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Australia's Travel Advice Policy and Its Impact on Australian Tourist Visits to Bali

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ABSTRACT

The plan to ratify the new Criminal Code in Indonesia is responded by Australia through issuing a travel advice policy in 2019. There has a concern that this policy will have an impact on the tourism sector in Indonesia, especially Bali, because the Australian tourists are recorded as dominating the visits. By using the concept of travel advice and foreign policy, this study aimed to analyze the travel advice policy issued by Australia from the perspective of International Relations and its impact on the tourism in Bali. This study used qualitative descriptive method and the primary data collection was done through interviews with the hoteliers in Bali and Australian tourists visiting Bali. From the perspective of International Relations, it is found that Australia's travel advice is a foreign policy that has a purpose based on Australia's national interests. This policy has no impact on Australian tourist visits because it is not a binding policy. The Australian tourists' have their own opinion about Bali and the decisions to visit affected by the clarity information from targeted state or destination.

Keywords: Australian foreign policy, Bali tourism, tourist visits, travel advice

1. Introduction

In 2019 Indonesia finally planned to revise the Criminal Code inherited from the Dutch colonial period. However, the plan to ratify the Criminal Code revision draft has drawn various reactions from the public. This rejection is because several articles in the Criminal Code draft, namely Article 417 paragraph 1 and Article 419 paragraph 1 are considered far from a sense of justice and intervene on the private aspects.

Domestically, the rejection was shown by the student demonstrations simultaneously in several cities in Indonesia, like Yogyakarta, Makassar, Samarinda, Cirebon, Jember, Malang, Balikpapan, Purwokerto, Bandung, in front of the parliament building in Jakarta and also in Denpasar. The first

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batch of student protests ran over September 23-24. The biggest of the ongoing demonstrations was held on the final day of the outgoing parliamentary term on September 30 (Puspa, 2019). The demonstrations have been among the biggest anti-government rallies since 1998 when protests brought down the Suharto dictatorship (BBC News, 2019). The demonstration demanded a postponement of the draft ratification.

Meanwhile, the responses from other countries were shown by issuing travel advice to Indonesia. Australia, a close neighboring country to Indonesia, had released travel advice for its citizens who were willing to travel to Indonesia. On September 20, 2019, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Australia via smartraveller.gov.au informed that Indonesia was preparing to pass a new law by stating “We have updated our travel advice to include new information about possible changes to the Indonesia’s Criminal Code” (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, 2019).

In its travel advice, the Australian government warned unmarried citizens that they can be imprisoned for having sex in Indonesia based on the Criminal Code revision. Under the proposed draft, unmarried couples who “live together like husband and wife” can be imprisoned for six months or pay a maximum fine of 10 million rupiah (AU\$1,045) (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, 2019). Based on the draft, sexual activities committed by unmarried adults and living together for unmarried couples are illegal and can be punished.

Travel advice issued by the Australian government would possibly impact on the Indonesian tourism especially in Bali. This is because Australian tourists contribute one of the highest visits in Bali (Photo 1). Based on the data from the Central Bureau of Statistics, in 2018 Australia had the second position as the largest contributor to the foreign tourists in Bali with the number of tourist arrivals in 2018 as many as 1,185,557 tourists, or 19.53% of total tourists (the Central Bureau of Statistics, 2018). Based on the tourist arrivals in August 2019, Australia ranked first with a total of 116,262 tourist visits (Bali Airport, 2019).

The Criminal Code revision is being debated not only for the criminal cases and the threats to freedom of expression, but unwittingly also for threatening the Indonesia’s tourism industry, especially Bali. There is a concern that travel advice issued by Australia would have an impact on the trust level of the Australian tourists to visit Bali. Moreover, until now the Australian tourists are recorded as dominating the visits. It is interesting to see what made Australia respond to the proposed of Criminal Code quickly by issuing travel advice. The researchers aimed to study the travel advice policy from the perspective of International Relations by analyze Australia’s national interest through travel advice policy and its impact on Australian tourist visits in Bali.



Photo 1. Australian tourists in Monkey Forest, Ubud (Photo Prasista Bestari).

This article will contribute a broader perspective of state's interest by issuing travel advice as part of foreign policy and how its impact targeted state. This study only examined the Australia's travel advice policy regarding the Criminal Code revision and its impact on Bali tourism after the travel advice issuance, during September 2019-December 2019.

2. Literature Review

Scholarly research on foreign ministry travel advice and its impact to targeted state is limited and considerably so when focusing on the Australia's travel advice, specifically. Still, some work has been done, and it is reviewed here. Nicholas George Babey (2019) examined whether the Canada's travel advice policy was driven by a concern on the safety of its citizens or by political motivations. His paper used a comparative approach to analyze the Canadian policy to apply travel advisories to the countries with strong and bad or weak political relations. This paper found that the Canada's travel advice fell into three categories: commensurate, misaligned, wrong, and politically unmotivated (Babey, 2019). This study helped the researchers understand that travel advice is not merely a policy to protect the safety of its citizens but can also be used as a tool to achieve the national interests of a state.

Mylonopoulos et. al. (2016) in the article *Travel Advice as an Inhibiting Factor of Tourist Movement* analyzed that travel advice could influence the

tourists' decisions to visit. Although this travel advice policy was triggered by an event or crisis such as a terrorist attack, disease outbreaks, and natural disaster, it made the tourists reconsider their travel plans. The tourists' decisions to visit also depended on various media reports, both local and international, on the scene. The bad situation was made worse by the issuance of travel advice which usually accompanied such phenomena and had the effect of limiting or even stopping the tourist visits.

The study by Mylonopoulos et. al. (2016) was based on relevant websites, international literature, and recorded incidents demonstrating that the issuance of the travel advice had a negative effect on many sectors of the tourism activity and became an obstacle to the tourism development. In fact, in many cases, the travel advice is used by countries to put pressure on other countries to achieve the desired outcomes. This is due to the huge economic and social effects when the travel advice is issued. This study helped the researchers understand that travel advice is one of the factors that influence the tourists' decisions to visit a country or an area.

Similar research held by Andani Gita Ramadanti (2017) which highlighted the travel warning policy imposed by Australia for its citizens regarding the visits to Indonesia due to the terrorism acts. The terrorism acts are considered a threat to the safety of its citizens in Indonesia. Thus, the Australian government issued a travel warning in the level 3 (high degree of caution) and level 4 (reconsider your need to travel) for such a long term, since 2002 until 2015. In this study, Ramadanti used the concept of threat perception and public opinion to analyze the effect of travel warning policy on the interest of Australian tourist visits in Bali during 2002-2015.

The results of her research showed that there was a decline in Australian tourist arrivals in certain periods accompanied by a rapid increase in the following years. Based on the data, Ramadanti (2017) concluded that the warning not to visit Indonesia did not reduce the Australian tourists' interest in visiting Indonesia. This is due to different perspective between the government and public to define threat.

Australian government considered the terrorism acts as a threat to the safety of its citizens in Indonesia, in addition to the internal political conditions, crime, bad infrastructure, natural disasters, and health problems in Indonesia. While Australian tourist had different perception on threat which formed in Australian public opinion, namely congestion, environmental hygiene problems and bad infrastructure. This study helped the researchers understand that a domestic condition in one country that is perceived as a threat to other countries will be responded by issuing a travel warning policy which has an impact on foreign tourist visits. But the final decision for tourists to visit a country is not

only caused by travel warning policy but also public opinion.

3. Methods and Theory

This study used descriptive qualitative method. Qualitative methods are based on the research procedures that produce descriptive data, namely in the form of written words of observed behaviors (Moleong, 2007). There are two data materials in this study. The primary data material obtained from the interviews with the tourism actors in the hospitality field in Bali as many as 12 people of 12 hotels in Badung, Gianyar, Karangasem, Singaraja, and Negara. The interviews were also conducted to 10 Australian tourists in Denpasar, Badung and Bangli. The interviews was held on January 2020 until March 2020. The secondary data included the data from the Australian official website specifically for travel, Bali tourism statistics from the Central Bureau of Statistics, and the literatures including the media coverage regarding the research topic.

In the analysis, the primary data from the interviews were combined with the secondary data from the supporting documents. Each data have been verified and cross-checked with each other so that in the analysis process, only the relevant data were used. The data analysis used existing theoretical frameworks and the results of this analysis were presented qualitatively. To analyze the impact of the Australia's travel advice policy on Australian tourist visits in Bali, both the primary and secondary data were analyzed by using concepts of foreign policy and travel advice.

According to Rosenau, foreign policy is an effort of a state through its overall attitudes and activities that overcome and benefit from its external environment (Perwita & Yani, 2006). Morgenthau (2006) added that foreign policy is always based on the national interests in order to achieve the national goals. This shows that the foreign policy as a state instrument is always driven and controlled by the motivation to achieve certain national interests. Holsti (1995) provided three criteria for classifying the objectives of a country's foreign policy, namely (1) the value, which is placed on the state's objective, as the main facts to encourage policy makers, it is done based on the resources who owned by the states in order to achieve the goal; (2) element of time, this is a time period where the state needs to set in order to achieve the objective of the state and (3) the type of goals demand, this criteria include the objective that would be brought by the state to other states due to its foreign policy.

Travel advice is travel information instrument that is more than just information about the destinations related to the work issues, visa requirements, consular baggage access, weather conditions, and so on. The government issues travel advice to inform its citizens about the safety issues that can affect the travel to certain countries or regions. They provide up-to-date information

about the security conditions of the host country, including the information about the possible terrorist threats or issues related to law and order (Robertson et al., 2006). According to Noble, travel advice policy can influence beliefs, intentions, and tourist attitudes (Noble et al., 2012). This means that the travel advice element influences tourists' travel decisions through changing their perceptions of the affected tourist destinations or targeted state.

Some terms commonly used to describe this warning are travel advice, travel advisories, travel warning and travel alert. These travel advisories can be short or long term and have varying degrees of severity. The travel advice label can also be removed. The country that issues it will also continue to carry out periodic evaluations, and if it has been declared safe, the travel advice will be revoked.

Travel advice and travel ban are different. Countries that are included in the travel advice list may still be visited, but the tourists are still asked to be vigilant. This ban is mandatory and sits higher than 'Do not travel' advice level. According to DFAT, there are some differences between travel advice and travel ban. Travel advice is an advice on the risks traveller may face overseas and managed by the Smartraveller team at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. While travel ban is mandatory border restrictions to keep Australia safe and managed by the Department of Home Affairs. There are an entry ban where Australia closed its borders to all non-citizens and non-residents and an exit ban (a ban on Australians travelling overseas) (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, 2019).

These concepts were used to analyze the travel advice policy as one of the Australia's foreign policies issued with the objectives in accordance with its national interests. This travel advice policy has an impact on the target country, especially the tourist visits.

4. Results and Discussion

4.1 *The Australia's Travel Advice Policy related to Indonesia's Criminal Code Draft*

The plan to ratify the Criminal Code revision which had drawn protests and various opposition actions in Indonesia had also drawn an international response such as Australia, which issued travel advice for its citizens who are traveling to Indonesia. Australia calls on its citizens to take extra precautions when visiting Bali. On September 20, 2019, the Australian government had updated its travel advice for Indonesia. In the Smart Traveler website, in the sub-section of local laws, the Australian government through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade wrote a 'Criminal Code Revision', explaining that Indonesia is preparing to pass the new laws:

"We have updated the advice of our trip by entering the information about possible changes of the Indonesia's Criminal Code. The Indonesian parliament is in the process of ratifying the Criminal Code revision. This law will not take effect until two years after it is enacted. Many rules can change and this also applied to foreign residents and visitors, including the tourists" (The Australian Government, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, 2019).

In addition, the Australian government also warned that the tourists can be subject to criminal penalties if the bill is passed for the offenses including, "adultery or sexual relations outside of marriage, including all same-sex relationships". In addition, under the proposed bill, an unmarried couple who "live together as husband and wife" can be imprisoned for six months or pay a maximum fine of 10 million rupiah (AU\$1,045). This can be processed after a complaint by the spouse, child, or parent.

Travel advice issued by Australian government referred to several clauses in the Criminal Code draft, namely Article 417 paragraph 1 and Article 419 paragraph 1. Article 417 paragraph 1 of the Criminal Code draft reads: "someone who has intercourse with someone else who is not his/her husband or wife is convicted of adultery with a maximum imprisonment of 1 (one) year or a Category II fine (10 million rupiah)". Article 419 of the Criminal Code draft reads: "someone who lives together as husband and wife outside marriage shall be imprisoned for a maximum of 6 (six) months or a maximum of Category II fine" (DPR RI, 2019).

The Australian government fully stated that the rules in the Criminal Code draft may prohibit the following acts:

- a. Adultery or sex outside of marriage, which includes all same-sex sexual relations, with the accusation only being continued after a complaint by the spouse, child, or parent;
- b. Living together outside of marriage, with the accusation only being continued after a complaint by the spouse, child, or parent;
- c. 'Indecent acts' committed in public, by force or by publication;
- d. Insulting the President, Vice President, religions, state institutions and symbols (such as the flag and national anthem);
- e. Overthrowing the national ideology of *Pancasila* (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, 2019).

Travel advice is an official statement issued by the institution of government warning its citizens about the relative safety to stay, go to, or visit one or several foreign countries or certain destinations that are affected or severely threatened by disaster (Ngwira, 2016). Travel advice issued the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) in collaboration with the National Threat Assessment Center (NTAC) is a form of Australia's foreign policy. Through these two agencies, the Australian government provided a notification and travel security

advice in the destination country for the Australian citizens. A security advisory notice was issued on smartraveller, the Australian government official website that contains security-related information and advice to visit a country.

The Australia's travel advice is a foreign policy issued as a response to the interaction between Australia and Indonesia. Australia issued travel advice to let their citizens know about safety concerns that may affect travel to Indonesia. A state will strive to realize its national interests through the formulation of foreign policy. Travel advice issued by Australia to Indonesia certainly has objectives according to Australia's national interests. Based on the three objectives of the foreign policy according to Holsti (1995), it then can be analyzed as follows.

a. The values, the decision makers aim for

Travel advice issued by the Australian government is to inform citizens regarding the safety issues that may arise when traveling to Indonesia. As stated by Robertson et al. (2006), the government of the home country provides up-to-date information on the security conditions of the host country, including the information about the possible terrorist threats or issues related to law and order. Thus, the purpose of the the Australian government as a policy maker is to inform the condition of Indonesia related to law and order, namely the possibility of changing the Criminal Code in Indonesia which will apply to both Indonesian citizens and foreign citizens in Indonesia's territory. It is worth knowing for the Australian tourists willing to visit Indonesia.

In addition, one of the conditions that make a country issue travel advice is the human-induced risks such as large-scale demonstrations. This is also the purpose for the Australian government to issue travel advice to Indonesia. The plan to ratify the Criminal Code draft has resulted in protests through simultaneous demonstrations held in several cities in Indonesia, which had also become the Australian government's consideration in enforcing travel advice. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Australia also urged its citizens to be careful when traveling to Indonesia in connection with the demonstrations against criminal code draft. Through the smartraveler website, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade also added "Avoid protests, demonstrations, and rallies, as these can turn violent without warning" (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, 2019).

This shows that it is not only the content of the Criminal Code draft that is under Australia's consideration, but also the demonstration that has prompted Australia to issue travel advice for their citizens who are traveling to Indonesia on the grounds that the protests may turn into violence. The aim of the Australian government is the safety of its citizens with regard to law and order, namely the possibility of changing the rule of law in the Indonesia's Criminal Code and

demonstrations.

b. Element of time , A period of time to achieve a predetermined goal

The country included in the list of travel advice can still be visited, but the tourists must still be cautious. Travel advisories may remain static for months at a time, or they may change rapidly when circumstances demand. Many countries make a classification between long and short term travel advice. However, the Australian government did not classify its travel advice based on short term or long term. Australia conducted periodic evaluations so that the travel advice label could be removed if the country had been declared safe.

The Australian government also had a period of time to achieve its objectives. In this case, the travel advice policy to respond to the plan to ratify the Criminal Code draft by the house of representatives of Indonesia was issued on September 20, 2019. This policy was then updated again on September 23, 2019. On September 24, 2019 Indonesian government decided to postpone the ratification of the Criminal Code draft. On September 30, 2019 Australian government finally withdrawn the policy by abolishing advice related to the plan to ratify the Criminal Code draft as a response to Indonesia's decision.

c. The type of goals demand

Travel advice policy does not always prohibit citizens of a country from traveling. A number of countries actually provide information and advice according to the level of risk in each destination country. Australia uses four levels of travel advice to measure risk, namely (1). Exercise normal safety precautions; (2). Exercise a high degree of caution; (3). Reconsider your need to travel; (4). Do not travel (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, 2019). These levels reflect the risk that the average Australian tourists face in the destination country. For each level, the government provides advice to help Australians avoid or reduce risks.

Even though there was an update on travel advice due to the plan for Criminal Code draft ratification and a demonstration in Indonesia, Australia did not change the level of travel advice. Australia placed Indonesia at level 2 (exercise a high degree of caution). According to the description on the smartraveller website, "at level 2, there is a risk that is more or higher than what you usually find in major Australian cities. We are not saying 'don't go' to this location. Yet you have to do your research and take extra precautions. At level 2 a warning is given that Australians need to pay attention to personal safety and monitor the media for the new risks" (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, 2019). This level reflects the possibility of a weak law and order system in the destination country, where violent crime is common. The destination may lack

some key public services, such as a responsive police force. In some cases, there may be a risk that the security environment could change with a little warning.

Regarding the Australia's response, it can be said that the revision of the Criminal Code draft also affected the foreign policy of the Australian Government through the updated travel advice, even though Australia did not increase the level of travel advice and remained at level 2. From level 2, the Australian government's demand was not to prohibit its citizens from going to Indonesia but rather to warn its citizens about the greater risks that would be encountered in Indonesia than in Australia. In the local laws section, the Australian government reminded its citizens to understand the basics of the political and security situation and pay more attention to the rule of law in the destination country including the special precautions for women or LGBT travelers and any behavior that could be offensive or illegal in the destination country.

4.2 The Impact of Travel Advice on the Australian Tourist Visits to Bali

For Indonesia, the tourism sector is one of the sectors that is relied on to support the economy. The tourism sector is also an indicator of a country's political stability. Political peace and stability are indispensable factors for the prosperity of tourism (Mutzenich, 2017). Events in a country which are mainly related to political upheaval will certainly have an impact on the tourism industry which demands calmness, peace, and security. A country may be considered as unstable if the normal political processes are disrupted, and the challenge or change occurs within a political system (Kapuscinski, 2014). Change can be sought through peaceful means, that is, actions which are not meant to cause property damage, injuries or loss of life (Scarborough, 1998), which include: protests, strikes or criticisms.

Apart from the contents of the regulations in the Criminal Code draft revision, many demonstrations that took place in September 2019 certainly had an impact on the tourism sector. The news regarding the demonstration against the Criminal Code draft and Australia's travel advice had become a trending topic on social media. Namely ABC News, which is an Australian media has reported that Australian government issued travel advice after the Indonesian government planned to submit a vote on a new and controversial Criminal Bill (Wibawa, 2019).

Other foreign media coverage is from 7News with an article headline entitled "Bali Sex Ban: Australia Updates Travel Advice for Indonesia Following New Law Proposal". This news focuses on the criminal sanction of a maximum fine and 1 year imprisonment that can be imposed on unmarried couples who

“live together as husband and wife” (McCulloch, 2019). The media did not explain in detail the provisions for the application of the article, this of course led to misinterpretation from the public. The maximum prison sentence of one year, which is the subject of this news, seems to indicate that there is a very severe criminal sentence for this act.

News about the demonstration and petition against the Criminal Code revision on various social media platforms also made the impression that there was an unstable situation in Indonesia. Even the results of a study using sentiment data showed that related to a number of issues in Indonesia, nearly 90 percent of the drawling of Australian social media data showed negative sentiment (Handayani, 2019). Moreover, Australia issued travel advice. Travel advice issued by the Australian government showed a negative sentiment towards the conditions in Indonesia and has the potential to influence the interest of Australian tourists to visit Indonesia.

Table 1. The Number of Australian Tourists Visiting Bali July – December 2019 and July –December 2018

MONTHS, 2019	TOTAL (people)	MONTHS, 2018	TOTAL (people)
July 2019	123,293	July 2018	114.590
August 2019	118,556	August 2018	104.010
September 2019	124,416	September 2018	110.792
October 2019	119,382	October 2018	105.895
November 2019	105,312	November 2018	87.260
December 2019	110,711	December 2018	101.791

Source: the Central Bureau of Statistics data for Bali Province Tourism Development

The Central Bureau of Statistics (BPS) of Bali Province recorded that the number of foreign tourist visits to Bali in October 2019 decreased by 4.05% from 124,416 to 119,382 people compared to the previous month, September 2019 (BPS, 2019). However, when compared to the mothly development data between in 2019 and in 2018, Australian tourist visits to Indonesia showed the same pattern, namely from August to September it has increased, then from September to October it has decreased and October to November has decreased again.

The data in December to November just experienced an increase (see Table 1). This shows that the decline that occurred from September-October 2019 was not absolutely due to Australia's travel advice. Based on the nationality, Australia was still in the first position as the country that contributed the most foreign tourists to Bali consecutively in 2019. This showed that the Australian tourists remained the main market for the tourism in Bali.



Photo 2. Australian tourists swim in a Bali beach in a low season (Photo Darma Putra).

The decline in the number of Australian tourist arrivals from September to November 2019 was also explained by Adiguna, an hotelier from the Adiwana Hotel. Based on the results of the interview, Adiguna explained that September is the high season month, October is the low season (Photo 2). The low season is continued until middle December is the low season. So the month between October and middle December is the low season, which is normal for a decrease in tourist visits (interview with Made Adiguna Kusuma, March 15, 2020).

The data on the decline in Australian tourists visit was cross-checked with hoteliers in Bali. Based on the interviews with 12 hoteliers in Bali, it was found that the informants mostly stated that no tourists staying at their hotel asked about the enactment of the Criminal Code draft. However, there were also those who provided information that a guest asked about the issue of the ratification of the Criminal Code draft.

According to I Gede Widia, an hotelier from Candi Beach Resort, "once there are guests who have checked in asking this issue, but they did not cancel their intention to stay since it has been explained that the draft is still under debate and has not yet been passed. Here we didn't feel the impact of travel advice on tourist visits, in fact there is an increase in the number of Australian guests when compared to 2018, it actually increased by 6%. (interview with I Gede Widia, March 1, 2020).

Other hotelier, Supriadi, from Bombora Medewi stated that some of the Australian guests asked about the issue because it had become the talk and

even a news headline in their country. However, it didn't affect the arrival of Australian tourists on vacation for adventure, especially for surfing or just traveling (interview with Supriadi, March 9, 2020). Based on the interviews with hoteliers in Bali, the researcher summarizes the opinions of 12 hoteliers in Bali that hotels didn't feel the impact of the travel advice issued by Australia on tourists flow to Bali. However, if the criminal code is passed, it will definitely have an impact on foreign tourists visiting Bali. Because so far, tourism receiving vacation guests does not touch the personal realm. This must destroy the privacy of guests.

Based on the interviews with Australian tourists, the plan to ratify the Indonesia's Criminal Code had attracted the attention of the media in Australia. According to Chris Armstrong, an Australian tourist who visited Bali for six times, many of his colleagues canceled their visit to Bali after the news about the "Bali sex ban". However, the cancellations of the visits were mostly carried out by Australians who were going to Bali for the first time. For Chris Armstrong who has repeatedly visited Bali, he still believes that Bali is safe and open to the tourists (interview with Chris Armstrong, January 3, 2020). Joanna Gayle, Australian tourists stayed in Canggu also conveyed the same thing.

"the coverage on the media raises concerns but I sought information through an Australian citizen group in Bali that the new law has not been passed so it is not yet effective. I received the information that Bali is still safe to visit for unmarried couples. This does not influence my decision to visit Bali" (interview with Joanna Gayle, January 5, 2020).

Caleb, Joanna Gayle's partner also stated that "in fact, the condition of tourism in Bali is very different from the news. The news highlighted criminal penalties when traveling with a partner (unmarried couple). But I feel Bali is so safe, the people are nice, it even feels like a second home" (interview with Caleb, January 5, 2020).

Based on the results of direct interviews conducted by researcher with 10 Australian tourists in Bali, the researcher summarizes the opinions of the ten tourists, namely that tourists heard about Indonesia's criminal code and Australia's travel advice from news in Australia. But this did not affect their decision to visit Bali. For tourists who came to Bali for the first time, they looked for the information from friends who have lived in Bali for a long time or from discussion forums of Australian citizen groups in Bali. Australian tourists consider Bali as a second home for them because of the uniqueness of the island of Bali or just for vacation and Australian tourists understand very well the conditions in Bali. However, of 10 Australian tourists who were interviewed, all agreed that if the Criminal Code revision is passed then it will affect the

tourists' decision to visit, especially if the information they receive is unclear and incomplete.

Although travel advice policy can influence beliefs, intentions, and tourist attitudes (Noble et al., 2012), but it cannot legally stop a person from traveling to a certain place. After reading the suggestions, each individual has the right to decide whether to obey or ignore the advice (Schlichter, 2017). It can be said that travel advice is not a compelling and binding policy. Travel advice policy do not provide a legally binding basis for anyone who does not adhere to them. Australia's travel advice policy in Indonesia is still enforced only as a suggestion so that there is a selection from citizens who visit Indonesia, especially Bali. The advisory given to his citizens was given as an advice/ warning, not a ban.

Generally, tourists will look for information about their destination before leaving. They must also monitor the situation in Indonesia before scheduling a visit. When they see that the socio-political situation is less conducive, they will monitor it first and wait for everything to be completely safe. Australian tourists tried to find information about the clarity of the status of Indonesia's criminal code and the truth about the news. Even though there was a travel advice from their government, Australian tourists still decide to travel to Bali after getting clear information that the criminal code has not been validated and is not yet valid. So it can be said that the clarity of information from targeted state or destination also affects tourists' decisions to visit.

In the absence of a binding law, this is added to the fact about tourists' feeling when visiting Bali that the conditions in Bali are far from what is reported. The negative news regarding conditions in Indonesia issued through the travel advice policy is increasingly considered excessive and irrelevant for Australian citizens who basically understand very well the conditions in Bali that Bali is safe to visit. Thus, the Criminal Code revision that has not been ratified does not really affect the tourists' decisions to visit Bali. However, when the Criminal Code revision is finally passed and enforced, foreign tourists will consider their visit if the enforcement of these rules is deemed to be detrimental to them or put them in an unsafe situation. Domestic conditions that are not conducive to the plan to ratify the Criminal Code revision will also influence the tourists' decisions to visit.

5. Conclusion

Travel advice as a foreign policy issued by Australia on September 20, 2019 was to protect the citizens with regard to law and order in Indonesia. This was related to the plan to revise the Criminal Code in Indonesia which also applied to the foreign citizens and unsafe conditions such as demonstrations.

When viewed in terms of the amount of time it took to achieve a predetermined goal, this period depended on the Indonesian government's decision to ratify the Criminal Code draft. The Indonesian government decided to postpone the ratification of the Criminal Code draft.

After the postponement, Australia immediately responded by withdrawn the travel advice on September 30, 2019 and removing the appeal related to the plan to ratify the Criminal Code draft. When viewed from the type of demands, even though there was an update on the travel advice policy, Australia did not increase the level of travel advice. Australia still placed travel advice on Indonesia at level 2, namely exercise a high degree of caution.

Overall there has been a decrease in the number of Australian tourists visiting Bali from September to November 2019, but this amount is higher than in October-November 2018. This shows that the decline that occurred from September-October 2019 was not absolutely due to Australia's travel advice. Even though there was a travel advice from the government, Australian tourists still decide to travel to Bali after getting clear information that the criminal code has not been validated. So it can be said that the clarity of information from targeted state or destination also affects tourists' decisions to visit.

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INFORMANTS LIST

1. Chris Armstrong, Australian Tourist stayed in Kuta. Interviewed on January 3, 2020.
2. Caleb, Australian Tourist stayed in Canggu. Interviewed on January 5, 2020.
3. I Gede Widia, Candi Beach Resort Management Team. Interviewed on March 1, 2020.

4. Joanna Gayle, Australian Tourist stayed in Canggu. Interviewed on January 5, 2020.
5. Made Adiguna Kusuma, Adiwana Hotel Management Team. Interviewed on March 15, 2020.
6. Supriadi, Bombora Medewi Hotel Management Team. Interviewed on March 9, 2020.