

Effectiveness of Investigator Prosecutor Coordination in Handling Special Criminal Offenses at South Sulawesi Regional Police

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Abstract

This study aims to analyze the effectiveness of coordination between investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal offenses within the jurisdiction of the South Sulawesi Regional Police and to identify the factors influencing the effectiveness of such coordination. This study employs an empirical legal research method (socio-legal research) with an empirical juridical approach that emphasizes the application of law in practice (law in action). Data were collected through interviews, questionnaires, and documentary studies involving investigators, public prosecutors, and relevant parties engaged in the handling of special criminal cases. The findings indicate that coordination between investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal offenses has not yet been effective. Based on Soerjono Soekanto's five factors of law enforcement effectiveness, namely legal substance, law enforcement officers, facilities and infrastructure, society, and culture, all factors were categorized as less effective. The societal factor constituted the greatest obstacle, with a percentage of 58.82%, followed by facilities and infrastructure at 56.48%, legal substance at 54.11%, law enforcement officers at 52.94%, and cultural factors at 51.77%. These findings demonstrate that low levels of public legal awareness and participation, inadequate supporting facilities, problems concerning legal substance and regulations, suboptimal inter-agency coordination among law enforcement institutions, and an unsupportive legal culture continue to hinder effective coordination between investigators and public prosecutors. This study recommends harmonizing legal regulations, strengthening inter-agency coordination mechanisms, improving facilities and infrastructure, enhancing public legal awareness, and fostering a supportive legal culture to establish a more effective, efficient, and integrated criminal justice system.

Keywords: Coordination effectiveness, investigators, public prosecutors, special criminal offenses, law enforcement

INTRODUCTION

Law enforcement within Indonesia's criminal justice system is a series of processes that involves coordination among law enforcement officials, particularly between investigators and public prosecutors. (Zulaidi, 2020). This coordination is a crucial component in ensuring the effective handling of criminal cases, particularly in highly complex special criminal offenses such as corruption, money laundering, and other economic crimes. In practice, the success of the law enforcement process is determined not only by the quality of the investigation but also by the coordination between investigators and prosecutors at every stage of the criminal justice process (Natalia Orient Laloan, 2020).

Coordination between investigators and public prosecutors is essentially governed by the Criminal Procedure Code (KUHP), specifically through the mechanism of the Notice of the Commencement of an Investigation (SPDP), the review of case files, and pre-indictment guidance (M. Yahya Harahap, 2016). However, in practice, various obstacles are still frequently encountered, such as delays in the submission of case files, differing legal interpretations between investigators and prosecutors, and suboptimal communication among law enforcement agencies. These conditions can lead to delays in case resolution and may hinder the establishment of legal certainty and a sense of justice among the public. (Suryani, 2009).

Within the jurisdiction of the South Sulawesi Regional Police, the handling of special criminal cases faces significant challenges due to the high level of case complexity and the need for more in-depth evidence compared to general criminal cases. (Andi Hamzah, 2019). In some cases, it is still common for public prosecutors to return case files to investigators for further completion. This phenomenon indicates that coordination among law enforcement officials still needs to be strengthened, particularly in terms of communication, professionalism, and understanding of the provisions of criminal procedure law (Andi Tomy Aditya Mardana dan Syamsul Bachri, dan Nur Azisa, 2021).

In theory, effective coordination between investigators and public prosecutors is part of an integrated criminal justice system that treats all law enforcement officials as a single unit in the criminal justice process. (Romli Atmasasmita, 2011).

Therefore, a harmonious and professional working relationship is needed, one that is focused on resolving cases quickly, accurately, and fairly. If coordination is not optimal, the law enforcement process will face obstacles that could affect the quality of the handling of special criminal cases. (Syaiful Bakhri, 2010)

In addition, effective coordination between investigators and public prosecutors is also necessary to avoid overlapping jurisdictions and differing interpretations of the law in the handling of criminal cases. (Tolib Effendi, 2013).

Good coordination will ensure synchronization in the investigation and prosecution processes, enabling case files to be completed thoroughly and accurately, and to meet both formal and substantive requirements. As a result, the law enforcement process can proceed more efficiently and provide legal certainty to the public (Eddy O.S. Hiariej, 2014).

To strengthen the research foundation and demonstrate the position of this study, several previous studies relevant to coordination between investigators and public prosecutors need to be reviewed. This review is intended to identify the similarities, differences, and research gaps that have not yet been examined in depth, particularly regarding the effectiveness of coordination in handling special criminal offenses.

Relevant previous research was conducted by Zulaidi and Syarifudin (2020) from the Faculty of Law, Prof. Dr. Hazairin University, S.H. Bengkulu, and published in *Majalah Keadilan*. The study examined coordination between police investigators and public prosecutors within the criminal justice system and emphasized the importance of coordination in the investigation and prosecution processes.

Furthermore, Suryono and Kawakib (2022) from STIS Pontianak, through *JED (Jurnal Etika Demokrasi)*, examined the application of the principle of coordination between Polri investigators and prosecutors in the jurisdiction of the Pontianak Police. The findings indicated that coordination continued to face obstacles, including communication problems, differences in perceptions, limited resources, and inadequate supporting facilities.

The study by Noor (2021) from the Attorney General's Office of the Republic of Indonesia, published in *Syiar Hukum: Jurnal Ilmu Hukum*, examined coordination in the investigation of corruption offenses among law enforcement agencies. The findings showed that coordination had not been optimal due to sectoral ego and limitations in the quality and quantity of law enforcement personnel.

These three studies share a common focus on coordination among law enforcement agencies. However, this study differs by empirically measuring the effectiveness of coordination between investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal offenses within the jurisdiction of the South Sulawesi Regional Police, based on Soerjono Soekanto's five factors of law enforcement effectiveness: legal substance, law enforcement officers, facilities and infrastructure, society, and culture.

In the handling of special criminal cases in South Sulawesi, there are three alleged corruption cases: the procurement of a Health Information System worth Rp85 billion (2025), a

Rp25 billion grant for MSMEs (2026), and the Rp120 billion sports facility project that went viral. All of these cases were handled by special criminal investigators at the South Sulawesi Regional Police in collaboration with prosecutors at the South Sulawesi High Prosecutor's Office; however, they faced coordination challenges stemming from differing views on evidence and applicable charges, which led to case files being returned multiple times (P-19), before finally being reconciled through a joint case review until they were declared complete (P-21) and transferred to court, which demonstrates the importance of effective coordination in handling special criminal cases.

In the first case, in 2025, the South Sulawesi Provincial Government implemented a project to procure an Integrated Health Information System worth approximately Rp85 billion; however, during its implementation, irregularities allegedly occurred in the form of price markups, fictitious procurement, and the rigging of the tender process; this case was handled by special criminal investigators at the South Sulawesi Regional Police, who conducted an investigation, examined witnesses, and seized documents; however, coordination challenges arose with the public prosecutor at the South Sulawesi High Prosecutor's Office during the process, as the case file was returned multiple times (P-19) due to insufficient evidence and differing interpretations of applicable legal provisions, resulting in delays in the case's handling before a joint case review and strengthened coordination were finally conducted, leading to the case file being declared complete (P-21) and transferred to court. This demonstrates that the effectiveness of coordination between investigators and prosecutors significantly impacts the success of handling special criminal cases.

In the second case, in 2026, in Gowa Regency, South Sulawesi, a suspected special criminal offense was uncovered involving the misuse of grant funds intended to strengthen MSMEs, sourced from the regional budget (APBD) and totaling approximately Rp25 billion. The funds were allegedly not disbursed as intended, with a portion used for fictitious activities and for the personal interests of certain program administrators; this case was subsequently handled by special crimes investigators at the South Sulawesi Regional Police, who conducted an investigation by questioning agency officials and aid recipients, as well as tracing the flow of funds through bank accounts; however, during the process, coordination difficulties arose with the public prosecutor at the South Sulawesi High Prosecutor's Office due to differing assessments regarding the sufficiency of evidence and the legal characterization of the criminal acts, resulting in the case file being returned several times via P-19 and causing delays in the investigation process, before a joint case review was finally conducted to align legal interpretations and strengthen the evidence until the file was declared complete (P-21) and ready to be transferred to court.

The third case in 2026 involved an alleged special criminal offense that went viral in South Sulawesi regarding a provincial land acquisition and sports facility construction project worth approximately Rp120 billion, which was suspected of involving price markups, procurement manipulation, and the diversion of funds to unauthorized parties; this case was handled by special crimes investigators at the South Sulawesi Regional Police, who conducted witness examinations and financial transaction investigations; however, during the process, coordination difficulties arose with the public prosecutor at the South Sulawesi High Prosecutor's Office due to differing views on the sufficiency of evidence and evidentiary strategy, leading to the case file being returned multiple times (P-19), before finally being resolved through a joint case review, after which the case file was declared complete (P-21) and could be transferred to court.

The three cases of alleged special criminal offenses in South Sulawesi reveal a major problem: the lack of effective coordination between investigators at the South Sulawesi Regional Police and prosecutors at the South Sulawesi High Prosecutor's Office, as evidenced by the frequent return of case files (P-19) due to differing views regarding the sufficiency of evidence, legal charges, and evidentiary strategies, particularly regarding the proof of state losses and the

flow of funds. This situation indicates that the pre-prosecution process has not been optimal due to a lack of coordination from the early stages of the investigation, leading each party to tend to have differing interpretations in constructing the legal framework of the case.

The consequences of this ineffective coordination include delays in case processing, ranging from slow case file completion and the potential weakening of evidence to suboptimal recovery of state losses. However, improvement efforts through joint case reviews and enhanced communication between investigators and prosecutors have proven effective in aligning legal perspectives, expediting the completion of case files (P-21), and improving the quality of evidence presented in court. This underscores that effective coordination is a key factor in the successful handling of special criminal cases.

In the handling of special criminal cases within the jurisdiction of the South Sulawesi Regional Police, coordination between investigators and public prosecutors has not yet been fully effective. This is evident from the fact that public prosecutors still return case files to investigators due to the failure to meet formal or substantive requirements, delays in completing evidence, and differences in understanding regarding the elements of the alleged criminal offenses (M. Yahya Harahap, 2016). This situation indicates a lack of communication and coordination among law enforcement agencies, which has resulted in delays in case resolution. In addition, limited human resources, a heavy caseload, and suboptimal use of information technology are also factors that affect the effectiveness of coordination in handling special criminal cases (Firman Wijaya, 2015).

Ideally, coordination between investigators and public prosecutors should be carried out in a unified manner based on the principle of an integrated criminal justice system in order to ensure a swift, accurate, professional, and fair law enforcement process. Investigators and public prosecutors are expected to share a common legal understanding from the early stages of the investigation so that the case filing process can proceed effectively without repeated returns of case files (Yesmil Anwar dan Adang, 2009).

Harmonious coordination should also be supported by increased professionalism among law enforcement officials, the use of information technology, and intensive communication mechanisms so that the handling of special criminal cases can provide legal certainty and satisfy the public's sense of justice. (Bambang Waluyo, 2016).

Based on the above description, the research problem in this study is the effectiveness of coordination between investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal cases within the jurisdiction of the South Sulawesi Regional Police, as well as the factors that influence the effectiveness of such coordination. This study aims to analyze the effectiveness of coordination between investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal offenses, as well as to identify obstacles and efforts made to improve the effectiveness of coordination within the criminal justice system.

RESEARCH METHODS

This study is an empirical legal study (socio-legal research) employing an empirical legal approach that examines the coordination between National Police investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal offenses in South Sulawesi as a manifestation of “law in the book” and “law in action.” According to Soerjono Soekanto, empirical legal research examines the effectiveness of law in society (Soerjono Soekanto, 2015). Peter Mahmud Marzuki emphasizes the importance of examining the implementation of legal norms in practice, (Peter Mahmud Marzuki, 2017). while Roscoe Pound evaluates law based on its implementation in real life (law in action) (Roscoe Pound, 1922). Data was obtained through interviews, questionnaires, legislation, literature, journals, and official documents. The sample was determined using

purposive sampling, comprising 100 respondents consisting of investigators, prosecutors, attorneys, and victims. Data were analyzed qualitatively and quantitatively through frequency tabulation and percentages using the formula $P = (f/N) \times 100\%$, where P is the percentage, f is the frequency of respondents' answers, and N is the number of respondents.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Factors Affecting the Effectiveness of Coordination Between Investigators and Public Prosecutors in Handling Special Crimes within the Jurisdiction of the South Sulawesi Regional Police

The research findings indicate that coordination between investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal cases within the jurisdiction of the South Sulawesi Regional Police has not yet been fully effective. Coordination efforts carried out through the SPDP mechanism, case file reviews, and pre-prosecution guidance continue to face technical and administrative challenges (Suryani, 2009). This is evident from the fact that case files are still frequently returned by public prosecutors to investigators due to incomplete evidence and differing interpretations of the elements of a criminal offense, which results in delays in resolving cases (Zulaidi, 2020).

The factors affecting the effectiveness of this coordination can be outlined as follows. First, policy factors, namely the lack of full alignment among the technical regulations governing coordination among law enforcement agencies. Second, human resource factors, namely the limited competence of officials in handling special criminal cases. (Firman Wijaya, 2020). Third, societal factors, namely low public participation and legal literacy in supporting the evidentiary process. Fourth, budgetary efficiency factors, namely limited operational funding to support coordination and investigation processes. Fifth, institutional ego factors, namely the persistence of sectoral tendencies between investigators and public prosecutors that hinder effective communication. These conditions indicate that the effectiveness of coordination still needs to be improved through the strengthening of an integrated criminal justice system (Eddy O.S. Hiariej, 2014).

Based on research conducted on the factors influencing the effectiveness of coordination between investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal cases within the jurisdiction of the South Sulawesi Regional Police, such coordination has not yet been effective. This ineffectiveness is based on empirical findings in the field, which reveal the following conditions:

a. Legal Substance Factors

The results of data collected through interviews and questionnaires administered to respondents regarding the factors influencing the effectiveness of coordination between investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal cases within the jurisdiction of the South Sulawesi Regional Police, based on legal substance factors, are presented in the table below.

Table 1. The Influence of Legal Substance Factors

No	Statement/Category	Frequency	Presentation
1.	Effective	39	45.89%
2.	Less Effective	46	54.11%
3.	Not Effective	0	0%
Number		85	100%

Source: Results of the 2025–2026 Questionnaire

The table above shows that 39 people, or 48.75% of the total respondents, stated that coordination was effective; 46 people, or 57.5%, stated that it was less effective; while no respondents stated that it was ineffective. It can be concluded that the effectiveness of coordination between investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal offenses within the jurisdiction of the South Sulawesi Regional Police, based on legal factors alone, remains insufficient.

b. Law Enforcement Factors

Next, respondents' views on the impact of legal structural factors on the effectiveness of coordination between investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal cases within the jurisdiction of the South Sulawesi Regional Police are presented in the following table.

Table 1. The Influence of Law Enforcement Factors

No	Statement/Category	Frequency	Presentation
1.	Effective	40	47.06%
2.	Less Effective	45	52.94%
3.	Not Effective	0	0%
Number		85	100%

Source: Results of the 2025–2026 Questionnaire

The table above shows that 40 people, or 47.06% of the total respondents, stated that coordination was effective; 45 people, or 52.94%, stated that it was less effective; while no respondents stated that it was ineffective. It can be concluded that the effectiveness of coordination between investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal offenses within the jurisdiction of the South Sulawesi Regional Police, based on law enforcement factors, remains insufficient.

c. Adequate Facilities and Infrastructure Factors

To assess the extent to which adequate facilities and infrastructure influence the effectiveness of coordination between investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal offenses within the jurisdiction of the South Sulawesi Regional Police, a questionnaire was administered to relevant respondents. The collected responses were then processed and presented in tabular form to provide a more systematic and comprehensive overview of respondents' perceptions regarding the availability and adequacy of facilities and infrastructure in supporting law enforcement coordination processes. The following presents respondents' views on the influence of adequate facilities and infrastructure on the effectiveness of coordination between investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal offenses within the jurisdiction of the South Sulawesi Regional Police, as shown in the table below.

Table 1. The Influence of Adequate Facilities and Infrastructure Factors

No	Statement/Category	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Effective	38	44.71%
2.	Less Effective	45	52.94%
3.	Not Effective	2	2,35%
Number		85	100%

Source: Results of the 2025–2026 Questionnaire

From the table above, it can be seen that 37 respondents, or 43.52% of the total respondents, stated that it was effective; 48 respondents, or 56.48%, stated that it was less effective; while no respondents indicated that it was not effective. It can be concluded that the effectiveness of legal protection for prospective Hajj pilgrims against illegal Hajj visas, which results in the failure to perform the Hajj pilgrimage within the jurisdiction of the South Sulawesi Regional Police, based on law enforcement factors, is still considered less effective.

d. Societal Factors

To measure the influence of societal factors on the effectiveness of coordination between

investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal offenses within the jurisdiction of the South Sulawesi Regional Police, data were collected through questionnaires distributed to relevant respondents. The collected responses were then processed and presented in tabular form to provide a more systematic and comprehensive overview of respondents' perceptions regarding the role of societal factors in supporting and influencing the effectiveness of law enforcement coordination.

Table 4. Influence of Societal Factors

No	Statement/Category	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Effective	35	41.18%
2.	Less Effective	50	58.82%
3.	Not Effective	0	0%
Number		85	100%

Source: Results of the 2025–2026 Questionnaire

From the table above, it can be seen that 35 respondents, or 41.18% of the total respondents, stated that it was effective; 50 respondents, or 58.82% stated that it was less effective; while no respondents indicated that it was not effective. It can be concluded that the effectiveness of coordination between investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal offenses within the jurisdiction of the South Sulawesi Regional Police, based on societal factors, is still considered less effective.

Societal factors also influence the effectiveness of coordination between investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal offenses (Ali Said, 2018) Low legal awareness among the public, limited willingness to participate in providing testimony, and fear of involvement in judicial proceedings often become obstacles in the collection of evidence. These conditions result in incomplete case files, thereby slowing down the coordination process between investigators and public prosecutors. (Nurul Qamar, 2019).

In addition, the public's limited understanding of the importance of their role in supporting law enforcement processes leads to suboptimal cooperation in criminal investigations. (Ahmad Rifai, 2015). Therefore, it is necessary to improve public legal literacy in order to foster active participation in supporting an integrated criminal justice system, so that the handling of special criminal offenses can be carried out more effectively and provide legal certainty. (Indriyanto Seno Adji, 2017).

e. Cultural Factors

Theoretically, societal factors in law enforcement are related to the level of legal awareness, compliance, and public participation in adhering to applicable rules within social life. Society is not only positioned as an object of law but also as a subject that plays a role in supporting or hindering the effectiveness of law enforcement, including the coordination process between investigators and public prosecutors. Low legal awareness, limited participation in providing testimony, and an underdeveloped legal culture can affect the smoothness of the evidentiary process and the resolution of special criminal cases. Therefore, societal factors constitute an important element in determining the success of an effective and just criminal justice system. (Soerjono Soekanto, 1982). Next, respondents' responses regarding the influence of cultural factors on the effectiveness of coordination between investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal offenses within the jurisdiction of the South Sulawesi Regional Police are presented in the following table.

Table 5. Influence of Cultural Factors

No	Statement/Category	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Effective	40	47.05%
2.	Less Effective	44	51.77%

3.	Not Effective	1	1.18%
Jumlah		85	100%

Source: Results of the 2025–2026 Questionnaire

From the table above, it can be seen that 40 respondents, or 47.05% of the total respondents, stated that it was effective; 44 respondents, or 51.77% stated that it was less effective; and 1 respondent, or 1.18%, stated that it was not effective. It can be concluded that the effectiveness of coordination between investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal offenses within the jurisdiction of the South Sulawesi Regional Police, based on societal factors, is still considered less effective.

Discussion

To determine whether a legal sanction can be effectively enforced, one must consider the effectiveness of the law itself. Achmad Ali states that to assess the effectiveness of a law, one must first examine the extent to which the public complies with or violates that legal regulation (Achmad Ali, 2019). Furthermore, the effectiveness of a legal regulation is also greatly influenced by the professionalism and optimal performance of the roles, authority, and functions of law enforcement officials, both in carrying out their assigned duties and in consistently enforcing legal regulations (Soerjono Soekanto, 2014).

To measure the effectiveness of law enforcement, including the application of sanctions, Soerjono Soekanto states that whether a law is effective or not is determined by five interrelated factors, namely: (Soerjono Soekanto, 2008)

- The law itself, which encompasses the substance of legislation;
- Law enforcement actors, namely the parties that formulate and enforce the law;
- Factors related to the resources or facilities supporting law enforcement;
- Societal factors, namely the social environment in which the law applies and is enforced; and
- Cultural factors, namely the values embedded in society that relate to social behavior and compliance with the law. These five factors determine the extent to which the law can function effectively in practice.

Factors Influencing the Effectiveness of Coordination Between Investigators and Public Prosecutors in Handling Special Criminal Offenses within the Jurisdiction of the South Sulawesi Regional Police:

1) Legal Substance Factors

Legal substance factors play a crucial role in determining the effectiveness of coordination between investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal offenses within the jurisdiction of the South Sulawesi Regional Police. Legal substance refers to the body of laws and regulations that govern law enforcement activities, including procedural rules, evidentiary requirements, and the distribution of authority between law enforcement institutions. The clarity and consistency of these legal norms are essential to ensure that investigators and public prosecutors share a common legal understanding in processing criminal cases, particularly in the preparation and assessment of case files (Lawrence M. Friedman, 1975).

In practice, weaknesses in legal substance such as ambiguous regulations, overlapping provisions, and differences in interpretation between investigators and public prosecutors often lead to ineffective coordination (M. Yahya Harahap, 2005). These conditions frequently result in the return of case files for further completion, thereby causing delays in the handling of cases and reducing the efficiency of the criminal justice process. Therefore, harmonization of legal regulations and the standardization of procedural guidelines are necessary to strengthen coordination and ensure legal certainty within the integrated criminal justice system (Soerjono Soekanto, 2014).

Legal substance is one of the factors that influence the effectiveness of coordination between investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal cases (M. Yahya Harahap, 2016). The legal substance includes provisions in the Criminal Procedure Code (KUHAP)

governing the Notice of the Commencement of an Investigation (SPDP), the review of case files, and pre-prosecution guidelines as the basis for coordination between investigators and public prosecutors. In addition, the legal substance also covers Law No. 1 of 2023 on the Criminal Code, which updates the regulations regarding criminal offenses, criminal liability, and the sentencing system in national criminal law. (Andi Hamzah, 2019). Changes to the provisions of the National Criminal Code pursuant to Law No. 1 of 2023 have impacted law enforcement officials' interpretation of the elements of a crime and the standard of proof. Differences in understanding between investigators and public prosecutors regarding the Criminal Procedure Code and the National Criminal Code often lead to inconsistencies in case handling, resulting in the repeated return of case files for supplementation. Therefore, harmonization of these two sets of regulations is necessary so that the legal substance supports effective coordination within the integrated criminal justice system. (Eddy O.S. Hiariej, 2012).

Legal substance factors affecting the effectiveness of coordination between investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal offenses indicate that there remains a lack of alignment between the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code and the implementation of the National Criminal Code under Law No. 1 of 2023 (Eddy O.S. Hiariej, 2012). This lack of synchronization is primarily evident in differing interpretations of the elements of a criminal offense, standards of proof, and criteria for the completeness of case files, which result in the return of case files for supplementation pursuant to the Public Prosecutor's instructions (P-19) (Zulaidi, 2020). Furthermore, the uneven understanding among law enforcement officials regarding the updates in the National Criminal Code has further exacerbated interpretive disparities in case handling processes, thereby hindering the effectiveness of coordination within the integrated criminal justice system (Eddy O.S. Hiariej, 2014).

Overall, the findings indicate that the legal framework does not yet fully support optimal coordination within the integrated criminal justice system (Firman Wijaya, 2020). This situation underscores the need to harmonize regulations between the Code of Criminal Procedure and the National Criminal Code, as well as to strengthen uniform technical guidelines for investigators and public prosecutors (Syaiful Bakhri, 2010). It is therefore hoped that a common legal understanding will be established from the investigation stage through to prosecution, so that the handling of special criminal cases can proceed more quickly and effectively and provide legal certainty (Yusrizal, 2021).

2) Law Enforcement Factors

Law enforcement factors are a key determinant of the effectiveness of coordination between investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal offenses within the jurisdiction of the South Sulawesi Regional Police. These factors relate to the performance, professionalism, integrity, and institutional capacity of law enforcement officers in carrying out their respective duties and authorities. Effective coordination requires not only technical competence but also strong communication, mutual understanding, and a shared commitment to ensuring that criminal cases are processed efficiently and in accordance with applicable legal procedures (M. Yahya Haraha, 2005).

In practice, weaknesses in law enforcement factors are often reflected in sectoral ego between institutions, limited communication, and differences in perception regarding evidentiary requirements and the completeness of case files. These conditions frequently lead to delays in case handling, repeated returns of case files from public prosecutors to investigators, and suboptimal coordination within the criminal justice process. Therefore, strengthening professionalism, improving coordination mechanisms, and enhancing institutional synergy are essential to ensure the effectiveness of the integrated criminal justice system (Jimly Asshiddiqie, 2016).

Law enforcement factors are one of the key aspects influencing the effectiveness of coordination between investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal cases.

The research findings indicate that there are still disparities in the level of understanding, professionalism, and experience among law enforcement officials in handling special criminal cases, particularly regarding the presentation of evidence and the application of criminal elements. (Natalia Orient Laloan, 2020).

In addition, the lack of close coordination between investigators and public prosecutors has led to differing legal interpretations, resulting in case files being returned for further completion. This situation demonstrates that the quality of law enforcement personnel is a critical factor in determining the effectiveness of the investigative and prosecutorial processes. (Andi Tomy Aditya Mardana, Syamsul Bachri, dan Nur Azisa, 2021).

In addition, institutional ego among law enforcement agencies remains an obstacle to achieving optimal coordination within the integrated criminal justice system (Bambang Waluyo, 2016). A lack of open and harmonious communication between investigators and public prosecutors can hinder the coordination of case handling. Therefore, it is necessary to enhance the capacity of law enforcement officials through ongoing education and training, as well as to strengthen professional and integrated coordination mechanisms so that the law enforcement process can proceed more effectively, swiftly, and fairly (Syaiful Bakhri, 2010).

Coordination between investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal cases takes place through several stages, beginning with the submission of a Notice of the Commencement of an Investigation (SPDP), the review of case files, and culminating in the prosecution process in court. During the case file review stage, public prosecutors examine the formal and substantive completeness of the investigative files (Suryani, 2009). If deficiencies are found, the prosecutor issues instructions via a P-19 notice for the investigators to address them; conversely, if the case file is deemed complete (P-21), the process proceeds with the transfer of the suspect and the evidence. In practice, the case file review stage is the point most likely to result in the return of the file due to incomplete evidence, the incorrect application of legal provisions, differing interpretations of criminal elements, or administrative deficiencies (Natalia Orient Laloan, 2020).

In addition, a case may be returned to the investigation phase even before it is transferred to court if new legal facts are discovered or additional evidence is needed to strengthen the case at trial. These circumstances indicate that the effectiveness of coordination is significantly influenced by communication and a shared legal understanding between investigators and public prosecutors from the very beginning of the investigation. Therefore, intensive and ongoing coordination is necessary to ensure that the handling of special criminal offenses proceeds more effectively and swiftly, and provides legal certainty within the integrated criminal justice system (Bambang Waluyo, 2016).

The essence of coordination between investigators and prosecutors in the handling of special criminal offenses lies in the establishment of a shared legal understanding and the synchronization of law enforcement processes from the investigation stage through prosecution (Syaiful Bakhri, 2010). Effective coordination serves not only to fulfill administrative requirements but also as an important instrument for ensuring the quality of evidence, expediting case resolution, and preventing the repeated return of case files (Yusrizal, 2021). Through intensive and professional communication among law enforcement authorities, the handling of special criminal offenses can be carried out more efficiently, provide greater legal certainty, and support the realization of an integrated criminal justice system oriented toward justice and the rule of law. (Eddy O.S. Hiariej, 2014).

3) Adequate Facilities and Infrastructure Factors

Soerjono Soekanto stated that facilities and infrastructure are important in supporting the smooth implementation of law enforcement: (Soerjono Soekanto, 2016).

Without certain facilities and infrastructure, law enforcement cannot possibly proceed smoothly. Such facilities or infrastructure include educated and skilled human resources, well-organized institutions,

adequate equipment, sufficient funding, and so on. If these requirements are not met, it is impossible for law enforcement to achieve its objectives.

Specifically regarding facilities and infrastructure, the following measures need to be taken: (Soerjono Soekanto, 2014).

- a. those that are not yet available must be provided;
- b. those that are damaged or not functioning properly must be repaired;
- c. those that are still insufficient must be supplemented;
- d. those that are experiencing obstacles must be made to run smoothly;
- e. those that have declined or decreased in quality must be restored; and
- f. those that already exist must have their quality and capacity improved.

Adequate facilities and infrastructure significantly influence the effectiveness of coordination between investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal offenses. Limitations in supporting facilities, such as case administration systems, information technology, and communication infrastructure between law enforcement agencies, often lead to delays in the exchange of information and in the processing of case files. (Natalia Orient Laloan, 2020). In special criminal cases that require complex evidentiary processes, the availability of adequate facilities and infrastructure is essential to support smooth coordination and the effectiveness of the evidentiary process. (Zulaidi, 2010).

In addition, the lack of integration of supporting systems among law enforcement agencies also affects the effectiveness of case handling (Syaiful Bakhri, Therefore, it is necessary to improve information technology-based facilities and infrastructure so that coordination between investigators and public prosecutors can be carried out more quickly, effectively, and efficiently in supporting an integrated criminal justice system (Bambang Waluyo, 2016).

4) Societal Factors

There are also effectiveness-measuring factors derived from societal conditions that influence coordination between investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal offenses, namely: (Soerjono Soekanto, 1982)

- a. Factors causing society to disregard legal rules even though the regulations are well formulated, influenced by low legal awareness and limited legal knowledge;
- b. Factors causing society to ignore regulations even when the rules are sound and law enforcement officers are authoritative, due to distrust in the law enforcement process or fear of becoming involved in judicial proceedings;
- c. Factors causing society to continue disregarding regulations even when the rules are good, officers are authoritative, and facilities are adequate, due to a weak legal culture and low levels of legal compliance in social life;
- d. Additional factors in the form of unfavorable social environmental influences toward legal compliance, such as community habits that are tolerant of legal violations;
- e. Factors related to the lack of public participation in providing information or testimony required in the investigation process of special criminal offenses. (Satjipto Rahardjo, 2005).

5) Cultural Factors

Cultural factors play an important role in determining the effectiveness of coordination between investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal offenses within the jurisdiction of the South Sulawesi Regional Police. These factors are closely related to legal culture, which encompasses the values, attitudes, habits, and patterns of behavior of both law enforcement officers and the community in responding to and implementing legal norms. In an integrated criminal justice system, legal culture significantly influences how laws are understood, interpreted, and applied in practice (Soerjono Soekanto, 2014)

In reality, the effectiveness of coordination is often affected by a work culture that has not yet fully reflected professionalism, such as sectoral ego between institutions, limited open communication, and suboptimal inter-agency cooperation. In addition, weak internalization of

integrity values among law enforcement officers and low legal awareness within society also contribute to less effective coordination, particularly in the evidentiary process and the completion of case files. Therefore, strengthening legal culture through the development of professional ethics, reinforcement of integrity, and legal education for the public is essential to improve coordination effectiveness within the criminal justice system (Satjipto Rahardjo, 2006).

The legal culture factor is one of the aspects that influences the effectiveness of coordination between investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal offenses. Legal culture relates to the mindset, attitudes, and habits of both law enforcement officials and the public in responding to and implementing legal rules (Achmad Ali, 2008). In practice, a work culture that does not yet fully reflect professionalism is still found, such as sectoral ego between institutions, a lack of open communication, and suboptimal cooperation in case handling. In addition, low legal awareness among the public is also part of legal culture that affects the law enforcement process, particularly in providing testimony, participating as witnesses, and complying with legal procedures. These conditions have an impact on the ineffectiveness of coordination, as reflected in delays in case file completion and the continued return of case files by public prosecutors to investigators (Saldi Isra, 2017).

In addition, an underdeveloped legal culture is also reflected in the weak internalization of values such as integrity, shared responsibility, and suboptimal legal awareness among the public in supporting the criminal justice process. Differences in perspectives, institutional interests, and low levels of public participation often hinder the establishment of a shared understanding in the handling of special criminal offenses. Therefore, strengthening legal culture is necessary through the enhancement of professional ethics among law enforcement officers, integrity development, and legal education for the public, so that legal awareness can be improved and support the effectiveness of coordination within an integrated criminal justice system (Jimly Asshiddiqie, 2010).

CONCLUSION

Based on the research findings, the coordination between investigators and public prosecutors in handling special criminal offenses within the jurisdiction of the South Sulawesi Regional Police has not yet been effective. This conclusion is based on the assessment of the five factors influencing law enforcement effectiveness as proposed by Soerjono Soekanto, namely legal substance, law enforcement officers, facilities and infrastructure, societal factors, and cultural factors, all of which remain within the “less effective” category. The questionnaire results indicate that societal factors constitute the greatest obstacle to effective coordination, with 58.82% of respondents categorizing this factor as less effective. This is followed by facilities and infrastructure (56.48%), legal substance (54.11%), law enforcement factors (52.94%), and cultural factors (51.77%). These findings demonstrate that weaknesses in community legal awareness and participation, inadequate supporting facilities, legal and regulatory issues, institutional coordination among law enforcement agencies, and prevailing legal culture continue to hinder effective coordination between investigators and public prosecutors. Overall, the findings suggest that coordination has not yet operated optimally and requires comprehensive improvement efforts. Such efforts should include the harmonization of legal regulations, strengthening inter-agency coordination mechanisms, enhancing facilities and infrastructure, improving public legal awareness, and fostering a supportive legal culture. These measures are essential to achieving a more effective, efficient, and integrated criminal justice system.

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