THE ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL LAW IN PREVENTING AND ADDRESSING HUMAN TRAFFICKING FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE RIGHT TO PRIVACY UNDER ICCPR

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Abstract
This research aims to explore the regulations and principles of human rights and the role of International Law in preventing and addressing human trafficking, with a specific focus on the Right to Privacy outlined in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR). Furthermore, the study seeks to analyze the contribution of International Law to combat human trafficking from an ICCPR perspective. The act of trafficking violates various principles of international human rights, including the Right to Privacy as stipulated in Article 17 of the ICCPR. However, Article 17 also acknowledges that the right to privacy may be limited in cases of public interest or to safeguard the rights of others. The challenge lies in determining appropriate limitations on the right to privacy in specific situations, leading to norm vagueness. This research adopts a normative legal research method, incorporating a statutory approach relevant to the legal domain under examination, as well as conceptual and analytical approaches. The findings revealed that effective international cooperation is crucial in combating human trafficking. Nations must ensure that their domestic laws align with international legal standards for prevention and intervention in human trafficking. Adoption and implementation of pertinent international instruments such as the Palermo Protocol, an adjunct to the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and the Protocol on Combating Human trafficking are recommended for this purpose.

Keywords: Human Trafficking, ICCPR, Right to Privacy

1. INTRODUCTION
Human trafficking is a long-standing issue that has persisted throughout history, even finding mention in holy books. Today, it stands as one of the top five crimes globally, demanding urgent attention due to its far-reaching economic, political, cultural, and humanitarian repercussions. The other four crimes in this category are drug trafficking, illegal arms trafficking, intellectual property crimes, and money laundering (Suwardika, 2020).

The issue of human trafficking continues to be a serious problem that impacts various parts of the world. According to the 2020 Global Report on Human trafficking, released by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), women and children constitute 74% of the victims involved in trafficking.

The act of human trafficking is a grave and increasing concern, as indicated by information provided by the U.S. Department of Justice and the United Nations (Hutabarat et al., 2022). It is estimated that between 700,000 to four million individuals worldwide fall victim to trafficking, involving their sale, transportation, forced labor, and exploitation. Developing countries, particularly those with low incomes, are frequently the primary sources of trafficked individuals destined for more developed nations.
developing nation itself, Indonesia is not immune to this issue and plays a significant role as a "sending country" in the global trafficking network (Maharani & Atmadja, 2015). The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) offers a crucial framework to address and prevent human trafficking. The ICCPR is an international treaty that protects essential civil and political rights and has been ratified by numerous countries, including Indonesia. It explicitly recognizes the rights of individuals to be free from slavery, sale, and forced labor under conditions of coercion. Article 8 of the ICCPR specifically condemns any form of slavery as a violation of human rights.

In addition, the ICCPR also provides for the right to protection from sexual exploitation and human trafficking. Article 9 of the ICCPR states that everyone has the right to liberty and security of person, including the right not to be arbitrarily detained or arrested without lawful cause. This can serve as the legal basis for countries to take action against human traffickers and provide protection for victims.

In the Indonesian context, the government has passed several laws related to human trafficking, such as Law No. 21/2007 on the Eradication of the Crime of Human trafficking. However, there are still challenges in the implementation of the law. Therefore, research on the role of international law from the perspective of the ICCPR in preventing and addressing human trafficking can contribute to improving the protection of victims of human trafficking in Indonesia and other countries worldwide.

The ICCPR contains several articles related to human trafficking, namely Article 8 on the right to personal liberty, Article 9 on the right to personal liberty and security, and Article 24 on the right to child protection. These articles guarantee that everyone has the right to liberty and security of person and should not be enslaved or forced to work under involuntary circumstances.

Additionally, the ICCPR also provides special protection for women and children from human trafficking, sexual abuse, and sexual exploitation. Article 23 of the ICCPR affirms that the family is the natural and fundamental unit of society, deserving protection by society and the state. Article 24 of the ICCPR further affirms that every child is entitled to special protection and care necessary for their physical, mental, moral, and social development.

The issue of human trafficking carries significant weight in international law due to its infringement upon fundamental human rights and its detrimental impact on both individuals and society as a whole. This illicit practice directly contravenes essential human rights principles, including the right to personal freedom, the right to be free from enslavement or coerced labor, the right to safeguard against sexual exploitation and trafficking, the right to privacy, and the right to specific protections for women and children (Widana, 2019).

Moreover, human trafficking is also a violation of various international treaties, such as the Palermo Convention on Transnational Organized Crime. The convention addresses trafficking in Article 3, which defines transnational organized crime; Article 5, which focuses on the prevention of transnational organized crime; Article 6, which concerns courts and jurisdiction; Article 9, which deals with international cooperation; and Article 11, which pertains to the protection of victims.

Besides that, in the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, namely in Article 6 concerning Actions that must be taken by state parties; Article 9 concerning Nationality; Article 10 concerning Education;
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Article 11 concerning Work; Article 12 concerning Health; Article 15 concerning Equality before the law and in economic and social life.

Also, in the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, specifically in Article 6 on measures to be taken by state parties, Article 9 on nationality, Article 10 on education, Article 11 on employment, Article 12 on health, and Article 15 on equality before the law and in economic and social life. Additionally, the Convention on the Rights of the Child includes Article 19 on protection from violence, abuse, and exploitation, Article 32 on protection from economic exploitation and child labor, and Article 34 on protection from sexual abuse. The Palermo Convention states that human trafficking is a form of transnational organized crime and must be seriously combated by state parties. Meanwhile, the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women emphasizes that trafficking in women and girls for the purpose of sexual exploitation is a form of discrimination against women and must be eradicated.

The ICCPR provides concrete regulations regarding the protection of international human rights for everyone from the act of human trafficking. The act of trafficking violates several principles of international human rights enshrined in the ICCPR, one of which is the principle of the Right to Privacy, regulated in Article 17 of the ICCPR. This article states that "everyone has the right to protection against arbitrary interference with their private life, family, household, and communications, and against attacks on personal honor and reputation."

The article emphasizes the importance and urgency of protecting privacy as a fundamental right, and the state has an obligation to ensure this protection. Privacy protection encompasses various aspects of private life, such as personal information, correspondence, and private activities. States must also safeguard individuals from attacks on their honor and reputation.

Article 17 of the ICCPR also safeguards the right to privacy of trafficking victims. Victims of trafficking often endure violations of their right to privacy, such as abduction, confinement, forced labor, or sexual exploitation. Therefore, states should ensure that victims of trafficking receive adequate protection against violations of their right to privacy (Suryandari, 2019).

Although Article 17 of the ICCPR recognizes the right to privacy as a fundamental human right that must be protected, there are certain normative ambiguities that can pose challenges in its implementation. Some factors contributing to the vagueness of Article 17 of the ICCPR include: a lack of a clear definition of terms such as "private life," "family," "household," and "communications," which results in varied interpretations of the right to privacy. Additionally, there are limitations to the right to privacy, as Article 17 of the ICCPR acknowledges that it can be restricted in cases of public interest or to protect the rights of others. However, determining the appropriate limits to the right to privacy in specific situations can be subject to normative vagueness.

This research builds upon previous works, such as Nugroho (2018) examination of state responsibility in handling the crime of human, and Purba T. (2018) study on the legal protection of Indonesian workers in relation to human trafficking based on national and international law. While these prior studies address the issue of human trafficking from the perspective of international human rights, this research specifically focuses on
the problem of trafficking through the lens of the ICCPR, with a particular emphasis on exploring the vague norms outlined in Article 17.

The problem at hand involves determining the relevant regulations and human rights principles outlined in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) that are applicable to the prevention and mitigation of human trafficking. Furthermore, it aims to explore the role of international law, with a particular focus on the right to privacy as stated in the ICCPR, in preventing and addressing human trafficking. These research objectives serve to enhance our understanding of human trafficking prevention and mitigation efforts within the context of the ICCPR and highlight the significance of international law in addressing this pressing issue.

2. RESEARCH METHODS

The research methodology employed in this study utilizes normative legal research methods to examine the Principle of the Right to Privacy, as outlined in Article 17 of the ICCPR. The author employs a statutory approach, interpreting relevant legislation within the specific legal context under investigation, in order to mitigate any potential ambiguities in the norms. Additionally, the study incorporates a conceptual approach and an analytical approach to further analyze the subject matter (Marzuki, 2015). In addition to primary research, secondary legal materials from previous studies conducted in the field are gathered and included in this study to provide a comprehensive analysis.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1. Human Rights Rules and Principles Related to Preventing and Addressing Human Trafficking Under the ICCPR

The ICCPR sets international standards for the protection of civil and political rights. When a state ratifies the ICCPR, it becomes obligated to safeguard the human rights of its citizens, preventing violations committed by the state, as well as by individuals or groups. Moreover, states are required to ensure that the rights enshrined in the ICCPR are granted to all individuals without any form of discrimination, including race, gender, religion, and other grounds.

In addition, the ICCPR establishes complaint procedures for individuals who believe their rights have been violated by states that have ratified the covenant. These individuals have the opportunity to file a complaint with the United Nations Committee on Civil and Political Rights. This committee is responsible for examining complaints and providing recommendations to the concerned state (Agusman, 2019).

The ICCPR incorporates human rights principles in the prevention of human trafficking through various provisions:

1. Protection from discrimination: Article 2 of the ICCPR safeguards the right to be free from discrimination.
2. Protection against human trafficking: Article 8 of the ICCPR ensures protection against human trafficking.
3. Right to liberty and security of person: Article 9 of the ICCPR establishes the right to liberty and security of the individual.
4. Protection from inhuman or degrading treatment: Article 7 of the ICCPR safeguards individuals from inhuman or degrading treatment.
5. Recognition as an independent person with equal dignity: Article 16 of the ICCPR recognizes the right to be regarded as an independent person with equal dignity.

6. Protection against child abuse and exploitation: Article 24(1) of the ICCPR specifically protects the rights of children against violence and exploitation.

7. Equality before the law: Article 26 of the ICCPR ensures the right to equality before the law.

8. Freedom from inhuman and degrading treatment: The right to freedom from inhuman and degrading treatment is protected under Article 7 of the ICCPR.

9. Right to privacy and respect for private life: Article 17 of the ICCPR safeguards the right to privacy and respect for private life (Farhana, 2010).

The ICCPR upholds the principle that everyone should be protected from trafficking, placing an obligation on states to take measures for prevention, addressing practices, and providing protection and support to victims. These actions include:

1. Encouraging reporting and monitoring.
2. Improving legal protections for victims.
3. Increasing international cooperation.
4. Enforcing laws and enhancing supervision.
5. Strengthening cooperation with the private sector.
6. Promoting the recovery and reintegration of victims.
7. Addressing the underlying factors contributing to trafficking (Nuraeny, 2022).

Human rights regulations and principles, as viewed through the lens of the ICCPR, establish that states bear the responsibility to safeguard human rights, including the right to be free from trafficking. To effectively combat human trafficking, states must take concrete actions such as enhancing international cooperation, enforcing laws, intensifying surveillance, fostering collaboration with the private sector, promoting victim recovery and reintegration, raising awareness and providing education, and addressing the root causes of trafficking (Kurniawan & Prabowo, 2019).

However, addressing the practice of human trafficking poses obstacles due to its cross-border nature and involvement of multiple parties, including traffickers, victims, and governments. This complexity makes combating and tackling human trafficking a challenging task (Kurniawan & Prabowo, 2019).

To overcome these challenges, it is crucial for governments, civil society, and international organizations to join forces and enhance awareness, allocate resources, and improve coordination in combating trafficking. It is imperative to establish and enforce comprehensive laws and regulations while ensuring effective law enforcement to prevent and address trafficking. Despite the numerous obstacles, it is vital to persist in efforts and strengthen cooperation to tackle this issue effectively.

Strengthening international cooperation and facilitating the exchange of information and experiences are key strategies to address these challenges. Additionally, adopting a holistic and human rights-based approach can significantly contribute to addressing trafficking in a comprehensive manner (Diantini & Widianto, 2019).

Addressing trafficking is of utmost importance as it directly relates to fundamental principles of human rights and social justice. When an individual becomes a victim of trafficking, their human rights are violated, including their right to liberty, freedom from
inhuman or degrading treatment, right to health, and right to education. Such violations undermine key human rights principles, including the right to dignity and liberty. Furthermore, trafficking also perpetuates social injustice, particularly as many victims originate from impoverished and vulnerable backgrounds. Therefore, efforts to prevent and address trafficking are essential to uphold and protect human rights and promote social justice (L. A. Sari & IP, 2010).

In addition to the principles of human rights and social justice, it is crucial to uphold other key principles in combating human trafficking, such as prevention and elimination, victim protection, perpetrator prosecution, and international cooperation. These principles must be approached holistically and with a sustained effort to ensure that victims receive comprehensive and consistent protection, while striving to make trafficking an entirely unacceptable crime that is eradicated.

It is essential to bear in mind that addressing trafficking is a long-term process that demands patience and unwavering determination to achieve significant outcomes. However, by persisting in our efforts and strengthening cooperation, there is hope that we can effectively address the issue of trafficking and provide adequate protection for victims.

3.2. The Position of International Law in Preventing and Overcoming Human trafficking from the Perspective of the Right to Privacy in the ICCPR

International Law, along with the ICCPR, plays a vital role in effectively preventing and addressing human trafficking. International Law provides a robust legal foundation for countries to combat human trafficking. Key instruments of International Law pertaining to trafficking include the Palermo Convention on Combating Transnational Organized Crime and the Palermo Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Human trafficking. Notably, the Palermo Protocol establishes a legal framework for states to prevent and address human trafficking.

In the realm of preventing and addressing human trafficking, the role of International Law and the ICCPR is pivotal in providing an effective global legal framework. The ICCPR itself sets international standards concerning human rights, encompassing the right to be free from enslavement or treatment as a slave, the right to liberty and security of person, the right to protection from discrimination, and the right to decent work.

The ICCPR serves as a regulatory framework for member states, outlining the civil and political rights that they must safeguard. These rights include the right to liberty and the right to be free from slavery or enslavement, which are closely connected to the issue of human trafficking. International Law, on the other hand, establishes global standards that countries must adhere to in their efforts to combat trafficking. For instance, the Palermo Protocol provides guidelines for preventive measures, criminal actions, and victim protection in dealing with trafficking.

Furthermore, active participation in international cooperation is crucial for countries in their endeavors to prevent and address trafficking. Collaboration among governments, international organizations, and non-governmental organizations at regional and global levels plays a significant role in this regard (L. A. Sari & IP, 2010).

Regarding the right to privacy, Article 17 of the ICCPR specifically recognizes and upholds this fundamental human right. It asserts that everyone has the right to be protected from arbitrary interference with their private life, family, household, and
communications. Article 17 underscores the importance of privacy as an essential individual right that deserves protection and respect from the state.

The right to privacy is enshrined in Article 17 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), an international human rights treaty established by the United Nations in 1966. According to Article 17 of the ICCPR, every individual has the right to be safeguarded against arbitrary interference with their private life, family, household, and communications, as well as protection against attacks on personal honor and reputation.

This article underscores the significance of privacy as a fundamental and pressing right that necessitates protection, with the state bearing the responsibility to ensure this protection. Privacy encompasses various facets of private life, including personal information, correspondence, and private activities. Moreover, individuals must be shielded from assaults on their honor and reputation (Diantini & Widianto, 2019).

In practice, the right to privacy often remains a complex issue within the realm of human rights. Interpretations and protections of this right continue to be debated among different countries and international organizations. Nonetheless, the right to privacy articulated in the ICCPR establishes a foundation for advocating for a clearer and more robust right to privacy for individuals worldwide (R. P. Sari & Kurniawan, 2018).

Article 17 of the ICCPR lacks a precise definition of the terms "private life, family, household, and communications," resulting in varying interpretations of the scope of the right to privacy. Moreover, the article acknowledges that the right to privacy may be limited in certain circumstances, such as when there is a public interest or a need to protect the rights of others. However, determining the appropriate boundaries of the right to privacy in specific situations can lead to ambiguity.

Several factors contribute to this normative ambiguity in Article 17 of the ICCPR. Firstly, different cultures and perspectives on privacy exist across countries, which can influence how Article 17 is interpreted and applied within each jurisdiction.

Secondly, variations in the contexts and conditions in which the right to privacy is invoked can further contribute to normative ambiguity. For instance, during emergency situations or when national security is at stake, governments may argue that privacy restrictions are necessary in the interest of public safety. However, any such restrictions must be proportionate and not infringe upon the rights recognized in the ICCPR.

Thirdly, normative ambiguity can arise in the context of personal data collection, processing, and usage by private companies and other organizations. With society's increasing reliance on digital technologies and services, personal data can be collected and processed without clear consent from individuals, leading to questions about privacy protection.

Efforts are needed to address the ambiguity surrounding the norms outlined in Article 17 of the ICCPR by establishing clearer criteria and limits for the exercise and restriction of the right to privacy. This can be achieved through consistent and contemporary interpretation of the ICCPR by authorized bodies, as well as the development of comprehensive international regulations and standards pertaining to privacy and personal data protection.

States have a responsibility to ensure that their existing laws and regulations effectively safeguard individuals’ privacy rights and that these provisions are properly
enforced. Furthermore, countries should establish accessible avenues, such as courts and other mechanisms, for individuals to address privacy rights violations and seek resolution.

Regarding human trafficking, protecting the privacy rights of individuals is crucial in preventing illicit trafficking practices and safeguarding victims from further harm. When investigating and prosecuting traffickers, states must ensure that victims' privacy rights are respected and upheld.

Countries should take measures to prevent victims of human trafficking from being unduly exposed during court proceedings or investigations, and they should refrain from widely disseminating victims' personal information. Additionally, countries must ensure that the identities of trafficking victims remain confidential, thereby shielding them from heightened threats or harm (Nurahman, 2019).

On the other hand, countries should strengthen international cooperation to effectively combat human trafficking and ensure secure and lawful exchange of necessary personal data for investigation and prosecution purposes. However, it is essential to conduct such data exchange while respecting individuals' privacy rights and protecting the personal data of human trafficking victims.

In this context, the role of states is pivotal in maintaining the protection of privacy rights throughout the prevention and response to human trafficking. Countries should collaborate and coordinate their efforts to establish improved international standards and frameworks that safeguard the privacy rights of trafficking victims and effectively prevent human trafficking.

For instance, in Indonesia, there is a law in place specifically addressing the prevention and handling of human trafficking, known as "Law Number 21 of 2007 concerning the Eradication of the Criminal Acts of Human trafficking." This legislation encompasses provisions on criminalizing human trafficking, prevention measures, and protection for victims of trafficking.

Indonesia has not only ratified several international conventions related to human rights but has also implemented regulations that address the prevention and handling of human trafficking. Some of these international conventions include the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, and the Palermo Protocol on Combating Human trafficking (Yusitarani, 2020).

Additionally, there are specific provisions within the Indonesian Criminal Code (KUHP) that can be applied to address the crime of human trafficking. These provisions include:

1. Article 88 of the Criminal Code, which prohibits individuals from engaging in human trafficking or benefiting from such activities. The punishment for this offense can result in imprisonment for a maximum of 15 years and a fine of up to Rp7.5 billion.
2. Article 89 of the Criminal Code, which deals with the crime of kidnapping. This provision can also be applied in cases of human trafficking, as trafficking often involves abduction or forcibly taking individuals. The punishment for kidnapping can range from a maximum imprisonment of 20 years to life imprisonment.
3. Article 76A of the Criminal Code, which addresses the crime of torture. This provision can be applied if the perpetrator subjects the victim of trafficking to acts of torture. The maximum penalty for this offense is imprisonment for up to 12 years (Puspitasari et al., 2018).
By having these laws and provisions in place, Indonesia aims to effectively combat human trafficking, ensure the prosecution of offenders, and provide justice and protection for victims.

4. CONCLUSION

Norm ambiguity in Article 17 of the ICCPR can be influenced by several factors. Firstly, cultural differences and varying perspectives on privacy across countries can impact the interpretation and application of Article 17. Different views and values related to privacy may lead to variations in understanding and implementation of this provision among nations. Secondly, norm blurring can arise due to the diverse situations and contexts in which the right to privacy is applied. During emergencies or when national security is at stake, governments may argue that limitations on privacy rights are necessary to safeguard the public interest. However, any such restrictions must be proportionate and in line with the rights recognized in the ICCPR. Thirdly, norm blurring can occur within the realm of personal data collection, processing, and utilization by private companies and organizations. The increasing reliance on digital technologies and services raises concerns about the collection and processing of personal data without clear consent, creating challenges for privacy rights.

Victims of human trafficking often endure severe violations of their right to privacy, including abduction, forced labor, sexual exploitation, and being held against their will. It is essential for states to ensure that their national laws align with international legal standards in preventing and responding to human trafficking. This can be achieved by adopting and effectively implementing relevant international instruments such as the Palermo Protocol to the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol on Combating Human trafficking.

By addressing norm ambiguity, upholding privacy rights, and implementing comprehensive legal frameworks, states can better protect individuals from human trafficking and uphold their right to privacy, ultimately contributing to the prevention and eradication of this grave human rights violation.

REFERENCES


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