

ABSTRACT

Border security remains a critical concern for nations, particularly along challenging and porous borders of the Kalimantan-Sarawak boundary between Indonesia and Malaysia where illicit business activities such as smuggling, human trafficking, and unauthorized trade thrive. Various factors are linked to the deterrence of illicit business activities, yet there are inconsistencies surrounding the relationships between these factors. As illicit business activities persist, this study investigates the relationships between law enforcement practices, resources optimization, geographical terrain, local community involvement, deterrence of illicit business activities, and the moderating role of police competence. Utilizing a quantitative methodology, data were collected via structured questionnaires from 419 respondents comprising Sarawak Brigade Police PGA personnel. Statistical analysis was conducted using Partial Least Squares Structural Equation Modelling (PLS-SEM) to evaluate the relationships among variables. The key findings indicate that each variable significantly influences the deterrence of illicit business activities, where local community involvement shows the strongest influence, followed by resources optimization, law enforcement, and geographical terrain. In addition, the findings highlight the importance of police competence, in which the results show that it plays a significant moderating role in deterring illicit business activities. Theoretically, this study contributes toward the body of knowledge under the situational crime prevention theory in which police competence plays a crucial role in reducing opportunities, in addition to technological advancements, environmental design, and community involvement. The main practical contribution of this study is far-reaching for police forces and border security agencies in managing the police force's competencies. Recommendations for future research include further investigation

into the competency framework of police officers and security agencies involved in transnational border security.

Keywords: Deterrence of Illicit Business Activities, Law Enforcement, Resources Optimization, Geographical Terrain, Police Competence.

***Faktor-faktor yang Mempengaruhi Pencegahan Aktiviti Perniagaan Haram di
Sempadan Kalimantan-Sarawak: Kesan Penyederhanaan Kecekapan Polis***

ABSTRAK

Keselamatan sempadan sentiasa menjadi kebimbangan kritikal bagi sesebuah negara, terutamanya di sepanjang sempadan yang mencabar dan berliang antara Kalimantan-Sarawak yang memisahkan Indonesia dan Malaysia, di mana aktiviti perniagaan haram seperti penyeludupan, pemerdagangan manusia, dan perdagangan tanpa kebenaran berleluasa. Pelbagai faktor dikaitkan dengan pencegahan aktiviti perniagaan haram, namun terdapat ketidak-konsistenan dalam hubungan antara faktor-faktor ini. Oleh kerana aktiviti perniagaan haram masih berterusan, kajian ini menyelidiki hubungan antara amalan penguatkuasaan undang-undang, pengoptimuman sumber, keadaan geografi, penglibatan komuniti setempat, pencegahan aktiviti perniagaan haram serta peranan penyederhanaan kecekapan polis. Menggunakan metodologi kuantitatif, data dikumpulkan melalui soal selidik berstruktur daripada 419 responden yang terdiri daripada anggota PGA Briged Sarawak. Analisis statistik dijalankan menggunakan pemodelan persamaan struktur kaedah kuasa dua terkecil separa (PLS-SEM) untuk menilai hubungan antara pembolehubah. Dapatan utama menunjukkan bahawa setiap pembolehubah memberi kesan ketara terhadap pencegahan aktiviti perniagaan haram, di mana penglibatan komuniti setempat menunjukkan pengaruh paling kuat, diikuti oleh pengoptimuman sumber, penguatkuasaan undang-undang, dan keadaan geografi. Selain itu, dapatan kajian menekankan kepentingan kecekapan polis, di mana hasil menunjukkan bahawa ia memainkan peranan penyederhanaan yang signifikan dalam mencegah aktiviti perniagaan haram. Secara teori, kajian ini menyumbang kepada sesuatu pengetahuan di bawah teori pencegahan jenayah situasi, di mana kecekapan polis memainkan peranan penting dalam

mengurangkan peluang jenayah, di samping kemajuan teknologi, reka bentuk persekitaran, dan penglibatan komuniti. Sumbangan praktikal utama kajian ini adalah luas untuk pasukan polis dan agensi keselamatan sempadan dalam menguruskan kecekapan pasukan polis. Cadangan untuk penyelidikan masa hadapan termasuk penyiasatan lebih lanjut mengenai rangka kerja kecekapan pegawai polis dan agensi keselamatan yang terlibat dalam keselamatan sempadan rentas negara.

Kata kunci: *Penguatkuasaan Undang-Undang, Pengoptimuman Sumber, Keadaan Geografi, dan Penglibatan Masyarakat Setempat, Pencegahan Aktiviti Perniagaan Haram.*