

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. Background

The United States of America and Mexico establish some bilateral relations in the field of economics, education, security, drug control, migration and also trade. These two countries have a good relation each other. However, in fact the US and Mexico have problems between the borders of the country. According to the U.S. Embassy in Mexico, there are over one million U.S. residents living in Mexico and vice versa, Mexico is the largest source of immigrant in the United States. Therefore, drug trafficking is one of the cause of problems in the U.S.-Mexico border. This is because the problem of narcotics in United States and Mexico is very complicated. Narcotics as the main enemy of the United States society, not only because of its effect on the health and quality of life of the society, but also very closely related to the criminality and violence. Criminality is not only involved by users who are under the influence of narcotic effect, but also involved by Inter cartels that operating area to trade narcotics. The cartels are largely a Mexican narcotic cartel that seeks to control the drug path to the United States (Seper & Conery, 2010).

Drug trafficking is a global black market that includes the cultivation, manufacturing, and distribution of narcotic drugs. Narcotics trading can also trigger a variety of criminal acts which is a challenge for global stability and security (UNDOC, 2011). Jackobus said that the definiton of drugs is substance that comes from plant or non-plant, either synthetic course or semi-synthetic which can cause a consciousness

decline, as a painkiller, and can cause addictive (Liputan6, 2019).

Drug smuggling and global trade, psychotropic and other addictive materials are one of the state's cross-border crimes forms is seen as a serious threat to global security. Narcotics trading is a global dark trade that includes the cultivation, manufacturing, and distribution of narcotic drugs. Narcotics trade can also trigger a variety of criminal acts which is a challenge for global stability and security. Drug trafficking is not only known as illegal trading of drugs, but it can develop into other crimes such as violence, mass murder, and human smuggling. (UNODC, 2011).

According to Bambang Cipto, the general narcotics problem is divided into three parts. First, the problem of narcotic production through the process of plant cultivation became the main raw material for the creation of narcotics opium poppies plant to be raw material of heroin and cannabis, coca plant as cocaine raw material which then processed into Hashis Or marijuana and the processing of the raw materials are ready to be traded and consumed. Secondly, narcotics trading is a post-cultivation activity of crops or post-processing of raw materials up to the hands of users who include transportation, smuggling, and trading activities. Thirdly, narcotic abuse is the use of narcotics that is not used for health purposes so endangering consumers, worsening health conditions that result in vulnerability to diseases such as HIV/AIDS and hepatitis and increased crime and violence (Cipto, 2007).

Mexico is one of the countries that faces chronic problems related to narcotic circulation transnationally. Narcotic circulation problems in Mexico have indeed occurred worse. The existence of this country is not only a marketing

and a transit place, but it is also become a world-class narcotic manufacturer. This issue is increasingly complex, after the narcotics industry actors run a strong bond called a cartel or syndicate. Some narcotic cartels in Mexico that have great power to carry out its operational include Sinaloa Cartel, Gulf Cartel, Tijuana Cartel, Juarez Cartel and several other cartels (Kryt, 2016).

Drug cartels in Mexico smuggle one of the most dangerous narcotics of heroin. Heroin is a semi-synthetic narcotics. According to BNN, narcotics manufacture Heroin derived from Morphine that is opium plant extraction substance. This type of narcotics is a pain killer. Commonly used by injection directly into the blood vessels or also in the inhalation. Pure Heroin can be white powder as well as fluid. Heroin is one of the most addictive physically and psychological types of narcotics because a heroin user's is tolerant of this narcotics so that its users tend to increase their dose to feel the sensation or same experience to their bodies. Heroin should look like a white powder. However, in the black market, Heroin's color sometimes tends to be more brownish. It is because Heroin in the black market has been mixed with other harmful ingredients so that level of purity in the circulating Heroin is never the same (Kryt, 2016).

Mexico is known as one of the country's suppliers narcotics to the United States. This is due to almost 70% of narcotics types of cannabis, heroin, and methamphetamine in the United States originate from Mexico. In addition, Mexico is also famous as a transit country because Mexico supplies about 90% of cocaine-type narcotics from Colombia, Bolivia, and Peru to United States of America (United Nations on Drugs and Crime, 2010).

The United States considers narcotics as the main enemy society, not only because of its effects on health and the quality of life of the society, but also very closely related to the criminality and violence. Criminality is not only done by the users who are under the influence of narcotic effect, but also by intercompany cartels who scramble the operating area to trade Narcotics. The cartels do not only trade narcotics but also do other acts of criminality such as extortion, murder, as well as security instability along the borders of the United States and Mexico. All the Mexican narcotic cartel criminal acts provide not only to the community on either side of the border, but also to U.S. national security (Seper & Conery, 2010).

Therefore, the United States and Mexico perceive the issue of narcotics illicit trade as a common enemy of both countries. This is because, narcotics problems both in the United States and Mexico are very complicated. The United States is the only country in the America that has populations with a level of narcotics consumption of cocaine above 2%. In contrast, Mexico is a major supplier of cocaine in the United States, having a consumption rate of cocaine under 0.5%. The same thing applies to the level of cannabis consumption. The level of cannabis consumption in the United States is the highest consumption level in the American continent, which reaches 14% of the total population. While Mexico only reaches 1% of the total population (Muhammad Ginong Maulidyatama, 2016).

The problem of illegal drug trading becomes a threat to the national security of a country or region. At the same time, trafficking in illegal drugs also threatens the security of individual citizens. This problem becomes so important because the drug is a substance that can damage the physical and mental of the consumers. In 2007 and 2008, cocaine was consumed by some 16 to 17 million people in the world. North

America accounted for more than 40 per cent of global cocaine consumption (UNODC, 2011).

The beginning of the history of drug entry into the United States, when it was used as an anesthetic and it was used based on prescription physicians, but some people consumed it just to make them high. In the year 1810 in America, morphine began to be used as a painkiller. In mid-1850, morphine circulated extensively throughout the United States and it was very popularly used as medicine. Therefore, consuming too often and too much morphine as a pain killer can turn out to be an addiction. The peak of an addiction was more increasing during the Civil War, the number of patients especially soldiers who were the victims of war treated using morphine, about ten thousand soldiers turned into morphine addicts. In 1874, people replaced it as heroin because it was considered safer than morphine. Morphine users also switched to heroin. It was the beginning of heroin in America (BNN, 2011).

In addition, although the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and American government agencies have worked optimally in medicines entering the U.S. border, but it is still important issues, especially States directly border with Mexico. Each state is always involved in war with the groups of Mexican drug cartels. (M. F. Walther, 2011)

Therefore, the dynamics of narcotic and dope problems in Mexico and the United States then becomes a concern for the governments of these two countries to then run various policies in and outside the country. In the year 1998, the two countries started Cooperation by creating a framework of cooperation between Bi-National Drug Control Strategy. The purpose of this cooperation framework is to halt the increase and reduce consumption, production, and narcotic traffic in

both countries. The effort undertaken is to coordinate and to treat the problems of side effects caused by narcotics and to protect the safety of the two countries ' people from the dangers of narcotics, and to build necessary efforts to reduce Production, trade, distribution and narcotic consumption in both countries (“US/Mexico Bi-National Drug Strategy,” 1998).

B. Research Question

Based on the background that has been explained, then the research question of this study is "How did the cooperation between United States of America and Mexico in handling drug trafficking?"

C. Theoretical Framework

International Cooperation Concept

International cooperation is a relationship between nations that aims to be based on national interests. International cooperation consists of a set of rules, principles, norms, and decision-making procedures governing the course of the international regime (Timothy Dunne, Milja Kurki, Steve Smith, 2007). Moreover, countries that do international cooperation have a common goal or a common interest because the lack of mutual interest in cooperation is impossible (Keohane, 1989).

Furthermore, regarding to the international cooperation Koesnadi Kartasasmita stated that cooperation in the international community is a necessity as a result of the increasing interdependency relationship and increase the complexity of human life. In the international community (Kartasasmita, 1983).

According to K. J. Holsti, international cooperation can be defined as the following (Holsti, 1988):

- a. Perspective that two or more interests, values, or objectives meet each other and can produce something, be promoted or fulfilled by all parties at once.
- b. Perspective From a country that policies decided by other countries will help the country to achieve its interests and values.
- c. Certain agreements or problems between two or more countries in order to exploit equality of interest or conflict of interest.
- d. Official or unofficial rules regarding future transactions conducted to enforce consent.
- e. Inter-state transactions to fulfil their consent.

The main issue in international cooperation is based on the extent to which the shared profit gained through cooperation can support the conception of interest of the unilateral action (Dougherty & Pfaltz Graff Jr, 1986). International cooperation is divided into two forms, among others (Rudy, 1993):

- 1) Collective Security Cooperation, the cooperation in the field of security and defence.
- 2) Functional Cooperation, the cooperation in the field of economic, political, and socio-cultural.

Furthermore, basically, International Relations covers all relations carried out between one country and another, both in the political, economic, social, cultural, defence and security fields, and so on. Relations between one country and another can take place in groups or individually, which interacts both formally and informally. According to Krauss and Pempel, the cooperation is divided into 3 types, namely (Ellis.S Krauss & T.J Pempel, 2004):

1. *Bilateral Cooperation*, is a cooperation that is conducted between two countries. This collaboration occurs because the two countries benefit from each other or both countries have very good relations.
2. *Regional Cooperation*, is a form of cooperation that is conducted by States that are in one region.
3. *Multi-lateral cooperation*, is cooperation between two or more countries. This type of collaboration can be in one region, or it can be in different regions.

Then, the cooperation between Mexico and the United States of America is included in bilateral cooperation because it is conducted by two countries. This bilateral aims to improving defence and security in both countries.

D. Hypothesis

From the background that has been displayed and also the determination of the theoretical framework to be used for a statement, then the author can give the answer while United States of America and Mexico in handling the situation of drug trafficking is by creating a security cooperation agreement namely Merida Initiatives.

E. Research Purpose

In this study, the author attempts to do two things. First, describing the dynamics of drugs trafficking in the U.S. and Mexico during the year 2006-2009. Second, analyzing the U.S. and Mexico cooperation in the context of deal with drugs trafficking issue.

F. Research Methodology

a. Tool of Analysis

Based on the object of analysis, the tool of analysis of this study is international cooperation regarding relations and agreement between USA and Mexico.

b. The Technique of Collecting Data

In the preparation of this thesis, the collecting data technique used by the author is the library research. With this technique, the author searches data and fact that are relevant to the problem under the research. The library research that the author use comes from various kinds of literature related to research in the form of books, newspapers, scientific journals, media reports, government policies, as well as articles that related to the object of research.

c. Methods of Analysis

The methods that is used by the author to analyze this research is prescriptive which means that this study tries to explain how to solve the problem.

G. Scope of Method

In understanding the process of the research, this thesis puts focus on seeing the issue from both perspectives of United States of America and Mexico in analysing the security cooperation. The timely interval of this research starts from the history of drug trafficking in United States and Mexico and also the border area of both countries and how this issue is affecting the dynamics bilateral relations among United States of America and Mexico in 2006-2009.

Although, the writer could possibly use the data before or the present aforementioned period of time.

H. Outline

This thesis has five chapters that arrange as follow:

Chapter I: This chapter is introduction chapter, which consists of Background, Research Question, Theoretical Framework, Hypothesis, Research Methodology, and Outline.

Chapter II: This chapter describes the history of drugs trafficking in the United States of America and Mexico.

Chapter III: This chapter explains the factors that affecting the Merida Initiatives

Chapter IV: This chapter explains USA and Mexico cooperation Merida Initiatives

Chapter V : This chapter is a closing that contains the author's conclusion from the results of the discussion in the previous chapter.