

## Effectiveness of Combat of Online Gambling Crime in Blora Resort Police

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**Abstract.** *Online gambling is currently rampant. Despite being banned, online gambling practices remain prevalent. This study aims to identify and analyze the efforts to combat online gambling within the Blora Police Resort, identify and analyze the obstacles and solutions in combating online gambling within the Blora Police Resort, and evaluate the effectiveness of these efforts. This research uses a sociological juridical approach. The research specification is descriptive analytical. The data used are primary and secondary data. Data collection methods include field studies and literature reviews. The data analysis method is qualitative. The theories used are crime prevention theory, legal effectiveness theory and utility theory. Based on the research results it can be concluded that pThe Blora Police Department's efforts to combat online gambling crimes are carried out through preventive and repressive measures. Obstacles to combating online gambling include limited access to information technology, limited resources and personnel, a lack of public legal awareness, and the public's ease of access to the internet, particularly online gambling. Efforts to overcome these obstacles include involving Bhabinkamtimas (community police officers) and village officials; conducting cyber patrols to collect data on online gambling sites; recommending blocking to the Ministry of Communication and Information; and encouraging the public to participate in combating online gambling. The Blora Police Department's efforts to combat online gambling crimes have been effective, as evidenced by the declining number of online gambling cases over the years.*

**Keywords:** *Countermeasuresngan; Effectiveness; Online Gambling Crime.*

## 1. Introduction

Gambling is often considered a disease that is very detrimental to society, both morally and economically. From a moral perspective, it clearly damages public morals. From an economic perspective, it mostly harms the gamblers but benefits the bookies.<sup>1</sup> Many facts show that gambling winners do not always have a prosperous life, most of them experience extreme poverty and experience alienation from their families and society.<sup>2</sup> Online gambling, a crime that is still rampant today, is considered a cybercrime. Cybercrime is defined as any illegal activity conducted through a computer through a global electronic network. According to Judhariksawan, cybercrime is any activity that uses a computer as a medium, supported by a telecommunications system, whether dial-up, using a telephone line, or wireless, using a special antenna, such as a wireless system.<sup>3</sup> Online gambling is categorized as a cybercrime because in carrying out the crime, online gambling uses computers and the internet as a medium to carry out the crime of gambling.<sup>4</sup>

Online gambling threatens social norms and can create tensions both individually and in society. Gambling has the potential to disrupt social order and hinder national development. Gambling teaches people to seek money through inappropriate activities and can foster laziness. Therefore, it is crucial for us to find rational ways and solutions to address gambling so that it can be effectively addressed.<sup>5</sup> These provisions were then amended in the provisions of Article 2 paragraph (1) of Law No. 7 of 1974 concerning the Regulation of Gambling, which stated that the threat of punishment in Article 303 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code was changed from a maximum prison sentence of two years and eight months or a maximum fine of ninety thousand rupiah to a maximum prison sentence of ten years or a maximum fine of twenty-five million rupiah.

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<sup>1</sup>Jajang Supriyatna & Sri Endah Wahyuningsih, Criminalization Analysis Of Gambling Crime In The District Court Of The Kudus And Policies That Will Come In Penal Code Reformation, *Jurnal Daulat Hukum*, Volume 2 Issue 1, March 2019

<sup>2</sup>Beny Fajar Sanjaya, Amin Purnawan, and Aryani Witasari, The implementing the Role of the Police in Preventing Gambling Crimes, *Law Development Journal*, Volume 4 Issue 3, September 2022.

<sup>3</sup>Judhariksawan, 2005, Introduction to Telecommunications Law, Rajawali Press, Jakarta, p. 12

<sup>4</sup>Edward Cevy Listiyanto & Arpangi, *Op.Cit.*, p. 363

<sup>5</sup>Muktar, Effectiveness of Law Enforcement of the Crime of Gambling in the Form of Playing Cards in the Petarukan Police Area, Pemalang Regency, *Ratio Legis Journal*, Volume 3 No. 1, March 2024.

The crime of online gambling is specifically regulated in Article 45 paragraph (3) of Law Number 11 of 2008 concerning Electronic Information and Transactions in conjunction with Law Number 19 of 2016 in conjunction with Law Number 1 of 2024 (ITE Law) which states that any person who intentionally and without the right distributes, transmits, and/or makes accessible Electronic Information and/or Electronic Documents containing gambling content as referred to in Article 27 paragraph (2) shall be punished with imprisonment of up to 10 (ten) years and/or a maximum fine of IDR 10,000,000,000.00 (ten billion rupiah). The provisions of Article 27 paragraph (2) of the ITE Law state that any person who intentionally and without the right distributes, transmits, and/or makes accessible electronic information and/or electronic documents containing gambling content is a prohibited act. Furthermore, the explanation of the article explains that the provisions refer to gambling provisions in terms of offering or providing the opportunity to gamble, making it a livelihood, offering or providing the opportunity to the public to gamble, and participating in companies for that purpose.

Online gambling in the digital age is increasingly prevalent, with various promotions and high levels of participation. Although prohibited, access to this game of chance is very easy through various apps and websites.<sup>6</sup>Phenomenon online gambling.This is becoming increasingly worrying, especially in the jurisdiction of the Blora Police. Online gambling has not only infected the general public but has also penetrated government employees and state-owned enterprises (BUMN) in Blora Regency. Several cases have been uncovered, showing that perpetrators are using their breaks to gamble.<sup>7</sup>The Indonesian National Police (Polri) is a state apparatus tasked with maintaining public order and security. As the vanguard in handling criminal acts, the police play a crucial role in combating online gambling. Various preventive and repressive measures have been implemented to combat online gambling. However, online gambling remains rampant. Several factors contribute to the continued prevalence of online gambling, including the lack of government preventive measures. This is evident in the continued presence of numerous online gambling sites.which are still operating. Furthermore, easy access to banking facilities makes it very easy for online gamblers to abuse their transactions.

## 2. Research Methods

The approach method used in this research is sociological juridical, namely a research approach that studies the influence of society on law, the extent to which

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<sup>6</sup>Munawir, Judi Online dalam Sorotan Islam : Membongkar Bahaya dan Hukum Syariah, <https://uin-alauddin.ac.id>, accessed on 20 July 2025.

<sup>7</sup>Eko Santoso, Kasus Juni Online Merebak di Blora, Pegawai Pemerintah Hingga BUMN jadi Korban, <https://radarkudus.jawapos.com>, accessed April 28, 2025

phenomena in society can influence law and vice versa and is based on the paradigm of empirical science.<sup>8</sup>

### 3. Results and Discussion

#### 3.1. Handling of Online Gambling Crimes at the Blora Police Resort

Online gambling has become an increasingly worrying phenomenon in Indonesia, including within the jurisdiction of the Blora Police. Widespread internet access makes it easier for people to be exposed to online gambling advertisements, often disguised as seemingly harmless gaming apps. Users who initially just play for fun can become trapped in gambling games that offer quick wins, which can then develop into addiction and become trapped in a vicious cycle of gambling that is difficult to break.<sup>9</sup>

According to data from the Indonesian Internet Service Providers Association (APJII), by 2024, the number of internet users in Indonesia will reach 221,563,479 out of a total population of 278,696,200, with a high internet penetration rate of 79.5%. This figure means nearly 80% of the population is at risk of exposure to online gambling content and could potentially impact them. The impact extends not only to individual finances but also to the social and economic fabric of society.<sup>10</sup>

Meanwhile, the Financial Transaction Reports and Analysis Center (PPATK) stated that online gambling funds are estimated to reach IDR 1,200 trillion by 2025, an increase from IDR 981 trillion in 2024. The increase in online gambling transactions in 2025 is likely driven by several factors. First, widespread internet access and smartphone use make it easier for people to access online gambling sites. Second, aggressive gambling advertising on social media attracts many new users, especially the younger generation. Third, many people from lower economic groups are tempted to gamble for quick profits, despite the high risks. Furthermore, the difficulty of regulating foreign-based gambling platforms makes government efforts less effective.<sup>11</sup>

The above issues require swift action and comprehensive solutions to protect the public from the growing dangers.

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<sup>8</sup>Johnny Ibrahim, (2013), *Teori & Metodologi Penelitian Hukum Normatif*, Bayumedia Publishing, Malang.

<sup>9</sup>Indonesia Darurat Judi Online, Simak Penyebab dan Solusi yang dapat Diterapkan, <https://www.jalin.co.id>, accessed July 25, 2025.

<sup>10</sup>*Ibid.*

<sup>11</sup>Bari Arijono, Transaksi Judi Online Meroket 219 Triliun, <https://id.linkedin.com>, accessed July 25, 2025.

At the Blora Police Department, no cases were prosecuted in 2023 and 2024. This was due to the large number of people involved in online gambling. Therefore, only guidance was provided to those involved. Proceeding to the courts would increase prison overcrowding.<sup>12</sup>In addition, according to the Minister of Communication and Information, Budi Arie, the government views online gambling players as victims, so the steps taken are rehabilitation, not arrest or even detention.<sup>13</sup>

Guidance is implemented through security and outreach to communities involved in online gambling. Those involved in online gambling are gathered at the Village Hall, where they are then given guidance by village officials, the Community Police Officer (Bhabinkamtibmas), and the Sub-district Police Officer (Kasitranitib). Furthermore, village officials are tasked with monitoring the online gamblers who have been counseled. If a re-educated online gambler is found to be gambling again and can be proven to have done so again, legal action will be taken.

The rise in online gambling perpetrators in the jurisdiction of the Blora Police is influenced by several factors, including:<sup>14</sup>

#### 1. Easy access to online gambling sites

Currently, many online gambling applications and websites are easily accessible via the internet. Although the government has blocked online gambling applications and websites, this is still not optimal, as they can be replaced by new applications and websites. These online gambling sites are also easily disseminated through community groups on social media. The abundance of these online gambling applications and websites is easily found by the public. Besides being easily disseminated through social media groups, online gambling applications and websites also target new players through advertisements that frequently appear when accessing less than reliable applications or websites.

#### 2. Internet access is getting easier

The rapid advancement of information and communication technology has brought many conveniences and benefits to human life. However, there are also negative aspects, one of which is the rise of online gambling. Currently, online gambling cases are increasing rapidly, primarily due to recent advances in information and communication technology. The development of information

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<sup>12</sup>Interview with AKP Selamat, as Head of Criminal Investigation Unit of Blora Police, July 25, 2025.

<sup>13</sup>Nazhif Ali Murtadho, Judi Online Restorative Justice dan Doktrin Hukum Pidana, <https://kumparan.com>, accessed July 25, 2025.

<sup>14</sup>Interview with AKP Selamat, as Head of Criminal Investigation Unit of Blora Police, July 25, 2025.

technology, particularly the internet and mobile devices, has made access to online gambling platforms easier.

Ease of internet access and digital devices have made online gambling increasingly accessible to everyone, including the younger generation. This ease of access and intense promotion make online gambling increasingly difficult to avoid. Online gambling advertisements are rife across various media outlets, both online and offline. This has exposed many people, especially the younger generation, to and tempted to try online gambling.

### 3. Earn money in an instant way

Online gambling, such as online slots, offers the promise of quick and easy profits. With its attractive appearance and simple gameplay, online gambling attracts many people, especially those seeking instant cash. However, online gambling carries a latent danger that can ruin a person's life, leading to addiction. Online gambling addiction is a serious problem that can have various negative impacts, both psychologically and financially. Online gambling addicts often experience stress, depression, and sleep disturbances. They can also struggle with social relationships and neglect their responsibilities.

### 4. No need to spend a lot of money to try online gambling

Online gambling doesn't require a lot of money. Many online gambling platforms offer minimum deposit options, such as IDR 10,000. This leads people to believe that losing won't hurt them. However, gamblers often fail to realize that small capital often encourages them to try again and again, leading to significant losses over time.

### 5. Social and economic factors

Socioeconomic factors play a significant role in driving the spread of online gambling. Generally, these factors include poverty, lack of financial literacy, and socioeconomic pressures that drive people to seek shortcuts to improve their financial situation through gambling. Furthermore, easy access and low betting amounts also attract people from all walks of life, especially those with limited financial means. People who have difficulty finding work or earning an income will ultimately look for shortcuts to make more money, quickly and easily.

### 6. Environmental and peer factors

Environmental factors aren't just location, but also a person's social environment or social circle. For example, someone might gamble online because their friends

encourage them to. They might also gamble out of curiosity, sparked by seeing others playing online.

#### 7. Online gambling addiction

Online gambling addiction is a condition where a person cannot control the urge to gamble online, even when aware of the negative consequences. This can include difficulty resisting the urge to take risks, a belief that luck will favor them this time, an inability to control spending, and a disregard for mounting debt. According to the American Psychiatric Association, gambling addiction is identified by a pattern of repeated and persistent gambling, even though it has caused significant problems in a person's life. This can lead to financial problems, strained relationships, and mental health disorders.

#### 8. Lack of public awareness

This lack of individual awareness refers to moral and legal awareness. A person's morals relate to beliefs and the way they distinguish between right and wrong. Many people continue to gamble online despite knowing full well that their actions are wrong. These individuals typically believe that their entertainment doesn't harm others, making online gambling acceptable. This view demonstrates a loss of moral values.

The efforts made by the Blora Police in dealing with online gambling crimes are as follows:

##### 1. Preventive measures

Preventive efforts carried out by the Blora Police Criminal Investigation Unit to date include the following:

- a. Implementing the installation of banners warning against online gambling in the jurisdiction of the Blora Police;
- b. Implementing the installation of online gambling prevention warning stickers in crowded places such as coffee shops and hangout spots for young people in the Blora Police jurisdiction.
- c. Carrying out online gambling prevention outreach in crowded places.
- d. Conduct cyber patrols and make proposals for blocking online gambling sites.

##### 2. Repressive efforts

The repressive efforts carried out by the Blora Police Criminal Investigation Unit are by following up on reports of information from the public, then we check the truth of the information and after checking it was found that there were people playing online gambling, then the perpetrators were secured for investigation and inquiry.

The investigation and prosecution of online gambling crimes at the Blora Police is based on the Criminal Procedure Code (KUHP) and Regulation of the Head of the Criminal Investigation Agency (Perkaban) of the Indonesian National Police Number 1 of 2022 concerning Standard Operating Procedures for Criminal Investigations and Inquiries. The procedures for conducting investigations and prosecutions of online gambling crimes are as follows:<sup>15</sup>

a. Investigation

- 1) Following up on information reports from the public
- 2) Conduct monitoring/checks at the location
- 3) Securing people suspected of playing online gambling

b. Investigation

- 1) Make a police report;
- 2) Making investigation administration;
- 3) Conducting examinations of reporters, witnesses and suspects;
- 4) Completing case files;
- 5) Coordination with the prosecutor's office;
- 6) Sending case files;
- 7) Carrying out the handover of suspects and evidence.

To understand the repressive efforts in combating online gambling crimes, a series of investigative and investigative actions are carried out. To understand the implementation of the investigation, the following describes an example of an online gambling case with the following number:

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<sup>15</sup>Interview with Aiptu Arifin, as Assistant Investigator of the Blora Police Criminal Investigation Unit, July 25, 2025.



LP/A/14/XI/2024/SPKT.Satreskrim/Blora Police/Central Java Regional Police concerning the crime of online slot gambling with the name of the pragmatic play game, Mahjong Wins, with a cash bet.

## 1. Case

On November 5, 2024, at approximately 11:30 a.m. WIB, the suspect, SY, arrived at a coffee shop owned by Mbak Tin in Brumbung Village, Blora Regency, to commit online gambling using the Pragmatic Play game Mahjong Wins, with a cash bet. The suspect initially opened the Google Chrome application and went to the MAMEN123 gambling site with the website address: <https://mamen123super.us/>. After that, the suspect logged in to his online gambling account by entering the username: bonyok123 and password: cintasejati123. After successfully logging in, the suspect made an online gambling balance deposit by transferring money through his own BCA bank account to BCA Bank with account number: 0690587262 in the name of A RAHIM in the amount of Rp. 100,000 (one hundred thousand rupiah). After the suspect's online gambling account was filled with betting money, the suspect then chose an online slot gambling game with the name of the pragmatic play game, mahjong wins. Then the suspect gambled by betting the gambling bet money by simply writing the amount of the bet he wanted to bet on each round by writing it into the betting column. Next, the suspect pressed the spin button for one round. Then, if there are at least 3 identical images in a row, the suspect has the opportunity to win a prize in the form of betting money. The more identical images lined up in a row, the higher the suspect's chance of winning. After winning, the suspect withdraws the winnings through his account. The nature of online slot gambling, with the name of the pragmatic play game, Mahjong Wins, with the bet being based on chance, meaning that winnings cannot be guaranteed or determined. Meanwhile, the winner in this online gambling is if the player or shooter gets at least 3 identical images or the same red symbol, they will receive a bonus whose multiplication amount cannot be determined, it can be small or large.

The suspect's role in the online slot gambling game, Mahjong Wins, was solely as a shooter. He did not know who the dealer was. The suspect's stated intention in the online slot gambling game, Mahjong Wins, was solely to earn money to cover his daily living expenses.

Based on the Confiscation Order, evidence has been confiscated from suspect SY in the form of:

- 1) 1 (one) OPPO A77 brand cellphone, black, IMEI 1: 862304051372244, IMEI 2: 862304051372251 along with Simpati SIM Card with Number: 081391519714;

- 2) 1 (one) MAMEN123 online gambling account with the website address <https://mamen123super.us/> with username: bonyok123 and password: cintasejati123;
- 3) 1 (one) BCA Bank account book with account number: 1960544770 in the name of SUNYOTO;
- 4) 2 (two) printed sheets of screenshots of the cellphone screen used to play online gambling;

For the above action, approval for confiscation has been requested from the Head of the Blora District Court with letter No. Pol.: B/231/XI/2024/Reskrim, dated November 5, 2024, and a determination letter has been issued with letter Number: 309/Pen.Pid.B-SITA/2024/PN Blora, dated November 14, 2024, and for this action, a Minutes of Confiscation has been made on November 5, 2024.

### **3.2. Obstacles and Solutions in Handling Online Gambling Crimes at the Blora Police Resort**

Efforts to combat online gambling crimes at the Blora Police in practice have encountered several obstacles, namely:<sup>16</sup>

#### **1. Limited access to information technology**

The police do not have the authority to block online gambling sites. The Indonesian National Police (Polri) can only arrest and prosecute perpetrators, while blocking online gambling sites falls under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Communication and Information (Kominfo). Therefore, the police only provide data to Kominfo during cyber patrols to block online gambling sites.

At the police department (Polres) level, access to information technology is still limited, particularly in combating online gambling. Similarly, the Blora Police Department (Polres) has not yet been able to block online gambling sites. This is because the authority to block sites rests with the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (Kominfo).<sup>17</sup>

Based on data from Kominfo, a major obstacle to eradicating online gambling in Indonesia is the lack of technology to prevent its access to social media. The Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (Kominfo) stated that it has collaborated with Google to develop technology that can prevent the access of gambling content on line to social media, however, this cannot be done because

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<sup>16</sup>Interview with AKP Selamat, Head of Criminal Investigation Unit of Blora Police, July 25, 2025

<sup>17</sup>Interview with AKP Selamat, Head of Criminal Investigation Unit of Blora Police, July 25, 2025

the digital regime is not a censorship regime. Online gambling content is subject to a takedown regime, meaning it can be removed after it appears. Prevention efforts Kominfo has carried out online gambling content. This is not repeated by cutting off access, namely by blocking online gambling sites. However, due to technological advances, these sites can reappear with new names and keywords. For example, replacing the letter O with a zero (0). The Ministry of Communication and Information has also blocked internet access from the Philippines and Cambodia, two countries that legalize online gambling, with the aim of hindering the promotion of online gambling. enter Indonesia. However, it must be realized that gambling sites on line can enter Indonesia through other routes such as using PVN, so that technological or supply disruption is considered difficult.<sup>18</sup>

To address these obstacles, the Blora Police conduct daily cyber patrols. Based on the results of these patrols, they then propose to the Ministry of Communication and Informatics (Kominfro) to block online gambling sites caught in raids. At least five sites are proposed for blocking each day. They then check to see if the reported sites have been blocked, and the results indicate that they have been blocked.

#### 1. Limited resources and number of personnel

The limited number of personnel, particularly within the Blora Police Criminal Investigation Unit, is one of the obstacles to combating online gambling, primarily due to the inability to effectively monitor online gambling. The rise in online gambling cases has resulted in a large number of online gamblers spread throughout the Blora Police jurisdiction, while the number of personnel is very limited. This results in suboptimal oversight and monitoring of online gambling activities within the Blora Police jurisdiction. For example, there is less than optimal supervision of online gamblers caught in raids and those who have received guidance.

Combating online gambling requires specialized expertise in information technology, but not all members of the Blora Police Criminal Investigation Unit possess this expertise. Furthermore, online gambling involves a variety of platforms and constantly evolving modus operandi, necessitating specialized expertise in online gambling activities.

The solution to overcome these obstacles is to involve Bhabinkamtibas (community police officers) and village officials in their respective areas to monitor residents involved in online gambling. Furthermore, collaboration with the district government, specifically the Public Order Agency (Satpol PP), is also being

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<sup>18</sup>Siti Yana Hukmara, Hambatan Cegah Judi Online, Kominfro Memang Belum ada Teknologinya, <https://www.metrotvnews.com>, accessed August 1, 2025.

implemented in online gambling raids. Meanwhile, due to the limited number of personnel with specialized expertise in information technology, particularly cybercrime, the Blora Police are sending members to attend cybercrime education and training.

## 2. Lack of legal awareness in society

Gambling is a social evil that has existed since ancient times and is deeply ingrained in society. Nowadays, advances in science and technology have given rise to new ways of gambling, namely online. This is possible due to the availability of tools and media that make it easier for people to access websites and applications containing gambling elements.

In Indonesia, online gambling has actually been prohibited as regulated in Article 27 paragraph (2) of the ITE Law, while the criminal sanctions are regulated in Article 45 paragraph (3) of the ITE Law with the threat of a maximum prison sentence of 6 years and/or a maximum fine of IDR 1 billion.

Although gambling is prohibited by Indonesian law, online gambling remains widely practiced. From a sociological legal perspective, the criminal laws against online gambling have proven ineffective as a means of social control. Many people still gamble online, demonstrating low public awareness of the legal implications of online gambling.

In the Blora Police jurisdiction, public awareness of online gambling remains low, with many people still gambling online. In fact, there have been cases where Public Order Agency (Satpol PP) officers, who were supposed to be controlling online gambling, were involved in online gambling. Some residents within the Blora Police jurisdiction support law enforcement in combating online gambling, for example by providing information regarding online gambling activities and providing information about common hangouts and gambling spots. However, many remain indifferent, believing that online gambling is the responsibility of the police, not a shared responsibility.

The solution to overcome these obstacles is to urge the public not to hesitate in providing information to the police and regarding online gambling practices, urging the public not to engage in online gambling because there are legal consequences, either through the installation of banners or stickers or by socializing the public regarding online gambling.

## 3. Ease for people to access the internet, especially online gambling

Online gambling sites are easily accessible to the public, thanks to technological advances that make it easier for people to access online gambling. When people

access the internet, they often encounter online gambling sites while surfing the web. Furthermore, online gambling doesn't require a lot of money, as online gambling sites offer deposits as small as IDR 10,000. This naturally attracts people to try gambling, which can eventually lead to addiction. This ease of access can hinder the fight against online gambling crimes.

The solution to overcome these obstacles is to directly educate the public about online gambling, by installing banners, signs, and stickers in designated locations to discourage involvement in online gambling. Those caught in raids will be given counseling, and if perpetrators who have been counseled continue to gamble online, they will be prosecuted.

Based on the description above, it can be seen that there are several obstacles in combating online gambling crimes at the Blora Police Department, both internal and external. Internal obstacles include limited access to information technology and limited police personnel and human resources. External obstacles include a lack of public legal awareness and easy internet access. The Blora Police Department has successfully addressed these obstacles.

The aforementioned obstacles impact efforts to combat online gambling. This aligns with Soerjono Soekanto's theory of legal effectiveness, which states that legal effectiveness is influenced by legal factors, law enforcement factors, infrastructure and facilities, community factors, and cultural factors. From a law enforcement perspective, a lack of resources and personnel significantly impacts the effectiveness of combating online gambling. The continued lack of personnel with expertise in cybercrime and the limited number of personnel, particularly those involved in monitoring online gambling activities, has hampered and suboptimal efforts to combat online gambling.

Limited access to information technology impacts the effectiveness of laws in combating online gambling. This is due to a lack of adequate equipment and the lack of authority for the National Police to block online gambling sites, which limits them to conducting cyber patrols and providing data to the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (Kominfo) for blocking. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (Kominfo) itself states that even after being blocked, online gambling sites will continue to exist, using accounts from different sites.

From a societal perspective, some people still participate in online gambling without caring about it, and others are indifferent to the efforts of law enforcement to combat it. This societal situation can hinder efforts to combat gambling crimes, resulting in rampant gambling practices.

From a cultural perspective, it's clear that gambling has existed since ancient times, albeit limited to conventional forms of gambling like cockfighting. Furthermore, internet access has become a new norm in today's society, leading people to frequently visit online gambling sites.

The online gambling phenomenon occurring within the Blora Police jurisdiction is due to a cultural shift influenced by technological advances. Nearly everyone accesses the internet daily for work, study, shopping, entertainment, and socializing, giving rise to a digital culture. This cultural shift is not matched by sufficient legal knowledge and awareness, resulting in frequent involvement in online gambling. This has impacted the fight against online gambling within the Blora Police jurisdiction.

### **3.3. Effectiveness of Handling Online Gambling Crimes at the Blora Police Resort**

The government, through the Ministry of Communication and Digital (Kominf/Komdigi), along with cross-agency support, continues to strengthen strategic measures to address the problem of online gambling. In President Prabowo Subianto's view, online gambling is not just a legal issue, but also a social problem that harms the common people. The President conveyed the message that this eradication must be carried out seriously and without compromise.

The Indonesian National Police (Polri) is the primary leader in law enforcement against online gambling crimes. They continue to work to uncover the networks and actors involved in the online gambling business. One of the government's biggest challenges in eradicating online gambling is the findings of the Financial Transaction Reports and Analysis Center (PPATK), which indicate that approximately 97,000 Indonesian National Armed Forces (TNI) and Indonesian National Police (Polri) personnel are involved in online gambling. This information raises concerns, particularly regarding the effectiveness of law enforcement if government officials are involved. This situation presents a dilemma, as the government must ensure transparent law enforcement.

## **4. Conclusion**

The Blora Police Department's efforts to combat online gambling crimes are carried out through preventive and repressive measures. These include outreach, banners, and stickers, raids in crowded places such as food stalls, and cyber patrols. The results of these patrols are reported to the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (Kominfo) for the blocking of online gambling sites. Criminals in 2023 and 2025 will only receive guidance, while in 2024, they will be prosecuted and elevated to P21. This is intended to address the problem of overcapacity in the prison, given the large number of online gamblers at the Blora Police Department. Obstacles in tackling online gambling crimes by the Blora

Police Resort are limited access to information technology, limited resources and number of personnel, lack of public legal awareness, and easy access to the internet, especially online gambling. Efforts to overcome these obstacles include involving Bhabinkamtimas and village officials in their respective areas to monitor residents involved in online gambling; conducting cyber patrols to collect data on online gambling sites, which are then recommended to the Ministry of Communication and Information for blocking; and appealing to the public to participate in tackling online gambling crimes. The Blora Police Department's efforts to combat online gambling crimes have been deemed effective, as evidenced by the number of online gambling cases, which rose from 78 in 2023 to 38 in 2025 as of June. Furthermore, preventive measures can raise legal awareness among the public, thereby discouraging them from committing violations.

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**Interview:**

Interview with Aiptu Arifin, as Assistant Investigator of the Blora Police Criminal Investigation Unit, July 25, 2025.

Interview with AKP Selamat, as Head of Criminal Investigation Unit of Blora Police, July 25, 2025.