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Open Government Partnership: Indonesian Transformative Effort to Deal with Corruption

ABSTRACT

This thesis seeks to explain the underlying reasons of why Indonesia under Yudhoyono administration joined Open Government Partnership (OGP). Based on the relationship between democracy, corruption, and good governance, this thesis explores on how corruption had caused negative impacts not only to domestic sphere, but also to Indonesia's international legitimacy which leads to affect the economic growth. It then tries to employ the perspectives on why states join international regimes/organizations with liberalist and constructivist approaches. Focusing on the process of the OGP initiation, the scope spans from July 2010, when Indonesia was first invited to join this initiative, to September 20, 2011, when Indonesia became one of the eight founding countries to launch OGP in New York. This thesis suggests that Indonesia joined OGP to help ease the negative impacts of corruption. From the research, there are findings that corruption had caused negative implications in domestic sphere such as ineffective poverty reduction and bad public services. Besides that, corruption had also hampered Indonesia's international legitimacy in the eyes of international community because of the international shaming based on the low score on Corruption Perception Index by Transparency International, which leads to curb Indonesia's potential investment and economic growth. Considering the pre-existing efforts that Indonesia did since Reformasi 1998 such as by implementing direct, free, and fair election, establishing anti-corruption body called KPK, legalizing Law of Public Information Openness No. 14 of 2008, initiating Bali Democracy Forum to promote the value of democracy, as well as the data and analysis from primary and secondary resources, this research came to conclude that OGP became a transformative effort to deal with corruption.

Keywords: democracy, corruption, good governance, open government, OGP, international initiative, international legitimacy, economic growth