

COOPERATION BETWEEN INDONESIA AND TAIWAN IN SUPPORTING THE PROTECTION OF RUNAWAY INDONESIAN MIGRANT WORKERS IN TAIWAN

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Abstract:
 Indonesia's relations with Taiwan cannot be separated from problems and issues related to Indonesian Migrant Workers. Among these issues is the case of Indonesian Migrant Workers who run away from their job in Taiwan. The runaway status of Indonesian Migrant Workers creates vulnerability to violations of the rights of Indonesian Migrant Workers, and even Indonesian Migrant Workers can be treated arbitrarily. So, protection is needed so that the rights of Indonesian Migrant Workers are fulfilled. The author will use qualitative descriptive research because it is appropriate for research needs. The data sources used by the author in this research are secondary data such as data obtained from documents, photos, research journals, books relevant to research, news and credible internet media as support for primary sources related to regulations. The rights of Indonesian migrant workers abroad. The results of this research show that the protection and cooperation efforts undertaken to protect Indonesian Migrant Workers include institutional improvements through BP2MI, the launch of the SP2T and Embedded SP2T schemes, as well as a self-surrender program for overstayer workers from the Taiwanese authorities. Both states established bilateral cooperation by deciding on a Joint Task Force in 2013. The task force had reached another update through the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Taiwan and Indonesia regarding the Recruitment, Placement and Protection of Indonesian Migrant Workers in December 2018.

Keywords: Cooperation, Indonesian Migrant Workers, runaway, Taiwan

INTRODUCTION

The bilateral relations between Indonesia and Taiwan were officially established in 1971. This began with the agreement of both parties, namely Indonesia and Taiwan, to establish representative offices in Jakarta and Taipei. Then, in 1989, the "Chinese Chamber of Commerce" changed its name to "Taipei Economic and Trade Office Indonesia". The Taipei Economic and Trade Office Indonesia (TETO) formation increases the closeness of bilateral relations between Indonesia and Taiwan in various fields. TETO is the opening gate for bilateral relations between Indonesia and Taiwan in various fields (Taipei Economic and Trade Office, 2016).

The dynamics of Indonesia's relations with Taiwan are often flooded by problems and issues related to Indonesian Migrant Workers. There are cases of illegal Indonesian Migrant Workers in Taiwan, such as cases of Indonesian Migrant Workers who run away from their job in Taiwan. It said that around 22.836 Indonesian Migrant Workers in Taiwan escape from their job, both from the formal and informal sectors (Aini, 2016). Many things can cause Indonesian Migrant Workers to go away, such as employers mistreating migrant workers, agencies ignoring migrant workers, and employers often asking Indonesian migrant workers to work outside of the job they have been assigned to do (Oktazian, 2023). Therefore, the position of runaway Indonesian Migrant Workers



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becomes vulnerable to violations of the rights of Indonesian Migrant Workers, and even Indonesian Migrant Workers can be treated arbitrarily. Runaway migrant workers will be significantly lost, leading to problems and even the inability to enjoy the facilities that should be provided (Widodo, 2023). So, protection is needed so that the rights of Indonesian Migrant Workers are fulfilled.

A legal basis is required to protect Indonesian migrant workers. The laws that apply in Indonesia and other countries differ significantly, which led Indonesia and Taiwan to collaborate to protect Indonesian Migrant Workers in Taiwan.

To explore the phenomenon of runaway Indonesian Migrant Workers in Taiwan, the author traces several previous studies that discuss similar topics. The author states that the legal protection provided by the Taiwanese and Indonesian governments to Indonesian Migrant Workers in Taiwan is still minimal. This needs to be paid attention to because the law guarantees the safety of Indonesian Migrant Workers.

According to research by Utami (2020), other problems faced by Indonesian Migrant Workers in Taiwan are unpaid salaries, work accidents, repatriation of Indonesian Migrant Workers, sexual harassment, abuse, and illegal/runaway Indonesian Migrant Workers. Continuing these results, research by Rahman et al. (2021) states that in 2019, there was a policy program for the surrender of escaped Indonesian Migrant Workers from the official website of the Taiwan Immigration Agency, and there were differences in sanctions for escaped Indonesian Migrant Workers and non-overstayed Indonesian Migrant Workers.

The result of Iqbal et al.'s (Iqbal et al., 2021) research stated that Indonesia and Taiwan would extend their Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to address issues regarding Indonesian migrant workers. The issue can be resolved in three ways: by collaborating with Taiwan, by relocating or gathering data on Indonesian migrant workers, and by safeguarding these workers.

Based on searches of previous research, the journal belongs to Rahman et al. (2021), portrayed Indonesian Migrant Workers from a legal aspect; meanwhile, the research of Iqbal et al. (Iqbal et al., 2021) only described the attempts from Indonesian and Taiwan to solve Indonesian Migrant Workers. This research attempts to discuss cooperation between the Taiwanese and Indonesian governments to overcome runaway Indonesian Migrant Workers in Taiwan from a different perspective, namely bilateral cooperation theory. This research is essential to carry out, considering that some journals assess that legal protection for Indonesian Migrant Workers is still lacking. Thus, a study is needed regarding how the Taiwanese and Indonesian governments collaborate to overcome the problem of runaway Indonesian Migrant Workers.

METHODS

The author will use qualitative descriptive research because it is appropriate for research needs. Qualitative research involves raising questions and procedures, collecting participant data, and conducting inductive data analysis, namely building from specific things to general themes (Creswell, 2023). The authors want to understand and find the meaning of an event or phenomenon. In this research, the phenomenon that the author wants to examine is the problem related to runaway Indonesian Migrant Workers, which impacts Indonesia's bilateral relations with Taiwan. This will also see the implementation of the Indonesian Government's cooperation with Taiwan in dealing with these problems.

The author's data sources in this research are secondary data, such as data obtained from documents, photos, research journals, books relevant to research, news and credible internet media,



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as support for primary sources related to regulations and the rights of Indonesian migrant workers abroad.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

National Interest. According to Jack C. Plano and Roy Olton (1982), national interest is a fundamental goal and the most important determining factor that guides decision-makers when formulating foreign policy. National interests are the goals and ambitions of a state, whether military, economic or cultural (Bainus & Rachman, 2018). In this context, national interests are used to understand the interests of Indonesia and Taiwan, especially in the economic field.

Bilateral Cooperation. Bilateral cooperation can be understood as political, cultural, educational and economic cooperation between two countries. It is a type of international cooperation carried out by most countries worldwide. Other types of cooperation that countries can undertake apart from bilateral are multilateral cooperation, involving many countries, and unilateral cooperation, when one country acts according to its wishes (free will) (Rudy, 2002).

Bilateral cooperation is a relationship between two countries influencing each other or a reciprocal relationship manifested in cooperation. Cooperation between the governments of two sovereign countries to find a joint solution to a problem involving the two countries through negotiations, agreements, etc., is referred to as bilateral cooperation. Bilateral cooperation patterns include processes (Perwita & Yani, 2005):

1. Actual response or policy from the initiating country.
2. Perception of the response by decision-makers in the recipient country.
3. Counter action from the country receiving the decision.
4. Perception by decision makers from the initiating country.

Countries agree that a common problem is being faced, and even though it is possible that each related party offers different solutions to the problem and is faced with different interests, this is the situation in bilateral cooperation. Countries are trying to resolve problems related to economic, political, and social problems and migrant workers. To reduce the ineffectiveness of cooperation, cooperation requires policy coordination from each collaborating country. In cooperation in dealing with migrant worker problems, of course, there is a demand for intensive cooperation between sending and receiving countries.

In the context of this research, the Indonesian and Taiwanese governments are collaborating to handle the problem of runaway Indonesian Migrant Workers in Taiwan. The collaboration involves making an MoU or agreement between Indonesia and Taiwan regarding the recruitment, placement and protection of Indonesian Migrant Workers.

Cooperation is used to explain or describe the efforts of the Indonesian and Taiwanese governments in discussing employment issues. It is aimed at realizing each country's goals of solving everyday problems. Therefore, cooperation is necessary for addressing the problem of runaway Indonesian Migrant Workers in Taiwan.

Indonesian Migrant Workers. The demographic transition affects labor supply. One of its tangible effects is that it can raise people to work age, other things remaining equal, so there will be more people looking for work if the labor market can absorb more workers and per capita production increases. If it cannot, then the large number entering the workforce who remain unemployed can become a potent source of social and political instability (Juned, 2016).

Unemployment has been a crucial problem for the Indonesian Government until now. It cannot be denied that this problem occurs due to the high workforce growth, which needs to be



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balanced with the Government's ability to provide employment opportunities. To reduce unemployment, the Government implements a program for placing female workers (TKW) abroad (Akbar et al., 2017). Among the destination countries of Indonesian Migrant Workers, Taiwan is one of the most chosen.

Indonesian Migrant Workers in Taiwan. The Taipei Economic and Trade Office website explains that the employment cooperation between Indonesia and Taiwan was formed on December 17, 2004. After the cooperation agreement was established, the number of Indonesian workers going to Taiwan increased. By the end of 2022, the number of Indonesian workers in Taiwan will reach 53,459 people, making Indonesia the largest source of foreign workers for Taiwan. The number of Indonesian migrant workers placed in Taiwan can be seen in the table presented by BP2MI as follows.

Table 1. Table of Placement of Indonesian Migrant Workers by Country for the Period 2020, 2021 and 2022

No	Countries	2020	2021	2022
1	Hongkong	53.178	52.278	60.096
2	Taiwan	34.287	7.789	53.459
3	Malaysia	14.742	563	43.163
4	Korea Selatan	641	174	11.554
5	Singapura	4.481	3.217	6.624
6	Jepang	753	359	5.832
7	Saudi Arabia	1.926	747	4.676
8	Italia	411	3.225	3.582
9	Polandia	837	1.195	1.897
10	Turki	47	874	1.489
11	Inggris	1	0	1.429
12	Maldivest	73	449	1.164
13	Qatar	43	219	848
14	Kuwait	75	10	718
15	Papua New Guini	105	259	549
16	United Emirate Arab	117	437	548
17	Brunai Darussalam	1.203	4	513
18	Solomon Island	26	1	418
19	Rumania	34	83	288
20	Rusia	16	154	273
21	Selandia Baru	133	0	184
22	Hongaria	33	112	178
23	Suriname	0	0	132
24	Yordania	2	33	126
25	Oman	65	37	115
26	Others	207	405	906
27	Amount	113.436	72.624	200.761

The statistics in the table show that from 2020 to 2021, Taiwan's Indonesian Migrant Workers' placement experienced a drastic decline. However, the following year, PMI placements in Taiwan experienced a significant increase compared to 2021. This is because Taiwan is one of the partner

countries that is the leading destination for Indonesian Migrant Workers with relatively high salaries. The factors that attract Taiwan for Indonesian migrant workers include:

High Wages. Taiwan is one of the countries that provides wages to Indonesian migrant workers at a relatively high nominal rate compared to other destination countries. The professions that have high wages in Taiwan are Household Assistants (ART), nurses and workers in the manufacturing sector. According to the Dinaspajak.com website, the average salary range for Taiwanese migrant workers ranges from NT\$ 22,000 or Rp. 10,785,500 (current exchange rate) to NT\$ 60,000 or Rp. 29,415,000 (current exchange rate). The salary depends on the profession and area of work.

Safety Factor. Taiwan has strict laws and regulations governing employment relations between employers and migrant workers, such as fair wages, reasonable working hours, and protection from discrimination. In addition, migrant workers can utilize social security, which includes health insurance, accident insurance and pension programs. This makes Indonesian migrant workers feel safe and comfortable while working there.

Training and Skills Development Program. Taiwan provides training and development programs for migrant workers, especially in the healthcare and household sectors. These programs can help migrant workers improve their skills and become more professional, increasing their opportunities to earn higher wages.

Indonesia is Taiwan's 13th largest trading partner in 2022, the 11th most significant source of imports and the 18th largest export market. Taiwan's main exports to Indonesia are oil products, iron and steel products, textile raw materials, chemicals and other products. The Taiwanese state oil company CNPC and Indonesian BUMN have signed a long-term contract to procure natural gas. To increase trade promotion between Indonesia and Taiwan, the Minister of Economy, together with non-commercial organizations, established the Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA). In Indonesia, the Taiwan Trade Center Jakarta was established.

On October 19, 2023, the Taipei Trade and Economic Office (KDEI), which is under the Ministry of Trade (Kemendag), facilitated the signing of an MoU or two investment memorandums of understanding worth IDR 15 trillion between three Taiwanese business actors and one Indonesian business actor. The investment is intended to construct a nickel smelter, capture fisheries and carbon trading. Apart from that, there is also an investment to support the Development of the Archipelago Capital City (IKN), namely in electric power, solar power and other renewable energy projects. (Kemendag, 2023). The agreement between Indonesia and Taiwan to strengthen cooperation in various fields, especially in the trade and economic sectors, will increase the country's foreign exchange.

Indonesian Government Efforts to Overcome the Problem of Indonesian Migrant Workers.

The most significant and most frequent problems among migrant workers are migrant workers wanting to be sent home, salaries not being paid, termination of employment before the work agreement ends, overstaying and migrant workers failing to leave. It is not only illegal migrant workers who are vulnerable to protection problems, but migrant workers in the informal sector are also vulnerable to violence and other acts.

The Indonesian Migrant Worker Protection Agency (BP2MI) has issued various policies to support President Jokowi's vision and direction. These policies are implemented in 9 BP2MI priority programs. The priority program is eradicating illegal sending syndicates of Indonesian Migrants. The program is the main focus of the first year of implementation of the 2020-2024 BP2MI Strategic Plan because illegal delivery is the root of the problem for Indonesian Migrants (MA, 2020).



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The second priority program is institutional strengthening and bureaucratic reform to improve good governance of placement and protection services for Indonesian Migrant Workers. BP2MI carried out institutional transformation by changing the name of the BNP2TKI agency to BP2MI. This step is by Presidential Regulation Number 9 of 2019 concerning the Indonesian Migrant Worker Protection Agency. BNP2TKI and BP2MI have different procedural mechanisms. BNP2TKI is managed based on Foreign Cooperation and Promotion, Placement and Protection functions. Meanwhile, BP2MI is organized by region: Asia and Africa, America and the Pacific, and Europe and the Middle East.

The third priority program is to provide Indonesian Migrant Workers VVIP workers with maximum service and protection in both legal, social and economic aspects. The fourth priority program is the modernization of the SISKOP2MI Integrated Data Collection System, a computerized placement and protection services system for Indonesian Migrant Workers. Updates are carried out by adjusting the placement process according to applicable regulations. In contrast to SISKOTKLN, SISKOP2MI will be a single system, from providing information on overseas job opportunities, placement processes, complaints, and facilitating problem resolution to empowerment where previously there were separate systems.

The fifth priority program, by the mandate of Law No.18/2017 concerning the Protection of Indonesian Migrant Workers article 30, BP2MI has issued BP2MI Regulation No.9/2020 concerning Exemption of Placement Fees for Indonesian Migrant Workers. This regulation states that Indonesian Migrant Workers cannot be charged placement fees in the form of departure tickets, return tickets, work visas, legalization of work agreements, job training, work competency certificates, company services, replacement passports, police record certificates, social security for Indonesian Migrant Workers, domestic health and psychological examinations. The BP2MI Regulation concerning Waiver of Placement Fees for Indonesian Migrant Workers will waive placement fees for ten types of positions categorized as informal positions and vulnerable positions; the ten positions include housekeepers, babysitters, elderly caregivers, cooks, and drivers. Family, garden nurses, child care workers, cleaners, field/plantation officers, and migrant fishing boat crew. These jobs are suitable for Indonesian society, which is experiencing a demographic bonus (Juned & Saripudin, 2018).

The sixth priority program is Improving the Governance of Indonesian Sea-based Migrant Workers. BP2MI encourages the PP for Migrant Fishing Ship Crews and Migrant Commercial Ship Crews, drafted for three years, to be issued immediately with a six-month transition period. If it is more than that, it will extend the list of complaints and exploitation of crew members, which will burden BP2MI. The seventh priority program is Strengthening the Placement Scheme for Indonesian Migrant Workers in the framework of Increasing the Placement of Skilled and Professional Indonesian Migrant Workers.

The eighth priority program is Economic and Social Empowerment for Indonesian Migrant Workers and their Families at home and abroad. There needs to be a change in mindset to empower former Indonesian Migrant Workers to become empowered citizens after returning home. To support this, a sustainable empowerment program is needed. Since you are still a prospective Indonesian Migrant Worker, information on the empowerment program must be disseminated so that prospective Indonesian Migrant Workers can plan their post-employment period before leaving abroad using the slogan "pergi migran pulang juragan" (went abroad being migrant goes home become rich).



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Meanwhile, the ninth priority program is increasing synergy and multi-stakeholder coordination in the management of the placement and protection of Indonesian Migrant Workers and their Families. BP2MI needs to invite other parties to make this program successful because they cannot work alone to implement protection for prospective Indonesian Migrant Workers. Therefore, there needs to be synergy and collaboration between Indonesian Migrant Workers and their families. BP2MI itself, since 2020, has made various efforts to invite various parties to provide legal, social and economic protection to Indonesian Migrant Workers and their families before, during and after work (MA, 2020).

Taiwan's population is increasingly dominated by older people, meaning the number of productive workers is also decreasing. Therefore, workers from abroad are needed to fill the vacancies in productive sectors. In addition, additional personnel are also needed to care for older adults who are far away or are not accompanied by their families in their daily lives (Akbar R., 2023).

Cooperation between Indonesia and Taiwan to Handle Runaway Indonesian Migrant Workers in Taiwan. Even though the need for foreign workers is very high, the Taiwan government limits only specific industrial sectors that foreign workers can enter, namely the construction and manufacturing, fishing, and social welfare sectors, including the care and domestic helpers. This policy is also seen as solving the problem of illegal migrants in Taiwan (Setyaningsih, 2016).

Runaway Indonesian Migrant Workers have become a problem for Indonesia and Taiwan for a long time. Both countries had tried to fix this matter by agreeing to set up the Joint Task Force in 2013. The joint task force holds a quarterly meeting both in Indonesia and Taiwan to draw up a framework of joint technical programs directed towards improving the living standards of Indonesian migrant workers in Taiwan. The sector covered by this task force are problems facing Indonesian migrant workers employed in the informal sector, including domestic helpers, and those employed in the formal sector, including the manufacturing and construction sector, and ship crew members (Antara News, 2013).

This collaboration encourages the Taiwanese Government to enforce fair regulations for migrant workers further to avoid injustice by employers and agents to reduce the number of runaway migrant workers in the domestic and crew or fishermen sectors. Taiwan is also trying to overcome the actions of naughty employers who sexually harass migrant workers, in addition to curbing illegal users who employ migrant workers in collaboration with agents because it causes the number of migrant workers to run away (Antara News, 2011). This decision reflected that Indonesian Migrant Workers are crucial to Indonesia and Taiwan's bilateral relationship. Both states have the same view that Indonesian Migrant Workers play a vital role in fulfilling their national interest. Taiwan can fill the informal jobs gap, while Indonesian people can get jobs, contributing to domestic revenue.

The placement of Indonesian Migrant Workers through the Special Placement Program to Taiwan (SP2T) Scheme is a breakthrough in the placement of Indonesian Migrant Workers to Taiwan through the Direct Hiring Service Center (DHSC). This program aims to reduce and eliminate the practice of buying and selling jobs or agency fees, which burden Indonesian Migrant Workers. The SP2T program provides many benefits to Indonesian Migrant Workers, including realizing a transparent placement process and protecting Indonesian Migrant Workers, making it easier, simplifying and speeding up the process of preparing and placing Indonesian Migrant Workers who will work in Taiwan (OG Indonesia, 2020).

Costs that users will reimburse include departure tickets, visas, medical check-ups and BPJS-Domestic Employment. Meanwhile, PMI bears the costs of making a passport, health insurance -



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employment in Taiwan and food and accommodation costs (BP2MI, 2020). This kind of support is quite helpful for Indonesian Migrant Workers because cost and immigration procedures often cause the workers to choose the illegal path to work in Taiwan (Fatin et al., 2024).

The SP2T program was also designed to improve the skills of Indonesian Migrant Workers. Job seekers who wish to take part in the placement program to Taiwan through the SP2T scheme are expected to be able to meet the required qualifications and pass the interview selection (OG Indonesia, 2020).

So far, the placement of Indonesian Migrant Workers in Taiwan, carried out through the Indonesian Migrant Worker Placement Company (P3MI) or agents, has caused several problems, including overcharging. This overcharging is very burdensome for PMIs who want to go to Taiwan. In Taiwan, the cost structure reaches 60 million. SP2T is a solution so that the cost burden on prospective Indonesian Migrant Workers does not happen again. To be safe, users from the company asked the Ministry of Manpower through the Direct Hiring Service Center (DHSC) so that labor recruitment would no longer be through P3MI or agents.

However, in its implementation, many Indonesian Migrant Workers candidates still do not know the benefits of direct hiring. To overcome this problem, BP2MI carried out a breakthrough innovation in the Socialization of Taiwan Independent Placement (Embedded) by implementing SP2T at the BP2MI UPT DKI Jakarta Province. This innovation emerged so that outreach reached prospective migrant workers, who preferred the SP2T system to P3MI because P3MI would charge high fees.

SP2T Embedded Innovation is expected to eliminate costs for purchasing job orders and other costs that burden Indonesian Migrant Workers. Through the SP2T Embedded Innovation, placement costs can be drastically reduced to the point that Indonesian Migrant Workers, on average, only incur placement costs of IDR 1,500,000 (Kemenpan RB, 2020).

The Indonesian Trade and Economic Office (KDEI) in Taipei is committed to protecting Indonesian Migrant Workers in Taiwan and ensuring they obtain their rights as Indonesian Citizens (WNI) working abroad. There are more than 250 thousand Indonesian migrant workers in Taiwan. With such a large number, there will inevitably be several cases involving Indonesian Migrant Workers, both those with valid immigration status and those with overstayer status (Antara Banten, 2023).

In dealing with the problem of illegal foreigners, including runaway and overstayer Indonesian Migrant Workers, since 2011, the National Immigration Agency (NIA) has begun to launch a self-reporting and surrender mechanism for illegal foreigners or migrant workers. Therefore, since 2019, Indonesia and Taiwan have created a surrender program for illegal foreigners or overstayed Indonesian Migrant Workers. This program lasts for six months. The steps implemented in the program are through soft and hard methods, which will be implemented simultaneously. Every person who surrenders during the program will be subject to light sanctions, not being detained in a detention center and an administrative fine of only two thousand NT or around Rp. 1,100,000.

In 2023, the National Immigration Agency (NIA) will run a self-report program encouraging from February 1 to June 30, 2023. Foreigners in Taiwan have passed the overstay limit to return to their country of origin immediately. During the implementation of this program, overstaying foreigners who come to report themselves and meet the requirements will be given amnesty, will not be placed in shelters, will only be subject to a minimum fine, and will not be placed on a list prohibited from entering Taiwan. The foreigner concerned will be assisted in immediately returning



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to their hometown. Gathering with family (Taiwan Today, 2023). The runaway Indonesian Migrant Workers are vulnerable to facing overstay issues because they cannot take care of their visa because of their illegal status. This program provides relief, namely:

1. No detention is carried out;
2. Minimum fine, namely NT\$2000 (two thousand);
3. Re-entering Taiwan is not prohibited.

If MD is caught or late, they will be subject to sanctions in the form of detention, a more significant fine and being placed on the prohibited list (KDEI, 2023).

The Indonesian and Taiwanese Governments signed a renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Taiwan and Indonesia regarding the Recruitment, Placement and Protection of Indonesian Migrant Workers on December 14, 2018. The Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the Head of TETO, John Chen, and the Head of IETO, Didi Sumedi, as representatives of the two governments. This update can help reaffirm the rights and obligations of Indonesian Migrant Workers in Taiwan. The rights and interests of workers and users will also receive legal protection (Taipei Economic and Trade Office, 2018).

With this MoU, the parties agree to promote bilateral collaboration and exchanges regarding vocational training, skills development, employment assistance, start-ups for women, and capacity building for people with disabilities through international organizational platforms or regional partnership mechanisms. This signing is a reference for cooperation between the two parties to improve the quality of human resources for Indonesian migrant workers working in Taiwan so that their welfare is better protected and their welfare increases. Cooperation between the Indonesian and Taiwanese governments can be strengthened to improve the protection and welfare of migrant workers working abroad and prevent the entry of unprocedural and undocumented illegal migrant workers (Antara, 2018).

CONCLUSION

Indonesia is one of the Southeast Asian countries that channels migrant workers to high-income countries. The distribution of workers can occur under a bilateral cooperation scheme with the destination country. One of the destination countries for Indonesian Migrant Workers is Taiwan. Indonesia's relations with Taiwan cannot be separated from problems and issues related to Indonesian Migrant Workers. Among these issues is the case of Indonesian Migrant Workers who run away from their job in Taiwan. Many things, such as unpaid salaries, violations, slaveries, sexual assault, and others, can cause runaway Indonesian Migrant Workers status. The runaway status of Indonesian Migrant Workers creates vulnerability to violations of the rights of Indonesian Migrant Workers, and even Indonesian Migrant Workers can be treated arbitrarily. So, protection is needed so that the rights of Indonesian Migrant Workers are fulfilled. This protection includes institutional improvements through BP2MI, the SP2T and embedded SP2T schemes launch and the surrender program for overstaying workers from the Taiwanese authorities.

Indonesian and Taiwanese Governments also established bilateral cooperation by deciding on a Joint Task Force to solve the Indonesian Migrant Workers problem in 2013. This effort can lead to an amount of runaway migrant workers from Indonesia. The task force had reached another update through the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Taiwan and Indonesia regarding the Recruitment, Placement and Protection of Indonesian Migrant Workers in December 2018. Knowing this cooperation, this research is helpful to inform the readers that the Indonesian Government and Taiwanese Governments are concerned about runaway Indonesian Migrant Workers, and both



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governments have also launched some programs to ensure the legality and law enforcement for violation of Indonesian Migrant Workers.

In order to alleviate the runaway Indonesian Migrant Workers problem, both countries must be united in coordinating prospective workers and prospective employers. Runaway workers are not only caused by illegal workers but also by employers who act inhumanely. For Indonesia, socialization regarding the legal distribution of workers to Taiwan, especially from government programs, must reach the minor levels of society, such as RT and RW. For Taiwanese employers, the Taiwanese Government should also be pro active in enforcing the law to punish the abusive Taiwanese employers.

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