



Technoculture Approach in Facing the Transnational Threat

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Abstract. *Around the world, several cases strongly affect human beings. The world is not peaceful, conflict seems persistent and intractable. Moreover, after a decade of complacency, we seem to finally grasp the fact that we are fighting for survival under the shadow of catastrophic dangers. In this situation, our strategy must be radically changed so it will involve: ends, ways of action, and means to achieve our national goals. We must also redefine our understanding of security threats and strategic doctrines must also be reconsidered. We propose to defeat transnational crime. We should strive to engender and develop a strong civil society and include technology in it. Thus, the techno culture approach points to an alternative strategy for facing the transnational threat.*

Keywords. *threat, transnational, technoculture, public-private*

Abstrak. *Di seluruh dunia, beberapa kasus kejahatan secara kuat mempengaruhi umat manusia. Dunia tidak damai, konflik tampak terus terjadi dan sulit dikendalikan. Bahkan, setelah satu dekade dengan kepuasan, kita akhirnya melihat fakta bahwa kita sedang berjuang untuk bertahan di bawah bayang-bayang bencana. Dalam situasi ini, strategi kita harus berubah secara radikal sehingga akan melibatkan: akhir, cara bertindak, dan cara untuk menggapai tujuan nasional. Kita harus mendefinisikan ulang pemahaman kita akan ancaman keamanan dan doktrin strategis harus dipertimbangkan. Kita mengusulkan untuk mengalahkan kejahatan lintas negara. Kita harus berupaya memunculkan dan mengembangkan masyarakat sipil yang kuat dan memasukkan teknologi di dalamnya. Oleh sebab itu, pendekatan teknokultur merujuk kepada strategi untuk menghadapi ancaman lintas negara tersebut.*

Kata kunci. *ancaman, lintas negara, teknokultur, pemerintah-swasta.*

Introduction

The 21st century sets the stage for tremendous growing transnational threats created by the convergence and transformation of Transnational Organized Crime (TOC) and terrorism. Transnational threats posed by non-state actors spanning many countries exploit porous borders and differences in international laws to plot and commit terrorism and organized criminal acts. Since the post-cold-war era, without a doubt, almost every nation has faced a new form of threat, a threat that undermines the definition of the nation-state and confounds political and territorial boundaries of a country. This new threat has been characterized by greater complexities as a result of advances in technology, especially Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and biotechnology.

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The traditional spectrum of conflict that ranges from very conventional war to modern-global war may still happen as a result of greater uncertainties in every aspect of life. Uncertainties and disagreements originating from the economic gap between rich and poor countries, disparities of wealth and natural resources, problems related to ethical issues, religion and cultures will become the most potential causes of conflicts.

The quantum leap in technological development will shift the conventional threat into a transnational threat. Military strategists have predicted that the Information System and Cybernetics Warfare, Transnational Infrastructure Warfare, Asymmetric Warfare, and Asynchronous Warfare will be types of future war that do not recognize territorial boundaries. On the other hand, the rapid development of science and technologies will affect the increasing arms race and proliferation, uncertainties in the regional and global security structures, international and transnational crimes and terrorism.

The enormous differences in legal systems across the world allow TOC and terrorists to exploit this lack of consistency to their benefit. The existence of gaps in legal standards that allow the creation of various forms of transnational threats, although narrowing throughout the post-Cold War era, remains a vulnerability that transnational criminals can leverage for their own ends and thus remains a reason for continued concern. Primary threats to world security have changed fundamentally. They no longer come from territorial and ideological disputes among nation states, but from the way globalization and technological advances have increased the ability of transnational organized crime and terrorist networks to challenge nation-states. Quoting the UN Secretary General's words, we are witnessing the emergence of an uncivil society that may escape the control of society of nations, and which constitutes a transnational threat to world governance.

Although in some cases, the transnational order among states is quite strong, we argue that the world is not peaceful. Conflict seems persistent and intractable. Moreover, after a decade of complacency, we seem to finally grasp the fact that we are fighting for survival under the shadow of catastrophic dangers. In this situation, our strategy must be radically changed so it will involve: ends, ways of action, and means to achieve our national goals. We must also redefine our understanding of security threats and strategic doctrines must also be reconsidered. We propose to defeat transnational crime. We should strive to engender and develop a strong civil society and include technology in it. Thus, the technoculture approach points to an alternative strategy for facing the transnational threat.

Technoculture

The comprehensive term "technoculture" refers to technology for, as, with, and by society. Technology for society points out practical activities in order to work out problems and is more than applied technology. Technology as society is known as social engineering and was previously known as social control. It includes public activities and structures as a technological system. The technology with society concept indicates a balanced way of viewing technology and society and involves complex networks and interactions of technological and social actors such as object, data and figures.

The most understandable concept is technology by society which includes collaboration, cooperation and a multiplicity of perspectives. Furthermore, technology for society refers to problem-solving based on technology either in the social life and in the policy process. This technoculture term brings us to the concept of mode science, soft science and technology,

constructive technology assessment, collaborative problem solving and participatory action research. Additionally, according to Radziwill (2009) and Tahara, et al. (2009), technoculture refers to the process of applying insights from the social sciences to formulate programs and policies.

Definition of Transnational Threat

A transnational threat is any activity, individual, or group not tied to a particular country or region that operates across international boundaries and threatens national security or the interests of many nations. The issues, or to put it more powerful, the threats, are signaled by dramatic events. For example the events of 9/11 and terrorism are seen as threats, while inhumane prison conditions, rape, police brutality or dangerous road are not.

Today, criminal activity is using more advanced technology and is better organized. It has become transnational and has no regard for country's borders. Transnational threats have evolved and their boundaries have become blurred so they cannot easily be separated from traditional/national threats or international threats. However, Warren Fishbein and Gregory Treverton (2004), tried to highlight overlaps or differences between traditional and non-traditional/transnational threats as described in the following table:

Tabel 1. The differences between traditional and transnational threats.

Parameter	Traditional threats	Transnational threats
Focus	States, non-states secondary	Nonstates; state as facilitators, willingly or not
Nature	Hierarchical	Networked
Context	Intelligence and policy share basic story about states	Much less shared story about non-states, less bounded, more outcomes possible
Information	Too little information, pride of place to secrets, secrets regarded as reliable	Secrets matter, but torrents of information, fragmented, unreliable
Pace and trajectory of events	Primary target slow-moving, discontinuities rare	Targets may move quickly, discontinuities all too possible
Interaction effects	Limited	Your actions and observations have more effect on target's behavior
Need for collaboration	Limited, analysis in stovepipes	Greater with both regional and functional intelligence specialists, plus different levels of government
Policy support:	Consumers mostly politico-military officials of federal government	Wider range of consumers, intelligence often linked to action on a continuing basis
Technology support	Much less	More

Major Types of Transnational Threats

Transnational Organized Criminals (TOC) and terrorist acts are likely to become an increasing and defining problem for our global society. Both TOC and terrorists benefit from globalization with the help of technology and loopholes in laws among countries.

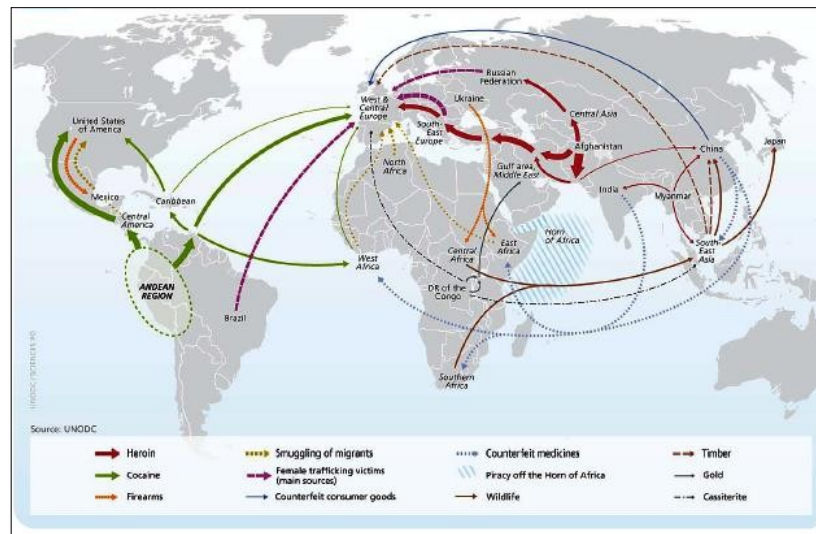


Figure 1. The transnational crime flows

The nature of TOC is changing all the time. Drugs epidemics have come and gone and resurfaced in new environments. Human smuggling and arms trafficking flows have rapidly expanded in areas of conflict and have subsided just as rapidly. The end of Cold War, the decline in the number and severity of the Cold War, and the advance of globalization all have impacted TOC and terrorists in unpredicted ways. Future trends are likely to be affected by global shifts in demographics, migrations, economies and conflicts. To solve transnational threats, it is necessary to describe their geographical flows as shown in Figure 1 above. Some of the major types of transnational threats include financial crime, arms trafficking, drug trafficking, human trafficking, human smuggling, infectious disease, cybercrime, and environmental degradation.

Financial Crime

Financial crime involves the banking system, stock and money markets, taxation, smuggling, bribery, money laundering, corruption, and fraud. TOC and terrorists through their exploitation, fraud, and illegitimate financial activities threaten national stability and the global financial system. Developing countries are having problems in fighting transnational financial crime because their rule of law is less steady.

Furthermore, additional security costs also apply for doing business in developing countries which is affected by transnational crime. This is happening in Indonesia where maritime insurance is much more expensive compared to its neighboring countries because of the high risks and dangerous waters. Moreover, in some cases, TOC and terrorists who are leveraging their relationship with state-owned entities, private industries, or state-allied actors, can gain control over key commodities markets including oil, gas and wood.

Arms Trafficking

Arms trafficking is often linked to other criminal and terrorist acts. Arms traffickers provide illegal arms for two primary purposes: criminal and political purposes. Trafficking of arms has

increased because of several factors including unresolved territorial disputes and wide economic disparities among countries.

Drug Trafficking

Governments are alarmed by a dramatic trend of increase in drug use. One country, Indonesia, has now declared a drugs emergency. Data from National Narcotics Agency (BNN) points out that there are around 4.2 million drug users in Indonesia. Moreover, most drugs are smuggled into Indonesia via sea. As of 2011, more than 60 million Indonesians were using tobacco which killed at least 225,000 people annually. The President of Indonesia, Joko Widodo, stated that 50 people in Indonesia get killed every day because of drugs (BBC News (2015) and Ika (2015)).

Human Trafficking

Human trafficking is a human rights problem. In general, human trafficker treats people as an object of criminal exploitation such as sexual exploitation, forced labor, and debt bondage. Trafficking victims often experience traumatic events which make them suffer physically and feel emotionally abused. Victims can be trafficked within their own countries but human trafficking often involves the crossing of the national borders which leads to international crime. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) reported that victims from at least 127 countries were detected and 137 countries reported having detected victims. Most of the victims reported were women and almost 80% were subjected to sexual exploitation.

Human Smuggling

The U.S. National Security Council (2011) provides the definition of Human smuggling. Human smuggling refers to all illegally attempted processes of humans across borders: “the facilitation, transportation, attempted transportation, or illegal entry of a person or persons across an international border, in violation of one or more countries’ laws, either clandestinely or through deception, whether with the use of fraudulent documents or through the evasion of legitimate border controls. It is a criminal commercial transaction between willing parties who go their separate ways once they have procured illegal entry into a country.”

Human smuggling networks are linked internationally to other transnational crimes including drug trafficking. The networks can also smuggle terrorists, criminals, fugitives and economic migrants. Human smugglers activities often ignore the victims and cripple the supremacy of nations.

Cybercrime

The expansion in the growth of global telecommunication has tremendously increased. Worldwide communications have become a new phenomenon. The internet has enabled instant and cheap global networks. TOC and terrorists are increasingly involved in cybercrime and usually threaten the world economy via financial systems including stock markets and frauds. Cybercrime can imperil our economy and society because of the galvanized faith of people and business in the digital systems. Technology plays a huge role in most transnational crimes today. Crimes can occur rapidly, but regulations and law enforcement have their own limitations (Hukum Online (2015)).

Environmental Degradation

Transnational environmental crimes are criminal activities causing environment degradation and loss of ecosystems. They are attempted usually by TOC across borders, including illegal logging, species smuggling, the illegal movement of hazardous waste, toxic material and other prohibited chemicals. The trafficking of wildlife particularly from Africa and South East Asia can have greater long-term environment consequences and almost certainly brings money to the TOC and terrorists. Critical environmental degradation occurs at sea. Oil spill issue is one of our concerns that affect the global environment.

Transnational Organized Crime (TOC)

The Transnational Organized Crime Convention was established by an ad hoc committee of United Nations member states working on a convention to facilitate the prevention and combating of transnational organized crime: A structured group of three or more persons existing for a period of time and acting in concert with the aim of committing one or more serious crimes or often in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit. According to the convention of prevention and combating of transnational crime, an offense is transnational if

1. It is committed in more than one country.
2. It is committed in one country but all the substantial parts including planning, preparation, direction, or control takes place in another country.
3. It is committed in one country but involves an organized criminal group in more than one country that brings into play in criminal activities.
4. It is committed in one country but causes significant effects in another country.

Terrorism

The *raison d'être* for terrorists is political, religious and ideological, while for TOC it is pure profit. Terrorists use violence and intimidation in the pursuit of their goals. The acts of terrorism take place everywhere in the world and cause the death and suffering of innocent people. After the 9/11 event, terrorism draws a very bold movement from the U.S. government and other countries to prevent terrorists' activities as global acts.

Strategy Based on Technoculture Approach

There is a need for a useful approach on how to face serious transnational threats for the policy makers to more effectively and efficiently perform their tasks. It would, therefore, be beneficial to develop a strategy based on the technoculture approach in combating transnational threats. Global strategic thinking is required to dismantle global threats. For decades, countries have tried to counter transnational threats around the world. Today, the threats are more complex because transnational criminal networks are more adaptable and increasingly use sophisticated technologies. They can exploit the loopholes in regulations, modern financial systems, trading, transportation and so forth across borders and use advanced technology.

Dealing with transnational threats requires a comprehensive and integrated approach. The technoculture approach is an alternative solution to combat the threats. The combined use of society and technology is expected to disrupt, shrink, constrain, dismantle and undermine the transnational threats from TOC or terrorists. The global society, including governments, international organizations, private industries and civil communities should cooperate and

develop strategies not only at the international level but also at the regional and national levels. The Asia Pacific region, that dominates the world economy where there are euphoria and optimism after the end of the Cold War, tends to form new uncertainties, instabilities, and disruption of the regional security concept. A new grand strategy is required and it must be easily understandable and widely accepted. It should convince not only non-governmental organizations, transnational companies, and the media but also all elements of society.

Proposed Strategy based on Technoculture Approach

Priority Strategy is Start at Home to Protect The Society from Transnational Threats

We have to start our battle to defeat transnational threats by looking inward and recognizing the causes that arise from within our maritime territories and national borders. Many illegal activities occur in or through the sea and Indonesia as an archipelago state is a perfect example. Concomitantly, Indonesia as the country with the biggest Muslim population is seen as a country prone to transnational crime either from TOC or terrorists. This is due to several reasons; first, there are several territorial disputes in Indonesia with other countries. Second, the strategic location of Indonesia in between two continents and two oceans provides benefits for TOC and terrorism for means of transportation and location of their crimes. Third, Indonesia's huge population has potential particularly for drugs and human trafficking. Additionally, the potential wealth of natural resources both on land and sea can be motivating. Fourth, the lack of law enforcement, lack of facilities and infrastructure support, regulations that overlap and are biased, and the lack of integration and synergy between authorized agencies in addressing transnational threats. The factors mentioned above become a problem that must be resolved. One of Indonesia government efforts is the revitalization of the Indonesian Maritime Security Coordinating Board (IMSCB/Bakorkamla) to become a Coast Guard for Indonesia. This is in line with the government program to accelerate the achievement of Indonesia's goal to become the World Maritime Axis. In line with the enactment of Law No. 32 Year 2014 on Maritime, this Coast Guard for Indonesia should be supported by an Early Warning System (EWS) which is a component of technoculture approach. The EWS relies heavily on leading edge technology such as AIS Base Station, GMDSS, Long Range Camera, Traffic Monitoring using Satellite (AISSAT) and other technologies to support this agency in doing their duty to conduct Patrols of Maritime Security and Safety in Indonesia's waters and jurisdiction. Many institutions in Indonesia have authority at sea and they can patrol according to their own regulations. This condition, usually causes overlapping patrols and gap areas, creating ineffective and inefficient actions in dealing with transnational threats. Now, all maritime operations or patrols command issues through a Coast Guard-like agency to ensure operations are "one for all" based on EWS, human analysis, intelligence and compliance.

Additionally, another element of a technoculture approach emphasizes on society. The involved society element is not only the government but also private industries and academic researchers who play important roles. Recognition of our own challenges and cooperation in addressing TOC/terrorists own home represents the first essential step required to defeat transnational threats.

Strengthen Public-Private Partnership, Regional Initiatives, Multilateral Cooperation and International Consensus

Sustainable progress against transnational threats can only be addressed by concrete actions of the international community on a worldwide basis. Cooperative relations between great and regional powers will have to be developed and require support from all states, no matter how small. We need to build new partnerships with industries, academia, civil societies and non-government organizations (NGO) in facing the transnational threat. Transnational crime threatens the security, safety, and well-being of people around the world and imperils global stability. Not all threats are equally visible to global society. We should reach out directly to public-private partnerships that involve public sectors such as the government and private sectors, particularly multinational companies. Together, the partnerships which show that both nations and communities/individuals share a common pole in addressing threats. Efforts to achieve a regional initiatives system initiated by the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) and Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific (CSCAP) are still looking for solid commitments among leaders of the nations and are still facing new challenges because of new developments in the region. Therefore, the emerging great powers in the region must actively prove that they are responsible for dealing with the threats within this region. For example, ASEAN countries have established the Declaration on Transnational Crime and implemented the ASEAN Plan of Action to Combat TOC based on 6 strategic cooperation: information sharing, cooperation in legal matters, cooperation in law enforcement matters, institutional capacity building, training and extra-regional cooperation. This kind of initiative should flourish and should be supported by all countries in the region. Meanwhile, principles of collective cooperation sponsored by the United Nations are still facing new tests and challenges. Due to the fact that collective security does not go hand-in-hand with cooperative security, security under the UN control will be ineffective. Nonetheless, in the year 2000 UN members have established the U.N. Convention Against Transnational Crime to share commitment and consensus to solve the problem posed by transnational threats. Additionally, there are three additional protocols that focus on specific issues: the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children; the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air; and the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition. As of 10 May 2015, there are 147 signatories from participant countries from 185 parties. These policies should continue to be encouraged and become shared consensus to tackle the transnational threats. We should strengthen and implement our understanding, information sharing system, multilateral cooperation and international consensus at our home with local, national, regional and international communities against crimes in all its forms.

Conclusion

Although many treaties and policies exist, very few of them provide a binding regulatory jurisdiction. Most of them deal with limited areas and are applied at the regional level. The steps towards cooperation and collaboration evinced among stakeholders in international, regional and national level to face transnational threats. The technoculture approach suggested several strategies which are in line with the development of technology. Every nation should enhance their national security and international consensus and make global joint efforts of all forms of to battle transnational threats. Generally speaking, TOC and terrorists are more responsive and agile than governments and multilateral organizations which pursue them.

The suggested technoculture approach to combat transnational threats is to work together involving all elements of global society—policy makers, researchers/academics, and organizations and supported by technology. As described above, Indonesia is particularly vulnerable to transnational threats. Thus, the establishment of a Coast Guard-like institution in Indonesia as a single agency, multi-tasked and relying on Early Warning System (EWS) technology will enhance the security and safety at sea. Moreover, the control of threats must be seen as part of global cooperation. National efforts are the key, but global society efforts are more important to defeat the transnational threat.

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