



Dengan mengacu pada telaah tata kelola perbatasan (border governance) Indonesia-Timor Leste, studi ini menguak dilema yang melilitnya. Di satu sisi Pemerintah Nasional Indonesia sangat gigih memperjuangkan model yang sangat teritorialistik namun rentan manipulasi, di sisi lain potensi solusi selalu dicurigai sebagai ancaman. Pendekatan state centric dalam konteks menjaga wilayah territorial Negara justru mengabaikan makna pengelolaan secara integrated dengan melibatkan peran multi actor (termasuk tokoh adat dan tokoh masyarakat) dan pelibatan multi-level pemerintahan (termasuk pemerintahan daerah dan pemerintahan desa) sehingga perbatasan dapat dikelola dalam secara bersama dalam semangat governance. Realita empiris di perbatasan Indonesia-Timor Leste menggambarkan adanya kekuatan kultural yang dimiliki oleh etnik kultural Atoin Meto sebagai satu suku besar yang mendiami landscape territorial dua wilayah Negara yakni Pulau Timor Indonesia dan wilayah Oecussie Timor Leste. Etnik Atoin Meto dengan kekayaan kulturalnya (public properties) telah membuktikan bahwa mereka secara otonom mampu meyelesaikan persoalan mereka dengan cara mereka sendiri. Hadirnya Negara dengan pendekatan state centric nya telah mengabaikan potensi kultural etnik tersebut dan kondisi ini semakin memperburuk tata kelola perbatasan. Pertanyaan mendasar, kedaulatan di wilayah perbatasan adalah kedaulatan milik rakyat ataukah kedaulatan milik Negara. Untuk keluar dari situasi dilematis, studi ini mengusulkan suatu mainstream baru dengan mengangkat logika pengelolaan perbatasan berbasis etno kultural yang sesungguhnya mampu memberikan solusi sekaligus memperkuat pemaknaan terhadap tata kelola perbatasan (border governance). Secara empiris, etno kultural Atoin Meto telah membuktikan bahwa di tengah gempuran kekuatan teritorialistik negara ternyata eksistensi kultural mereka tetap survive dan mampu memberikan makna tersendiri melalui kekuatan public propertiesnya. Dan kondisi tersebut dapat dijadikan referensi kebijakan dalam memperkuat tata kelola perbatasan (border governance)

Kata Kunci: *Etno Kultural, Border Governance*

Abstract

Referring to Indonesia-Timor Leste's border governance study, this study reveals the dilemmas it engages in. On the one hand, the Indonesian National Government is adamantly fighting for a highly territorialistic but fragile model of manipulation, on the other hand the potential of a solution is always suspected as a threat. The state centric approach in the context of maintaining the territorial territory of the State just ignores the meaning of integrated management by involving the role of multi-actor (including traditional leaders and community leaders) and multi-level government involvement (including local government and village administration) so that borders can be managed together spirit of governance. The empirical reality on the Indonesia-East Timor border illustrates the cultural power possessed by the ethnic cultural Atoin Meto as a large tribe that inhabit the territorial landscape of two parts of the State namely Timor Island Indonesia and the Oecussie region of East Timor. Ethnic Atoin Meto with its cultural properties has proven that they are autonomously capable of solving their problems in their own way. The presence of a State with its state centric approach has ignored the ethnic cultural potential and this condition further exacerbates border governance. The basic question, sovereignty in the border region is the sovereignty of the people or the sovereignty of the State. To exit from the dilemma situation, this study proposes a new mainstream by raising the logic of ethno-based cultural border management that can actually provide solutions while strengthening the meaning of border governance. Empirically, ethno cultural Atoin Meto has proved that in the midst of the onslaught of territorial power of the state, their cultural existence still survive and able to give its own meaning through the strength of its public properties. And these conditions can be used as policy reference in strengthening border governance

Keyword: Etno cultural, border governance