

CHAPTER V CONCLUSION

A. Main Argument

The change of ideology was becoming the part of Turkish history and also might become the factor of another problem to come. Since, the first when the Ottoman Empire ruled Turkey, they used the ideology of Islamism, until then being conquered by Mustafa Kemal Pasha Atatürk and changed the ideology into secularism and militarism. After decades, the public of Turkey has seen secularism and militarism as the key to survive in the modern era. Then, comes Recep Tayyip Erdoğan in the early 21st century with his great works to improve the economic growth and to solve many problems in Turkey. He slowly changes the rule and system by using the Islamism ideology, he changes the Secularism way into Islamism way.

The change that was brought by Erdoğan was slowly accepted by the Turkish people, because of the great work is shown by the president of Recep Tayyip Erdoğan in improving the economy of Turkey and solving many problems faced by Turkey recently. However, not all of the people who live in Turkey are accepting the existence of Erdoğan as president, as shown in the presidential election 2014 only around 51% votes which electing Erdoğan as a president. Also, not all Turkish citizens are happy with the Erdoğan's policy. Then comes into the protesting of the opposite of Erdoğan at his policy, but almost does not find the win-win solution. Then, in the end, many groups of Erdoğan's opposite makes a movement and even the goal of the movement is to change the state system and established a new state which is called as separatism, such as what Kurdish did in recent years. Then, appear many terrorist groups and extremism group to fight the government to change and establish the new state system. Not only the separatism group, but due to the polemic problems, then following the

international terrorism such as ISIS, Al-Qaeda, etc, and political terrorist groups such as Gulen movement which bothering and become another matter and a big problem to be faced by the government.

Turkey has a huge experience to fight the terrorism issues from the Kemal era until the Erdogan era. The author analyzed that there are three kinds of the terrorist group taking action in Turkey. They are Separatist Terrorism, Political Terrorism, and International Terrorism. The Turkish government treats those different terrorist group with a different kind of policy. In response to the terrorism issue in Erdogan administration, the author sees that The Turkish government has been using the concept of Counterterrorism by Ronald Crelisnten in protecting Turkey's stability from the terrorism issue. Then, there are two ways that Turkish government uses to tackle the issue of terrorism, they are Coercive Counterterrorism and Proactive Counterterrorism.

Coercive Counterterrorism is about fighting the terrorism issue by using hard power with all the rights of conduct is in the hand of the state. It was showed by the Erdogan's policy, which he said after the Istanbul tragedy that the Turkish government will be likely to do the repression, suppression of the media, suspension of civil liberties and extrajudicial crimes of their own. With the implementation of doing war against terrorism such as PKK, Kurdish movement, ISIS, and Gulenist in Turkey. Besides the government declare war against the terrorism, also with the followers or the supporters are a part of the terrorism and will be punished accordingly the anti-terror law of Turkey.

The second strategy is Proactive Counterterrorism. This strategy also matches with countering the separatist group, political terrorism, and international terrorism. Because this concept is about the preventive action with the goal to prevent and avoid before it happens. For the separatist group such as

PKK, DPHK-C, TAK and others, the government with their spy agencies are together controlled the terrorist movement and predict what will happen next, then if something out of the plan, quickly the security agencies taking action. Same with the political terrorism and international terrorism, they are being watched by the spy agencies to control their movement and prevent bad things happen. Another thing is the government uses the international relation as the tools to minimize the terrorism issues by establishing the cooperation among states. this action is to gain more power to fight against terrorism. Beside of those things, the government also provide blacklisting and other identification or information-sharing methods. Turkey creates a blacklisting of the terrorist group, the recently hot is the blacklisting of Gulenism, where they all are defined as terrorism by the Turkish government. Another thing is Turkey create two important programs to counter radicalization of violence and violent extremism. The first is an outreach program run by the Turkish National Police (TNP) which seeks to prevent radicalization through initial contact with the community at risk. The program aims to reach vulnerable populations before they are exposed to propaganda and extremist messages. The second program undertaken by the government of Turkey is a program to counter violent extremist messaging. This program is mainly run by the Religious Affairs Office of the Turkish Government also called by the Turkish as Dinayet. Another thing is by tightening of law related to maximizing the counterterrorism. This action proved by there are many amendments to security law of Turkey which has many times to be amended, the last one in 2015.

B. Strengths and Weaknesses

Everything has strengths and weaknesses inside, whether it can be clearly seen or not. The author also sees the strength and weakness of Turkey's strategy on overcoming terrorism issue in Erdogan Administration. What the Turkish government did is always using the Coercive Counterterrorism

and also Proactive Counterterrorism in overcoming the terrorism issue. There are some strengths of using these strategies. First, the opponent or the terrorist group who defeated and destroyed by the government by the armed attack will have no power to make an immediate counterattack to the government. By getting the armed attack from the government they lost their troops and home bases and need some new addition to the membership and a new base. As what Turkey has recently done by sending a military operation in Afrin, Syria to attack the linked Kurdish militant that operates in Afrin. The Turkish military claimed that they have launched fire to the Kurdish militant bases from three groups which are PKK, PYD, and YPG (Nusantaranews 2018). Reported as many as thousands of Kurdish armed militant, PKK and ISIS members were arrested in Turkish military operation in Afrin. Turkey believes in this attack will decrease the Kurdish militant activity and gave some warning to not doing a terrorist activity in Syria and also Turkey.

Second, the public society who oppose with terrorism, separatism, and extremism will remain to oppose them and support the government because the control of the media and judicial law is in the hand of the government, then the power of the government will remain on the top. For the case, in the tragedy of the military coup in 2016, the coup was failed because of the government handling the media and spread to the public to give an order to oppose the coup, then the government got the support from the Turkish people to thwart the military coup. Third, the state will get an additional benefit from the international cooperation and get more power with other states who suffer from terrorism issue, then together eradicate the terrorism issue by combining powers. As what Turkey has done in establishing the cooperation with Indonesia, Arab, OIC members, and other international forums in order to combine the power to eradicate the terrorism around the world. Besides the interest of eradicating terrorism, Turkey also gets another benefit such as the increasing of bilateral relation among the

states and increasing the name of the Republic of Turkey in giving the contribution to solving the terrorism problem around the world. Fourth, the strict law and blacklisting terrorism strategy will help the process of minimizing the terrorism issue becoming more effective, because the law will force all component of the state to oppose the terrorism. Then, for the weakness of this strategy is that the terrorism will remain struggle to give a pressure to the state and even to make a revenge toward what already state done to them, because what state already done to them is to make a big pressure to them, then some of them may react more extreme to make a revenge to the state and it may still continue in the future. For the example, until nowadays Turkey still suffers the terrorist attacks coming from different terrorist groups such as Kurdish militant, ISIS, and others. Another weakness is coming from the execution of the hard power on facing the terrorism issue, where some of the states beyond Turkey were disagreed and protesting by giving a warning to Turkey to stop the military operation toward the Kurdish militant. The protests were not only coming from Syria but also from Germany, the US and others (Fox News World, 2016). This situation might not be a beneficial for Turkey, because of the dislike reaction from other state and might be affected by other things such as bilateral relation with those countries. Then, it will be better for Turkey if the government tries again to use the Persuasive Counterterrorism as what have done by Turkey and Kurdish ceasefire in recent years before in order to get the solution without bloodshed. It is the peaceful way method to be applied and also defined as the effective one to solve the conflict or terrorism issue in win-win solution way.

C. Insights

The insights in this part will show the important things to get if we learn this thesis clearly. This thesis contains a Turkish problem and how they handle it. The problem facing by Turkey in this thesis is the terrorism issue in their country where

it becomes the main issue in this thesis and the focus is only under Erdogan administration, where there have been thousands of terrorism cases happened in Turkey during Erdogan led as president.

Since the first Erdogan led as president is 2014, there was a ceasefire between Turkey and PKK since 2013 and ends in 2015 only two and half year the ceasefire was holding (Letsch 2013). Then, getting its peak of the terrorist attack in 2015 and 2016. Because of just broken the ceasefire, it was impossible to make a new ceasefire in the same year. Then, the government used the strategy of Coercive Counterterrorism and Proactive Counterterrorism. The step that was taken by the government is showing us that in the situation such as what Turkey faced at that time, the possible strategy to do is to attack or defend and prevent the terror attack as the concept of Coercive and Proactive Counterterrorism. This is the new thing to be learned how to react to the separatist, extremist, terrorist at the same time. Turkey launched attacks in order to minimize the terrorist activity and at the same time in order to defend from the terrorism itself, as what the saying told: “attack is for defending”. Then, Turkey established the bilateral and multilateral cooperation to gain and combine power, then go to eradicate the terrorism together. Turkey believes that they cannot face the terrorism by themselves, then need another additional power to face many terrorist groups. Turkey also quickly tighten the law in order to force all element of Turkey to oppose the terrorism.

Then, in the end, the improvement works of Erdogan to overcome terrorism from 2014-2017 comes to a successful way as a president to minimize the terrorism issue in his country. This statement has been shown in chapter III. There was a chart that was proved at the end of 2017 the polemic of terrorism issue has been decreased drastically from the peak of terrorism issue in Turkey in 2015 and 2016. In 2014 is the beginning of the problem and gain its peak in 2015 and 2016. Then, with all

efforts of the Erdogan's government, they have success to minimize the amount of terrorist attack in 2017. Then, with those concepts and strategy were proved that those all are the effective one to be applied in Turkey on overcoming the terrorism issue.