



## **THE ROLE OF MEDAN HELVETIA SECTOR POLICE IN ENFORCING NARCOTICS CRIME**

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### **Abstrak**

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis peran Kepolisian Sektor (Polsek) Medan Helvetia dalam penegakan tindak pidana narkoba, serta mengidentifikasi strategi dan kendala yang dihadapi dalam proses pelaksanaannya. Menggunakan pendekatan yuridis-empiris, penelitian ini menggabungkan data primer melalui observasi dan wawancara dengan data sekunder berupa dokumen hukum dan literatur terkait. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa Polsek Medan Helvetia menjalankan peran strategis melalui tiga pendekatan utama, yaitu promotif, preventif, dan represif. Pendekatan promotif diwujudkan dalam bentuk penyuluhan dan edukasi kepada masyarakat, sementara pendekatan preventif melibatkan pengawasan wilayah rawan dan kerja sama lintas sektor. Adapun tindakan represif dilakukan melalui operasi

rutin, penangkapan, serta penegakan hukum secara tegas terhadap pelaku. Kendala utama yang dihadapi antara lain minimnya laporan masyarakat, keterbatasan sumber daya, dan kompleksitas jaringan peredaran narkoba. Oleh karena itu, efektivitas penegakan hukum membutuhkan sinergi yang lebih kuat antara aparat kepolisian dan partisipasi masyarakat dalam menciptakan lingkungan yang bebas narkoba. Temuan ini menegaskan pentingnya pendekatan kolaboratif dan berkelanjutan dalam penanggulangan kejahatan narkoba di tingkat lokal.

**Kata kunci:** *polsek medan helvetia, narkoba, penegakan hukum*

### **Abstract**

This research aims to analyze the role of Medan Helvetia Sector Police (Polsek) in enforcing narcotics crimes, as well as identifying strategies and obstacles faced in the implementation process. Using a juridical-empirical approach, this research combines primary data through observation and interviews with secondary data in form of legal documents and related literature. The results show that Medan Helvetia Police carry out a strategic role through three main approaches, namely promotive, preventive, and repressive. The promotive approach is realized in form of counseling and education to the community, while the preventive approach involves monitoring vulnerable areas and cross-sector cooperation. Repressive measures are carried out through routine operations, arrests, and strict law enforcement against perpetrators. The main obstacles faced include the lack of community reports, limited resources, and complexity of drug trafficking networks. Therefore, the effectiveness of law enforcement requires stronger synergy between police officers and community participation in creating a drug-free environment. The findings confirm the importance of a collaborative and sustainable approach to tackling drug crime at the local level.

**Keywords:** *medan helvetia sector police, narcotics, law enforcement*

### **INTRODUCTION**

The police are a state of institution that has strategic responsibility in ensuring the rule of law and social order was realize in society. Normatively, the main tasks of the Indonesian National Police (POLRI) have been regulated in Article 13 of Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the Indonesian National Police, which include (1) maintaining security

and public order; (2)enforcing the law; and (3)providing protection, protection and services the community.<sup>1</sup> With this scope of tasks, the National Police expected to be a forefront in providing sense of security, maintaining social stability, and tackling various forms of crime, including narcotics crimes which are increasingly worrying.<sup>2</sup>

Narcotics crime is form of extraordinary crime that not only damages the health and future of the nation's generation, but also poses a serious threat to national security. The abuse and illicit trafficking of narcotics has caused various negative impacts, both in terms of health, social, economic and security.<sup>3</sup> Therefore, handling narcotics problem requires a comprehensive, systematic approach, and involves various actors, including the police, other legal institutions, and active community participation.<sup>4</sup>

Legally, the regulation of narcotics crimes has been formulated in Law Number 35 of 2009 concerning Narcotics. This law comprehensively regulates the classification of narcotics, prohibitions and sanctions, as well as the authority of law enforcement officials in carrying out preventive and repressive actions. However, practice the implementation of the law in various regions often faces obstacles, both structurally, culturally, and technically-operationally. The disparity between normative regulations and their implementation in the field is classic problem that continues to surface in various legal policy studies, including in handling narcotics.<sup>5</sup>

Sector police as the leading unit in the police organizational structure has an important position in law enforcement at the local level.

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<sup>1</sup> Edi Saputra Hasibuan, *Hukum Kepolisian Dan Criminal Policy Dalam Penegakan Hukum* (PT. RajaGrafindo Persada-Rajawali Pers, 2021).

<sup>2</sup> I Made Karnadi, I Nyoman Gede Sugiarta, and Ida Ayu Putu Widiati, "Fungsi Badan Narkotika Nasional (BNN) Dan Polisi Dalam Tindak Pidana Narkotika," *Jurnal Preferensi Hukum* 2, no. 1 (2021): 114–18.

<sup>3</sup> Paian Tumanggor, Ediwarman Ediwarman, and Mahmud Mulyadi, "Pemberatan Pidanaan Terhadap Aparat Penegak Hukum Sebagai Pengedar/Bandar Narkotika," *Jurnal Normatif* 2, no. 1 (2022): 146–49.

<sup>4</sup> Andika Dian Tetuko, "Urgensi Partisipasi Masyarakat Dalam Penanggulangan Tindak Pidana Narkotika," *Jurnal Hukum Pidana Dan Kriminologi* 4, no. 1 (2023): 1–11.

<sup>5</sup> Krisfian Fatahilla, Sufirman Rahman, and Baharuddin Badaru, "Efektifitas Pidanaan Dalam Proses Penegakan Hukum Tindak Pidana Penyalahgunaan Narkotika," *Journal of Lex Generalis (JLG)* 3, no. 4 (2022): 743–57.

Although structurally the Sector police is under the Polres (Resort police), in terms of function, the Sector police is the closest institution to community and has a crucial role in handling various legal issues in their respective areas. Therefore, the capacity and effectiveness of Sector police in responding narcotics crime issues is an important to be studied further.<sup>6</sup>

The jurisdiction of Medan Helvetia Sector Police, as part of Medan City which is known for its complex social dynamics and high level of urbanization, is one of areas that is quite vulnerable narcotics abuse and trafficking. Data collected by the Criminal Investigation Unit of Medan Helvetia Sector Police shows that in the last five years, from 2020 to February 2025, there were no less than 200 cases of narcotics crime. The majority of perpetrators are adults 80%, followed by children at 10%, and women at 5%. This fact shows that narcotics cases in the region are not only high, but also involve productive age groups who should be assets for national development.

This phenomenon raises some of critical questions about the effectiveness of counter-narcotics strategies that have been carried out by the police at the sector level. On the one hand, the increase in the number of cases can be understood as a form of increased intensity and success of the authorities in taking action. But in other hand, it also can be indicator weak of preventive efforts and not optimal synergy between law enforcement officials and the community in creating a clean environment from drugs. This situation is a challenge for Medan Helvetia Sector Police, which must face a narcotics syndicate network with limited resources and authority.

Furthermore, existing academic studies tend to discuss the role of police institutions at the central or provincial level (Polda),<sup>7</sup> while the

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<sup>6</sup> Yunida Widiati and Malik Malik, "Implementasi Kebijakan Tugas Pokok Dan Fungsi Kepolisian Sektor Penegahan Lampung Selatan" (Universitas Bandar Lampung, 2021).

<sup>7</sup> Rinaldo Rinaldo, Triono Eddy, and Alpi Sahari, "Penerapan Rehabilitasi Terhadap Pelaku Penyalahgunaan Narkotika Oleh Penyidik Kepolisian (Studi Di Direktorat Narkoba Polda Sumut)," *Legalitas: Jurnal Hukum* 14, no. 1 (2022): 43–53; Muhammad Taufan Yantika, "Penerapan Hukum Pada Tahap Penyidikan Terhadap Anak Sebagai Kurir Dalam Tindak Pidana Penyalahgunaan Narkotika (Studi Pada Direktorat Reserse Narkoba Polda Sumatera Barat)," *UNES Journal Of Swara Justisia* 6, no. 2 (2022): 156–68; Moch Syahwal, "Kedudukan Surat Rekomendasi

dynamics at the Sector police level as spearhead of legal services have not received serious attention mostly. In fact, the implementation context of policy, Sector police plays an important role in carrying out the state command directly to community. The limited number of studies that focus on the Sector police level has created a gap in the literature, especially in understanding the concrete challenges faced by officers in field as well as alternative strategies that can be pursued to improve the effectiveness of law enforcement.

On the other hand, community participation as a supporting actor in drug eradication has also not been maximized. In fact, theoretically and normatively, community involvement is an essential aspect in creating an early detection system for drug trafficking. Community participation can be manifested in the form of reporting suspicious activities, forming law-aware groups, and supporting rehabilitation and education programs carried out by law enforcement officials.<sup>8</sup> In context of Medan Helvetia, low community participation is often caused by distrust of the authorities, lack of legal education, and concerns for personal safety when providing information to the police.

Considering the complexity of these issues, this research is relevant. This research aims to: (1) describe the legal framework for handling narcotics crimes as regulated in the legislation; (2) analyze the roles and strategies carried out by Medan Helvetia Sector Police in law enforcement against narcotics abuse; and (3) identify structural, cultural, and technical constraints that affect the effectiveness of the implementation of Sector police duties in the field.

The urgency of this research is in the importance of identifying the gap between regulation and legal implementation, as well as providing an empirical contribution to the strengthening of locally-based policies in countering drugs. Academically, this research is also expected to fill the gap in the literature on legal studies that focus on sector police units

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Tim Asesmen Terpadu Dalam Penyidikan Tindak Pidana Narkotika (Studi Satuan Reserse Narkoba Polda Sulteng)," *Jurnal Ilmu Hukum Toposantaro* 1, no. 1 (2024): 40–47; Khalim Fatoni and Iskandar Wibawa, "Penanganan Tindak Pidana Narkotika Berdasarkan Keadilan Restoratif Di Direktorat Reserse Narkoba Polda Jateng," 2023.

<sup>8</sup> Mulia Jaya and Anggi Fanrezha, "Keterlibatan Masyarakat Sebagai Mitra Polisi Dalam Penanganan Narkoba Dusun Pelayang Kecamatan Bathin II Pelayang Kabupaten Bungo," *Jurnal Politik Dan Pemerintahan Daerah* 5, no. 1 (2023): 48–59.

as the main implementers of legal policies at the community level. With a participatory and contextual approach, this research is expected to be reference in formulating more responsive, adaptive and sustainable drug handling strategy in the future.

This research is a field study that uses a juridical-empirical approach, which aims to systematically describe and analyze the regulation and implementation of narcotics law enforcement in the jurisdiction of Medan Helvetia Sector Police. Primary data was obtained through participatory observation and in-depth interviews with police officers and related communities, while secondary data was collected from documentation studies in form of laws and regulations, policies, official reports, and relevant legal literature. The analysis technique used descriptive-analytical qualitative analysis by categorizing, interpreting, and comparing data from field results and legal documents to understand patterns, obstacles, and effectiveness of law implementation in the field. Data validity is maintained through source triangulation so that the research results can be scientifically accounted for.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **Policies and Regulations in Handling Narcotics Crimes**

Indonesia as a state of law has established various regulations to regulate and tackle criminal acts, including narcotics crimes. In the Indonesian positive legal system, criminal sanctions against criminals are regulated in the Criminal Code (KUHP), especially in Article 10 which distinguishes between main and additional punishments. However, for narcotics crimes, special and comprehensive arrangements are set out in Law Number 35 Year 2009 on Narcotics.<sup>9</sup> This law is the main legal basis in regulating narcotics abuse, both for users and dealers. Broadly speaking, drug offenders are classified into two groups, namely dealers and users. This classification is important

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<sup>9</sup> Rohman Hakim, "Penegakan Hukum Tindak Pidana Penyalahgunaan Narkotika Oleh Anak Dalam Perspektif Undang-Undang Nomor 35 Tahun 2009," *Jurnal Preferensi Hukum* 4, no. 2 (2023): 279–91.

because it has different legal consequences in terms of handling, guidance, and punishment.<sup>10</sup>

Regulations regarding narcotics users, especially Class I narcotics, are regulated in Article 116 paragraphs (1) and (2) of Law Number 35 Year 2009. The article states that every person who without the right or unlawfully uses or gives Class I narcotics to another person is subject to imprisonment for a minimum of five years and a maximum of fifteen years, as well as a fine of at least Rp1,000,000,000.00 (one billion rupiah) and a maximum of Rp10,000,000,000.00 (ten billion rupiah). If the act results in death or permanent disability, then the criminal sanctions are aggravated, namely in form of death penalty, life imprisonment, or imprisonment between five and twenty years as well as a fine increased by one third of maximum fine as stipulated in the previous paragraph.<sup>11</sup>

The differentiation of sanctions shows that there is a different level of seriousness between the mere use of narcotics for personal use and the act of providing narcotics to others. Although the maximum difference in imprisonment is only five years, existence of death penalty in Article 116 paragraph (2) indicates that providing narcotics to others, especially if it causes fatal consequences, is considered an act that is very dangerous to society.<sup>12</sup>

Furthermore, for users or givers of Class II narcotics, the regulation can be found in Article 121 of the same Law. Article 121 paragraph (1) states that the unlawful use or provision of Class II narcotics is subject to minimum imprisonment of four years and maximum of twelve years, as well as a minimum fine of Rp800,000,000.00 (eight hundred million rupiah) and a maximum of Rp8,000,000,000.00 (eight billion rupiah). Meanwhile, Article 121 paragraph (2) increases the sanctions if the act causes death or

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<sup>10</sup> Dwi Wuryandari Nugraningsih, "Sanksi Pidana Penyalahgunaan Narkotika Menurut Undang-Undang Nomor 35 Tahun 2009 Tentang Narkotika," *JURNAL MADANI HUKUM-Jurnal Ilmu Sosial Dan Hukum*, 2023, 81–88.

<sup>11</sup> Ricky Agung Wibowo, "Analisis Kritis Terhadap Penggunaan Hukuman Mati Kepada Pengedar Narkotika Dalam Kasus Pidana Narkotika" (Sekolah Tinggi Ilmu Hukum IBLAM, 2023).

<sup>12</sup> Nugraningsih, "Sanksi Pidana Penyalahgunaan Narkotika Menurut Undang-Undang Nomor 35 Tahun 2009 Tentang Narkotika."

permanent disability, with imprisonment of between five and twenty years, life imprisonment, or death penalty, as well as a maximum fine plus one third.

This regulatory pattern also applies to Class III narcotics, which tend to have lower level of danger and potential dependence. Article 126 paragraph (1) states that any person who unlawfully uses or provides Class III narcotics shall be punished with imprisonment of between three and ten years, and fine of between Rp600,000,000.00 (six hundred million rupiah) and Rp5,000,000,000.00 (five billion rupiah). If it causes death or permanent disability, as contained in paragraph (2), then the punishment increased five to fifteen years, with an additional maximum fine of one third.

Meanwhile, although Law No. 35/2009 does not explicitly define term "drug dealer", it implicitly covers individuals involved in activities such as selling, buying, transporting, storing, controlling, supplying, and exporting and importing drugs. In other words, dealers include all parties involved in the drug distribution chain from producers to users.

The urgency of handling narcotics crimes is increasing considering the fact that narcotics trafficking now not only targets adults, but also involves teenagers and children as victims and perpetrators.<sup>13</sup> This phenomenon demands serious attention from all elements of the nation, including the government, law enforcement officials, and civil society. In Chapter XV of Law No. 35/2009, it is emphasized that narcotics abuse has an impact equivalent to corruption crimes, because both threaten the stability, security and future of the country.

Counter-narcotics policies are not only oriented towards a repressive approach, but also involve the rehabilitative approach, especially for users. The state, through relevant institutions such as the National Narcotics Agency (BNN), police, prosecutors' office, and courts, seeks to take integrated action in eradication and prevention of illicit drug trafficking. In addition, the law also provides opportunities for

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<sup>13</sup> Hardy Purbanto and Bahril Hidayat, "Systematic Literature Review: Penyalahgunaan Narkoba Di Kalangan Remaja Dalam Perspektif Psikologi Dan Islam," *Al-Hikmah: Jurnal Agama Dan Ilmu Pengetahuan* 20, no. 1 (2023): 1–13.



drug users to undergo rehabilitation as an alternative to punishment, taking into account aspects of health and social recovery.

Considering complexity of drug trafficking and the impact it has, Indonesia's counter-narcotics policy must continue to be adapted social and global dynamics. An effective strategy not only focuses on eradicating illicit drug networks, but also strengthens prevention and recovery systems. Public education, community involvement, and policy reforms that favor victims of abuse are strategic steps in realizing a society free from the threat of drugs.<sup>14</sup>

Thus, regulations and policies for handling narcotics crimes in Indonesia already have strong and structured legal basis. However, the successful implementation of these policies is highly dependent on the effectiveness of law enforcement, cross-sector collaboration, and active community participation in building a culture of legal awareness and healthy living without drugs.<sup>15</sup>

### **The Role of Medan Helvetia Sector Police in Handling Drug Crimes**

A definition of the role of the police as part of law enforcement agencies can be found in the views of Roy R. Romberg and Jack Kuykendall, cited by Suparlan (1998). According to them, the police are non-military individuals or organizations authorized by the state to use coercive force in order to enforce the law. The main function of the police is to respond to various problems arising from conflicts between individuals and groups, especially those related to unlawful behavior. The use of force the police, in this case, is not only repressive, but must also be based on strict legal and ethical considerations.<sup>16</sup>

Therefore, the role of law enforcement agencies, especially the police, cannot be viewed solely as a repressive tool of the state.

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<sup>14</sup> Agustinus Suprianto, Syahrudin Nawi, and Kamri Ahmad, "Kolaborasi Peran POLRI Dan Masyarakat Dalam Penanggulangan Narkotika: Studi Direktorat Reserse Narkoba Polda Sulawesi Selatan," *Journal of Lex Generalis (JLG)* 3, no. 4 (2022): 634–47.

<sup>15</sup> Jaya and Fanrezha, "Keterlibatan Masyarakat Sebagai Mitra Polisi Dalam Penanganan Narkoba Dusun Pelayang Kecamatan Bathin II Pelayang Kabupaten Bungo."

<sup>16</sup> Ronny Nicolas Sidabutar et al., "Criminal Policy in Law Enforcement of Criminal Acts of Drug Circulation in the Digital Era," *KnE Social Sciences*, 2024, 570–600.

Beyond that, they are key actors in creating a sense of justice and security in society, as well as ensuring that the legal system operates in accordance with the principles of democratic rule of law. Within the SPP framework, the success of law enforcement officials in carrying out their duties will greatly determine the effectiveness of the criminal justice system as a whole, especially in the context of handling complex cases such as drug offenses in the current digital era.

To realize a professional, modern, and trusted police institution, a science-based approach is needed that adaptive to the characteristics of society as well as dynamically developing social and environmental conditions. Policing is not only understood as the implementation of technical police tasks, but also as a method that involves interaction between law enforcement officials, government, and the community. This interaction is influenced by various factors, including institutional authority, public needs, and the interests of police agencies and other social organizations.

Medan Helvetia Sector Police is one of the technical implementation units of the Indonesian National Police (POLRI) operating in the jurisdiction of Medan Helvetia Sub-district, Medan City, North Sumatra. Structurally, this Sector police is under the coordination of Medan Police Station and tasked with carrying out the main functions of the police as stipulated in laws and regulations. It is located at Jl. Matahari Raya No. 99 C, Medan Helvetia, Medan City, with the scope of security services to the community in the area.

Based on Article 13 of Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the Indonesian National Police, the police have three main functions, namely the function of maintaining security and public order, the function of law enforcement, and the function of protecting, protecting, and serving the community. These functions emphasize that the police are a vital institution in maintaining social and national stability. The police not only act as law enforcers, but also as moral guides and public servants who are responsible for the creation of orderly, safe and peaceful community life. Therefore, police work is both strategic and

noble, demanding high integrity and consistency in the implementation of professional ethics.<sup>17</sup>

In carrying out institutional duties, the Indonesian National Police (Polri) is granted a number of operational authorities as stipulated in Article 14 of Law No. 2 of 2002. These powers designed to support effective and comprehensive implementation of Polri's core functions. Among other things, POLRI has the authority to regulate, guard, escort, and patrol community and government activities in order to ensure creation of public security and order. In addition, POLRI is also responsible for the implementation of security and smooth traffic on the highway, an aspect that important part of daily public life. Not only playing a role in the repressive aspect, POLRI also performs an educative function through increasing public legal awareness, which is carried out through regular coaching and legal counseling programs. All of these duties and authorities must be carried out based on principles of legality and professionalism, by referring to the provisions of applicable laws and regulations. Thus, the operational authority possessed POLRI reflects the strategic role of this institution in maintaining social stability and fostering a healthy legal culture in life of the society and the state.

Therefore, the existence of Medan Helvetia Sector Police is not only understood as a representation of law enforcement institutions at the local level, but also as the spearhead of the state in providing sense of security, building public legal awareness, and upholding the rule of law in a fair and humane manner. Hence, the successful implementation of police duties is largely determined by the professional capacity and ethics carried out by each of its members. If these basic values are ignored, it is not impossible that the police institution will lose legitimacy and public trust, which is the main foundation in carrying out its functions.<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>17</sup> Wahyu Eko Pujiyanto, "Transformasional Leaderships Sebagai Gaya Kepemimpinan Strategis Masa Depan Pada Satuan Polisi Sektor," *Public Sphere Review*, 2022, 32–41.

<sup>18</sup> Iwansyah Iwansyah and Zainal Arifin Hoesein, "Problematisasi Penegakan Kode Etik Kepolisian Sebagai Akibat Menurunnya Integritas Kepolisian Republik Indonesia Di Masyarakat," *Jurnal Retentum* 7, no. 1 (2025): 132–44.

Up to this point, the criminal justice system (CJS) is still the main instrument in crime prevention, including in efforts to prevent and eradicate drug abuse. The role of SPP as social control through the penal approach is only one of the instruments in criminal policy. However, its effectiveness is limited because the system is essentially more reactive, working on basis of crimes that have occurred and officially recorded.<sup>19</sup>

The operationalization of criminal policy in the context of SPP tends to face obstacles in maximum application. This is due to needed maintain a balance between the interests of public order and the protection of individual rights. Therefore, the authority law enforcement officials, especially the police, is limited by legal principles and strict operational standards to avoid violations of human rights.<sup>20</sup>

In the digital era, criminal policy in the implementation of drug law does not always rely on SPP mechanism as the only approach. Non-penal policy interventions referred to in the literature as non-penal policy or non-criminal law policy need to receive serious attention. This approach focuses on prevention without relying on threat or use of criminal sanctions, and aims to address social, economic, and cultural factors behind drug-related crimes.<sup>21</sup>

In the perspective of Indonesian positive law, Law No. 35/2009 on Narcotics provides a clear normative framework for drug countermeasures. This law affirms that the state is responsible for ensuring protection of the public from the dangers of drug abuse, while providing space for a rehabilitative approach for users. Article 4 of the Law explicitly sets out the objectives of narcotics policy, that to ensure the regulation, prevention, and eradication of abuse and illicit trafficking of narcotics and narcotic precursors. The Practice law enforcement officials and public are required to understand that handling drug abuse

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<sup>19</sup> Rohman Rohman et al., "Sistem Pembuktian Dalam Hukum Pidana Indonesia Dan Tantangan Dalam Proses Peradilan," *Jimmi: Jurnal Ilmiah Mahasiswa Multidisiplin* 1, no. 3 (2024): 279–92.

<sup>20</sup> Muhammad Fatahillah Akbar, "Pembaharuan Keadilan Restoratif Dalam Sistem Peradilan Pidana Indonesia," *Masalah-Masalah Hukum* 51, no. 2 (2022): 199–208.

<sup>21</sup> Febrina Tiurma Br Sinaga, "Rumusan Kebijakan Non Penal Dalam Menanggulangi Narkotika Di Lembaga Permayarakatan," *Innovative: Journal Of Social Science Research* 3, no. 5 (2023): 507–22.

is not sufficient only through the criminal law process, but also through comprehensive and multidisciplinary policies, including preventive, educative, and rehabilitative measures.

Thus, the effectiveness of counter-narcotics policies in the digital era is highly dependent on the synergy between penal and non-penal approaches. An approach that only relies on the criminal justice system will tend to be partial and not touch the root of problem. Therefore, the integration of various legal and non-legal strategies is an important prerequisite in building more holistic and equitable counter narcotics system.

In the context of countering drug crimes, the implementation tasks by police institutions refers to constitutional mandate as stipulated in Article 13 of Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the Indonesian National Police (POLRI Law). The main tasks of POLRI in this case are divided into three forms of action, namely: (1) promotive actions, which aim to prevent potential crimes early on through educative and persuasive approaches; (2) preventive actions, which focus on direct prevention of the possibility of criminal acts; and (3) repressive actions, which are carried out in order to take action against perpetrators of criminal acts that have occurred.

Furthermore, the POLRI Law also emphasizes the role of POLRI as a state instrument that has responsibility to maintain security and public order, enforce law, and provide protection, protection, and services to the community. Article 15 letter c of the law authorizes POLRI of take preventive measures in potential social disturbances, including in this case narcotics crimes that are increasingly widespread and complex. Therefore, within the framework of the Criminal Justice System, the role of the police is crucial, both in terms of prevention and law enforcement against drug offenders.

The case study conducted in the jurisdiction of Medan Helvetia Sector Police shows a concrete form of the implementation of preemptive function by the police institution in effort to prevent drug abuse. One of the strategic initiatives undertaken is the provision of education to various educational institutions, ranging from schools to universities. This activity aims to equip the younger generation with knowledge about the dangers of drugs and the long-term impacts of

drug abuse, both in terms of health, social, and the future of their careers. This education is an integral part of a community-based prevention strategy that emphasizes a humanist, participatory and sustainability-oriented approach.

Drug abuse is a complex problem that requires comprehensive and sustainable handling. This issue does not only involve legal aspects, but also touches on social, health and national security dimensions. Therefore, drug abuse prevention strategies must be implemented in a planned, systematic manner, and involve multi stakeholder collaboration, including law enforcement officials and civil society. The active role of the community in providing education, environmental supervision, and early reporting is needed to support performance of the authorities in tackling illicit drug trafficking.<sup>22</sup>

The phenomenon of drug abuse generally begins in adolescence and can continue into young adulthood. However, recent trends show that drug users are not limited to certain age groups; minors and women are also becoming more involved, both as users and as part of distribution network. This indicates that drug related crimes have reached all levels of society regardless of age or socio-economic status. Therefore, interventions must be cross sectoral and responsive to social dynamics.<sup>23</sup>

Narcotics Crime is a form of crime that has a high destructive power towards the social and moral order of society. Its existence not only has a negative impact on individuals, but also threatens the stability of the nation and state. The complexity of the increasingly sophisticated and transnational narcotics trafficking network makes eradication efforts a formidable challenge. In this context, the police have a strategic role in enforcing the law and preventing development of drug crime networks through approaches that are not only repressive, but also preventive and promotive. In this regard, the Indonesian National Police, including sector-level units such as the

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<sup>22</sup> Ngatoillah Linnaja et al., "Kolaborasi Untuk Perubahan: Strategi Sosialisasi Napza Dalam Membangun Kesadaran Dan Kepedulian Bersama," *Jurnal Akademik Pengabdian Masyarakat* 3, no. 2 (2025): 56–70.

<sup>23</sup> Tetuko, "Urgensi Partisipasi Masyarakat Dalam Penanggulangan Tindak Pidana Narkotika."

Medan Helvetia Sector Police (Sector police), play an important role in handling drug cases at the local level.

Based on an interview with the Medan Helvetia Police Chief, Mr. Made Wira Suhendra was found that there are concrete numbers steps that have been implemented in order to overcome drug crimes in the jurisdiction. These measures include preventive approach through socialization in educational institutions, surveillance based on vulnerable areas, and cross-sector cooperation to build collective awareness of the dangers of drugs. This aims approach not only to take action against perpetrators, but also encourages the formation of community social resilience against the threat of narcotics.

### ***Promotive Efforts in the Prevention of Narcotics Crime***

Promotive efforts are one of the initial prevention strategies aimed at individuals or community groups who have not involved in drug abuse and limited understanding of the dangers of drugs. This approach focuses on increasing knowledge, awareness, and social resilience of the community against the potential for drug abuse. In the context of the Medan Helvetia Police jurisdiction, the promotive strategy is implemented collaboratively with various parties, both from the government and educational institutions.<sup>24</sup>

Some concrete steps that have been taken include: (a) establishing cooperation between the police and government agencies at the village level to provide direct training to community through face-to-face forums; (b) organizing seminars and public discussions in schools and community organizations that systematically discuss the negative impacts of drug abuse and prevention strategies.

Community education is an integral part of this promotive approach. Through education, POLRI aims to eliminate predisposing factors and social psychological impulses that can cause a person to slip into drug abuse. In addition, these educational activities also aim to build collective awareness and social resilience of the community against drug-related crimes, especially among adolescents and other vulnerable groups.

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<sup>24</sup> Fitra Oktoriny et al., "Upaya Penanggulangan Narkotika Di Kalangan Remaja," *Jurnal Pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat DEWANTARA* 8, no. 1 (2025).

Medan Helvetia Sector Police also maximized use of information technology and communication media in disseminating promotive messages. This effort is done through dissemination of educational content on social media such as Facebook and Instagram containing information about the dangers of narcotics abuse and an invitation to stay away from drugs. In addition, they also utilize visual media in form of banners and billboards installed at strategic points in their jurisdiction. The information conveyed through these media is designed to strengthen the public's memory of the real threat posed by narcotics and foster a vigilant attitude towards all forms of irregularities related to drug distribution and abuse.

By integrating educative approaches, mass communication, and cross-sector collaboration, Medan Helvetia Sector Police has developed a promotive model that is not only informative, but also shapes preventive behavior in the community. This strategy is an important part of modern policing policy that places the community as a strategic partner in crime prevention efforts, especially in the field of narcotics.

### ***Preventive Efforts in Overcoming Narcotics Crimes***

Preventive efforts are form of preventive action taken by the police before a criminal offense occurs, especially of drug crime. This approach is not only repressive, but also focuses more on building public awareness, especially vulnerable groups such as women and adolescents, so that they are not involved in drug abuse and trafficking. Preventive efforts are one of the main strategies in creating a social environment that is resilient to negative influence of narcotics.<sup>25</sup>

Medan Helvetia Sector Police conducted various preventive activities as part of the community development program. The first step is implementation of counseling or socialization in the school environment, both at the Junior High School (SMP) and Senior High School (SMA) levels. This activity aims to provide education about the dangers of drugs to younger generation directly. The Police officers convey information about health, social and legal impacts of drug

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<sup>25</sup> Oktoriny et al.



abuse, while encouraging students to fill their youth with positive and productive activities. This education is expected to instill early awareness so that they are not easily tempted by offers or inducements to try drugs.

Secondly, banners, billboards and pamphlets containing warning messages about the dangers of narcotics are strategically placed at various public points. This visual media is effectively mass communication tool to convey preventive messages widely. The placement of these media is aimed specifically at the adolescent age group who are psychologically in phase of self-exploration, making them more vulnerable to negative environmental influences, including substance abuse.

Third, police officers collaborate with various related institutions, one of which is the Community Development Unit (*Satbinmas*). In this collaboration, *Satbinmas* has an important role in fostering harmonious relations between the police and community, as well as encouraging active participation of citizens in creating safe and orderly environment. Through counseling activities, *Satbinmas* educates the community to understand their important role in supporting success of drug prevention programs and fostering compliance with applicable laws and social norms.

Fourth, patrols and monitoring activities are also carried out in locations that have the potential place to become drug trafficking or use, such as nightspots, cafes, and other public areas. This approach aims to provide a deterrent effect for perpetrators and create a sense safety for the general public. With the presence of the authorities in these locations, hopefully that the potential for narcotics crime can be minimized.

Fifth, supervision of pharmacies should be tightened, especially in terms of the distribution and sale of drugs included in the psychotropic class. This measure aims to prevent the misuse of legal drugs that are often used as an alternative to narcotics by certain individuals. The police conduct regular monitoring to ensure that pharmacies do not violate applicable legal provisions in the distribution of drugs categorized as addictive substances.

With the implementation of these preventive strategies, Medan Helvetia Sector Police has shown its commitment in creating comprehensive and adaptive prevention system to development of the modus operandi of narcotics crime. This approach not only relies on the authority of the apparatus, but also places the community as a strategic partner in efforts to tackle the dangers of narcotics together and sustainably.

### ***Repressive Efforts in Law Enforcement against Narcotics Crimes***

Repressive efforts are one of the final stages in a series of narcotics crime prevention strategies taken by police officers. This stage is carried out as a firm and concrete step in enforcing law against the perpetrators of narcotics crimes. In this context, the Medan Helvetia Sector Police Unit runs a law enforcement program that is oriented towards preventive and repressive actions to take action against individuals or groups that are proven involved in circulation, abuse, and crimes related to narcotics. This repressive effort is imperative and carried out based on full authority given to the police institution in combating drug crimes, with the main objective of providing a deterrent effect while ensuring law enforcement runs consistently and without discrimination.<sup>26</sup>

The implementation of repressive efforts by Medan Helvetia Sector Police is realized through a series of strategic activities, the first of which is implementation of checks and surveillance in locations prone to drug trafficking. As an initial step in repressive action, the police actively conduct intensive surveillance in various places that empirically have high potential to become centers of narcotics distribution and abuse. These locations include recreational areas, nightspots, cafes, and other crowded centers with a high risk of illegal activity. Inspections are carried out through organized police operations, including regular patrols on a set schedule as well as unannounced inspections. This surveillance is not incidental or sporadic, but it carried out on an ongoing basis every day as early

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<sup>26</sup> Nurdiana S M Jahati, Lisnawaty W Badu, and Apripari, "Strategi Kepolisian Dalam Menanggulangi Penyalahgunaan Narkotika (Studi Kasus Kabupaten Buol)," *SINERGI: Jurnal Riset Ilmiah* 2, no. 1 (2025): 9–21.

control effort to prevent the entry and circulation of drugs in the jurisdiction of Medan Helvetia Sector Police.

Second, investigation in the school environment and the community as an early detection step. In addition to surveillance in strategic locations, Medan Helvetia Sector Police also carried out intensive investigation activities in the school environment and the general public. This investigation aims to identify and handle early cases of drug abuse involving students and community members. With a systematic and continuous investigation method, the police can collect valid data and evidence as basis for further legal action. If a perpetrator is found to be involved in drug abuse, the police will immediately take legal action in accordance with the applicable procedures to uphold justice and prevent the spread of drug trafficking.

Third, arrest and strict action without exception. One of the main characteristics of repressive efforts is strict and uncompromising law enforcement. Medan Helvetia Sector Police committed to arrest and prosecute all drug offenders indiscriminately, including if the offender is a family member or close relative of police officers or the local community. This no-exceptions approach emphasizes the professionalism and integrity of the police institution in carrying out its duties as law enforcers. Thus, this repressive effort is expected to provide a significant deterrent effect, while at the same time emphasizing the rule of law for creation of sustainable social security and order.

Overall, the repressive efforts carried out by Medan Helvetia Sector Police are an integral part of the drug eradication strategy which aims not only to crack down on criminals, but also to strengthen an effective and sustainable law enforcement system. By prioritizing firm, systematic, and consistent actions, the police are expected to be able to reduce spread of narcotics and the negative impacts it has on society, especially in the jurisdiction of Medan Helvetia Sector Police.

## **CLOSING**

This research shows that Medan Helvetia Police has a very important role in law enforcement against narcotics crime in its jurisdiction. In carrying out its duties, Sector police implements three strategic

approaches, namely promotive, preventive, and repressive. Promotive efforts are carried out through education and counseling to the community, especially students, to raise awareness about the dangers of narcotics. The preventive approach is carried out by building synergies with local agencies and communities, installing public information media, and monitoring drug hotspots. Meanwhile, the repressive approach is realized in the form of firm action against perpetrators, routine checks, and indiscriminate law enforcement.

Nevertheless, Medan Helvetia Sector Police faces various obstacles, such as low community participation in reporting cases, limited resources, and the complexity of drug trafficking networks. Therefore, the success of drug eradication efforts does not only depend on the performance of the apparatus, but also on the active role of the community and cross-sector support. Countering drug crimes must be carried out in a comprehensive, integrative and sustainable manner, by prioritizing humanist approach and community-based policing.

By strengthening collaboration between the police, the community, educational institutions, and local government, it is hoped that law enforcement efforts against drug crimes in the Medan Helvetia area can be more effective in creating a clean and drug-free environment.

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