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# PRESTASI 3 Highlights

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## Policy for Juvenile Terrorist Rehabilitation and Reintegration

*As a USAID PRESTASI 3 scholar, Septy Br. Tobing studied for her Masters in Criminal Justice at Rutgers University. Upon graduating in December 2018, Septy returned to Indonesia to work as a policy drafter at the Directorate General of Corrections.*

In 2010, Septy began working at the Directorate General of Corrections (DGC), a subdivision of Indonesia's Ministry of Law and Human Rights. There, she began to develop an interest in working within the juvenile correctional system. She recognized that in Indonesia there was a need for more effective treatment and intervention programs for juvenile offenders.

While studying as a USAID PRESTASI 3 scholar in the U.S., Septy felt particularly impacted by a course she took in Modern Political Terrorism. From this course, she became interested in exploring the foreign terrorist fighter (FTF) phenomenon in Indonesia. Septy was especially interested in learning more about how the FTF phenomenon affects juveniles that are recruited at a young age and exploited by violent extremist organizations. For her final paper for the class, Septy wrote about rehabilitation and reintegration of juvenile terrorist offenders in Indonesia.

Septy graduated with her Master's degree in December 2018 and returned to work at the DGC. There, along with her team, Septy began drafting policies and standards for juvenile terrorist rehabilitation and reintegration programs. The team's approach was to create guidelines for properly assessing individual juvenile terrorist offenders to help juvenile correctional facility officers design effective, individualized intervention programs. By next year, it is planned for these policies and standards to be implemented in thirty-three juvenile correctional facilities across Indonesia.

Septy's work on developing policies for these programs has received international recognition. In February 2019, she was invited to speak on the issue of juvenile FTF reintegration and rehabilitation at a seminar held by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in Colombo, Sri Lanka. In April 2019, Septy was invited by the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) to contribute to the development of the *Handbook on Children Affected by The Foreign Terrorist Fighter Phenomenon*. According to Septy, "This Handbook aims to assist States in taking the child rights-based approach to several issues concerning children affected by the foreign terrorist fighter phenomenon." Septy played an important role in the development of this handbook by emphasizing the importance of including a juvenile justice section that created standards for upholding the rights of juvenile terrorist offenders as children.

In June 2019, Septy was invited to the United Nations Headquarters in New York City to be a speaker at the High-Level Dialogue on Preventing Radicalization in Prisons, an event co-organized by the UNODC, Belgium, Burkina Faso, Indonesia and Norway. Septy presented on the programs she created at the DGC in front of the Minister of Justice of Norway and 70 other participants from various countries. Septy received praise from several participants about her directorate's work in rehabilitating over 500 terrorist offenders.

Septy also received recognition within Indonesia for her valuable work in promoting the best practices of the DGC both in Indonesia and abroad. As an appreciation for her efforts, she received an award from the Minister of Law and Human Rights in October.



## Septy's Impact

At the Indonesian Directorate General of Corrections, Septy created policies, regulations, and guidelines for the first ever juvenile terrorist offender rehabilitation and reintegration programs to ever exist in Indonesia. These programs are currently in the process of being implemented in thirty-three correctional facilities across the country. From her studies on the subject, Septy recognized that juvenile terrorist offenders require a different, specialized approach to rehabilitation and reintegration in order to properly assimilate back into society. She not only made this important effort in her own country, but she also spread awareness of these programs to representatives of other countries through speaking at several international meetings and seminars held by the UN. Septy has demonstrated strong leadership skills by being the first woman to contribute to developing and implementing a specialized support program in her field. She has also become an important thought leader in the child's-rights-based approach to children affected by the FTF phenomenon through her contribution to the UNOCT *Handbook on Children Affected by The Foreign Terrorist Fighter Phenomenon*, published in October 2019.

