Strengthening the Role of Global Civil Society for Global Policy

Mega Mulianisa

Universitas Negeri Jakarta

Abstract: The writing of this paper is inspired by the emergence of global civil society that actually has an important role in the global policy. According to Mavin Sooros, a global policy is formed by larger international public policy groups, there is a tendency to view the global policy as a process which occurs in international conferences and conducts discussions in organizations beyond the reach of the state. Global Civil Society's journey until now has enough potential and has a real contribution in International forums. However, in its practice, this movement also has some criticism. This study also takes the sample case of Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP). The research pattern used in this study is descriptive, that is exposure to data or description. Secondary data will be conducted by searching data from various sources such as books, internet, thesis, journals that will serve as a reference for the research. The result is the Global Civil Society, an amount of restriction ranging from the domination of the civil society center, funding until problem-solving. All this must be able to be answered by the actors because the Global Civil Society movement is not just a technical movement but also a political movement.

1 INTRODUCTION

Civil society as a concept actually began to develop around the 17th century AD in Western countries. The emergence of the term "civil society" began because of the dominance in the circle of power by the regime in power in Western countries at that time. This event caused the society to build the forces to make a change and fight against the system that is considered unfair. This civil society movement at the same time also speeds up the introduction of the conception of civil society until finally this concept is disputed by the thinkers. Starting from Aristotle who said that the Civil Society is understood as a state system (koinoniahpolitike), then Marcus Tullius Cicero stated that a community that dominates other communities (Societies Civiles) which later developed by Thomas Hobbes and Jhon Locke. Adam Ferguson in 1767 also developed the discourse of civil society by looking at the Scottish social, cultural and political situation. Until subsequently developed by Hegel, Karl Marx and Gramsci who understand civil society as an element of class ideology. This concept continues to experience significant development. Civil society is neither the government nor non-governmental nor non-market. The actions that they did are more

voluntary and still affect the formulation of government policies and control their application. Civil society is also very closely related to globalization because it has a very significant role in the emergence of global civil society. Global civil society according to Scholte is a voluntary activity with the aim of establishing a deeper, distinguishable policy, norm, or social structure of the commercial and political sectors. In addition, Scholte also argues that global civil society is a community that has a social orientation and can be regarded as a non-profit community. Thus, it can be seen that global civil society tends to lead to a community closer to social movements. A movement said to be a civil society movement is when it is outside the scope of the state or market, and it is done on a voluntary basis from the perpetrators. They have the goal of forming a policy, norm, or social structure. Globalization is viewed as a compressed state of space and time of the world community that is visible from the very intense interrelationship and interdependence in social, political, economic and cultural aspects on a world scale. Globalization is an era in which modern human civilization and advanced, especially in the rapid dissemination of information, broad and limited so that the information technology aspects are experiencing rapid development and bring

people to a more global civilization. Although there is still debate about the impact of globalization whether to make progress in society or even decline. Building civil society in the era of globalization would want to lead to the progress of adaptive social change, in the sense of humanist and sustainable change, but reality illustrates, so far the implications of the application still find obstacles in society.

This process then makes public good become one of the challenges in global civil society. Based on one of the opinions of Dragira Vujadinovic in which Vujadinovic argues that global civil society is associated with global actions, voluntary and spontaneous to forms association at the transnational and global levels, the existence of the form of social, political and economic mobilization, and aims to improve the quality of humanity globally, then it can be concluded that global civil society is a society that is always related to all forms of globalization, whether it is action that carried out, the association that formed, and the issues that happen, and the purpose of the global civil society itself. Anthony Giddens in a paper "Global Civil Society 2001" states that the concept of global civil society is closely related with globalization, if democracy becomes more global then civil society space that beyond the borders of the state will be possible to be formed. Giddens calls it 'globalization from below', which becomes the balancer for the trade liberalization process driven by the biggest companies in the world on one side and state institutions on the other side. The report says that the role of the global civil society actually is not single because they have several positions in viewing the globalization. Some of these positions are first as supporters, they are individual person and groups who are enthusiastic about globalization and are ready to support all of the global policies. The second group is the rejecter that is of those who want to stop globalization and believe in the power of the nation-state. The second group is subdivided into some subdivision that are groups that continue to support global capitalism but reject the opening of state borders, leftist groups that strongly reject global capitalism, religious radical groups, nationalist to anti-colonialism. A third group is a reformist group in which they accept the reality that there are a global dependency and potential for human advantage, but they see that humanizing human is one of the needs that must also be in this process of globalization. The last is the fourth group that is a group that does not show much partiality in the sense that they are neither rejecting nor accepting it, they have their own agenda without

government or economic institutions. They are the groups that create community empowerment. They try to advocate and make society more responsive to the state. Civil society can be global as long as voluntary associations are motivated by solidarity sentiment between countries. For example, civil groups can develop a sense of collective identity and destiny that exceed territoriality: for example in the age line, class, gender, profession, race, religious belief or sexual orientation. The world will always need independent organizations and individuals to act as watchdogs, ethical guardians and advocates of the marginalized or under-represented. Civil society in all its forms has an important role in holding all stakeholders, including itself, to the highest levels of accountability.

2 METHOD

This study used a qualitative type of research. According to Moleong, a qualitative methodology is a research method based on the written word and orally from the action that can be seen. The researcher used qualitative methods with the descriptive approach because theresearcher wants to analyze the role of global civil society in global policy. The research pattern used in this research is descriptive, that is exposure to data or description. Secondary data will be conducted by searching data from various sources such as books, internet, thesis, journals that will serve as a reference for the research. Whereas the technique of data analysis, is a process to obtain and arrange systematic data obtained from the interviews, documentation and results obtained from the field which then describe in certain categories by determining which data are significant and include conclusion in order to be understood by the person who read it.

2.1 Positions and Transnationalization of Global Civil Society

There are already some global organizations in the world level in the framework of global policies such as the United Nations and its subordinate organizations or the World Trade Organization (WTO), the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank. Unfortunately, some organizations that are expected to become a forum of cooperation among many countries of the world is more often dominated by the developed countries.Some of the positions of Global Civil Society in understanding that has been mentioned before surely affect the

Global Civil Society in global policy. But before that, we need to emphasize the difference between international policy and global policy because they often look the same. The international policy emphasizes more in the cooperation between two or more countries. International policy is produced by the governments of the world countries through inter-state forums. Whilethe global policy is a policy aimed at achieving the welfare of the world society. The area of global policy focuses globally as a process (or process) that creates an intercontinental and interregional flow and a network of activities and interactions, and a new multi-level policy framework by the public and private actors, involving and exceeding national, international and transnational policy regimes.

The global policy is the policy on the achievement of the welfare of the world society. Global policy is formed by larger international public policy groups. There is a tendency to view the global policy as a process that occurs in international conferences and conducts discussions in organizations beyond the reach of the state (beyond state).To form the global civil society, a transnationalization process needs to be done. Some of these stages are: First, conducts an issue campaign in which this stage aims to expand the network of support and voice solidarity to the international audiences. This first stage is expected to create attention and awareness on the issues being established. Second, there is recognition that the issues being established at the national level are also felt by other countries' civil society. The third stage is the concrete international cooperation of civil society organizations from various countries with equal attention. Fourth, international solidarity toward the issue in which then become the basis of global civil society.

This transnationalization process is supported by two major factors, namely the emergence of civil society in a country and the development factor of communication technology and transportation. The same thing is stated by Davies that there are 5 factors that affect the local civil society to be global is a technological factor, economic, social, external politics,and internal politics itself. Then, the next thing that needs to be done is to formulate some ways about the society needs. Do not let the movement that established is incompatible with the society needs.Targets that are rational and harmonious with the goals must also be determined to influence the global policy that ultimately is a positive response from the community in the form of support and trust.

2.2 Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP): Arena Global Civil Society

The form of involvement of the Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP) can be seen from some of the international demands they are undertaking. GCAP is the formation of civil society from many countries to call upon the world leaders to carry out their promises, especially on issues of poverty. It is because until today 50,000 people die every day because of the poverty, and every second 3 children die. GCAP is meant as an open meeting for world social movements, NGO networks, world civil society organizations to eradicate poverty. For GCAP, global imbalances and poverty is a form of an unfair economic system. It can be seen from the debts that wrapped around emerging countries, unfair global trade, as well as the overly convoluted requirements for debt relief to poor and developing countries. In 2000, world leaders again committed to fighting poverty, also known as the Millennium Declaration, with the aim to reduce the number of poor people by 2015. Indonesia is one of the countries that approved the Millennium Declaration. According to its official website, the GCAP organization has involved 38 million people in action in 2005 in more than 75 countries and 23 million people in 2006 in over 85 countries. The 2005 campaign brought the success marked by the meeting of 170 members of the International Facilitation Group in Beirut in 2006 that resulted in an agreement to continue the campaign on 31 December 2007. It is the meeting point of the global community. The campaign was set up at a conference in Johannesburg, South Africa on the end of 2004 and was officially launched at the World Social Forum in Brazil on the first of January 2005. This campaign was responded quickly and grew to gain its status as the world's most massive anti-poverty campaign by building on existing networks, as well as their strategies and activities. There are currently over a thousand members of this organization and millions of supporters around the world. This movement has several demands as follow:

- Public accountability, Fair Government and the Fulfillment of Human Rights

- Women's Rights and Gender Justice

- Climate Justice

- Trade Justice

- Support and Financing for Development

- Debt Cancellation

- Peace and Security

Throughout 2005, GCAP mobilized millions of people through a series of 'White Band Days', when the symbol was used to highlight the injustices of global poverty. Below is the White Band Day table performed by GCAP.

Table 1. Implementation of White Band Day

White Band Day 1	July 1, 2005
White Band Day 2	September 10, 2005
White Band Day 3	December 10, 2005
White Band Day 4	October 17, 2006
White Band Day 5	October 12, 2007

A month of mobilization was launched on 16 September 2005 (coinciding with the annual meeting of the IMF and World Bank). For a month, countries around the world carried out a series of actions culminating in global white band day. The White Band remains a symbol of campaign and expression of solidarity against poverty. During 2007, national campaigns and coalitions were mobilized on primary national dates as well as international white band days. From September 1st to October 20th, 2008, caring citizens in more than 100 countries joined together for 50 Days.

The following is the name of the coalition of countries:

Table 2. The Coalition of Country

Name	Countries
Plus d'excuses	France
Deine Stimme Gegen Armut	Germany
Make Poverty History	Japan
Make Poverty History	Australia
Make Poverty History	Canada
Make Poverty History	Ireland
Make Poverty History	Emirates (UAE)
Make Poverty History	United Kingdom
Make Poverty History	Nigeria
The ONE Campaign	Singapore
The ONE Campaign	USA
EEN - Armoede de Wereld uit	The Netherlands
SANGOCO	South Africa
Wada Na Todo	India
No More Excuses	Philippines
Gemeinsam gegen Armut	Switzerland

GCAP once held a campaign awarded by Guinness World of Records as "Stand Up" Against Poverty for 24 hours. It was held on the last day of the International Day for Poverty Eradication. It was conducted for 24 hours starting at 10:00 am on October 15th and ending at 10:00 am on October 16th. The record was confirmed and released by the Guinness officials on October 17. In the official note, Guinness stated the single largest coordinated movement of people in the history of the Guinness World Record, as set at 23.542.614 'Stand Up Events' registered in 85 countries around the world. From October 17th-19th, 2008, citizens around the world would try to break this record again.

The coordination of this organization consists of the International Facilitation Group (IFG) to assist the coordination of campaigns at the international level that has a task force. They have a network of national coalitions in certain countries committed to making poverty a part of the past and supporting the

GCAP platform. The campaign is not limiting and is currently an alliance of existing coalitions, community groups, trade unions, individuals, actors, religious groups, campaigners, non-governmental organizations and more. The campaign has grown to over 115 countries.

2.3 Dilemmas Global Civil Society

Criticisms and dilemmas for the global civil society are indeed not spared on this issue. For example, the first is about funding because in general, civil society in developing countries depends on the donor institutions in developed countries. Second, on determining the issues to raise. Civil society from the developed countries dominates the issue by leading and determining the issues that will become the world issues or that will be implemented by civil society in developing countries. It becomes a dilemma of the civil society movement itself. Chandoke conceptualizes the global civil society as a phenomenon of Wallerstein's world system. There are three classifications. First is the civil society center, which is the civil society originating from the developed countries. Second is semi-periphery civil society, that is the civil society originating from countries that have advanced civil society movement, and third is civil society periphery, that is the civil society from backward countries with weak civil society movement.

The relation of these three classifications is the contestation relation where the civil society center seeks to dominate the civil society periphery. It is proven by the dependence of the civil society from developing countries to the civil society from the developed countries. Not to mention the existence of political affiliation of specific groups that is challenging to avoid from the civil society operations. It is very difficult for the global civil society in general to survive without the support of the powerful parties. That is why when the global civil society enters a local issue, its policy will then be limited if the dominant political elite wants another policy. On the contrary, the political elite will also get pressure from the civil society parties associated with the case related to the profit and loss of the civil society. Political elements and personal interests in the case of the Global Civil Society are once again not an easy task to solve.

Technology provides the ability to access information more quickly and efficiently; economic conditions, particularly the crisis will bring fear and impact the new movements; social changes with their trends also affect through the reaction of the relationship of the public with the markets and countries. Since the civil society in the developing countries depends on the financing, generally they seem to be dominated in determining the issues they will handle.

However, in addition to achieving success, there are obstacles and hurdles addressed to the global civil society in the process of democratic accountability in global governance. The global civil society also has several obstacles to enter the global governance sphere. First, the resource problems experienced by the global civil society are one of the obstacles to face; second, the global civil society network is still concerned with the resource issues; third, the way the global civil society work is still related to the government; fourth, mass media has a role in publicizing and popularizing the global civil society; fifth, the political cultures in a region becomes a determinant of the global civil society movement; and sixth, it is concerned with the accountability possessed by global civil society in achieving the public interest.

3 CONCLUSION

The causes of structural inequality, high inequality between the rich and the poor must be minimized. It is essential that the countries around the world can lead to high-quality development, the development that can end poverty and marginalization, gender equality, protect human rights, defend the environment. Global civil society must be able to stand together with each other because it is not only about technical challenges but also a political challenge. Massive and systematic pressure waves are necessary to achieve change. The actual important thing is the freedom of expression, the ability to express opinions, needs and desires to criticize and hold leaders' responsibility, to have access to free and fair media should be given to the Global Civil Society.

Despite the weaknesses of the global civil society, we must still believe that the movement needs to be mobilized together. Building an ideal global civil society civilization such as building a society that wants to be achieved according to the mutual agreement in forming a dignified, educated, knowledgeable, mature society in viewing natural and social phenomena, principled, justice, and so forth. We should optimize our reasoning power to keep answering life's problems because great civilization is a civilization capable of creating an

economically, politically, socially, culturally and materially suitable environment.

REFERENCES

Agarwal, Anil. 1998. "*Globalization, Civil Society and Governance: The Challenges for the 21st Century.*" Paper read at NORAD's Environment Day, in Oslo, Norway. Bratton, Michael. 1994.

Civil Society and Political Transition in Africa. Boston, MA: Institute for Development Research.

Beynon dan Dunkerley, 2000, *Globalization; the Reader*, New York, Routledge

Chandhoke, Neera. *The Conceits of Civil Society*. Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Chadwick Alger, "*Grass-Roots Perspective on Global Policies Development*", Jornal of Peace Research , Vol. 27 No. 2,, Special Issue on the Challenge of Global Policy, (May 1990). hlm. 155 , the concept of beyond state is the idea of Marvin Soroos (Soroos, 1986) elaborated by Alger.

Carothers, Thomas. 2000. *"Civil Society"* dalam Foreign Policy.

Dragica, V. (2008). Global Civil Society as Concept and Practice in the Process of Globalization. *Synthesis Philosopica* , 80.

Global Call To Action Against Poverty Mobilisation Toolkit For October 17 2007 International Day For The Eradication Of Poverty accesed on https://www.ituccsi.org/IMG/pdf/No_39_GCAP_Mob ilisation_Toolkit.pdf

Griffiths, Martin. 2008. "*NGO (Non-Govermental Organization)" on International Relation. The Key Concept 2nd Edition*. New York. Routledge.

Huntington, Samuel P. *Gelombang Demokratisasi Ketiga.*, Jakarta: Pustaka Utama Grafiti. 2001

Keane, J. 2003. Global Civil Society?, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Korten, D., Perlas, N., and Shiva, V. 2008. *Global Civil Society – The Path Ahead (discussion paper),* http://www.pcdf.org/civilsociety/default.htm, September 20th, 2008.

Kurniawan, Lutfi J. dkk. *Negara, Civil society dan Demokratisasi: PergerakanMembangun Solidaritas Sosial dalam Merebut Perubahan*. Malang: In-TRANS Publishing. 2008

Lewis, D. 2001. Civil Society in Non-Western Contexts: Reflections on the "Usefulness"of a Concept (manuscript).

Mendelson, S. E. (2015). *Why GovermentsTarget Civil Society and What Can Be Done in Response : A New Agenda.* Center For Strategic & International Studies.

Nasstrom, S. 2003. *What Globalization overshadows, Political Theory*, Vol. 31, No. 6, December 2003.

Perez-Diaz, V. M. 1998. *The Return of Civil Society, Cambridge*, Massachusetts and London,England: Harvard University Press.

Sugiyono. (2010). *Metode Penelitian Kuantitaf Kualitatif dan R & D.* Bandung: CV Alfabeta Bandung.

The Future Role of Civil Society. (2013). World Economic Forum.

Widjajanto, A., & dkk. (2007). *Transnasionalisasi Masyarakat Sipil.* Yogyakarta: LKIS.

What is Global Civil Society , Global Policy Journal London School of Economics and Political Science accessed on www.aalep.eu/sites/.../What%20is%20Global%20Poli cy.pdf

Widjajanto, A., & dkk. (2007). *Transnasionalisasi Masyarakat Sipil.* Yogyakarta: LKIS, 52 -53

www.whiteband.org