namely, very slowly when they were faced with governmental groups and [non-Islamic] institutions and individuals spreading similar (political) hoaxes.

Source: HS/IS,kiblat/2018/03/10/fadli-zon-mayoritas-muslim-menjadi-korban-pemberantasan-hoaks/, "Fadli Zon: Mayoritas Muslim Menjadi Korban Pemberantasan Hoaks (Fadli Zon: Muslims becoming victims of actions to eradicate hoaxes)", in Indonesian, 10 March 18.

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