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A NEW CRIMINAL JURISDICTION TO COMBAT CROSS-BORDER MONEY LAUNDERING

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to analyze the emergence of the changing face of criminal jurisdiction in dealing with cross-border money laundering that develops dynamically due to the development of globalization. This study belongs to doctrinal research using conceptual and case approach. The study revealed that territorial jurisdiction which was originally strictly enforced by state sovereignty over crimes that occurred in its territory then changed widely with multi-territorial perspective. Due to its condition, the state then expands its authority to deal with money laundering as a cross-border crime involving more than one territorial state, namely by using extraterritorial jurisdiction and then developed into a long-arm jurisdiction trend that allows state authorities to prosecute foreigners outside its state boundaries. This study suggests that countries need to adopt the said jurisdiction in their national legal systems to ease the cooperation in the law enforcement and the suppression of cross-border money laundering.

Keywords: cross-border money laundering, territorial jurisdiction, extraterritorial jurisdiction, long-arm jurisdiction.

INTRODUCTION

It is not exaggeration to argue that the globalization has indeed affected various sectors of human life, including law and economics. Ease of transaction which becomes timeless was the only example of a positive impact that can be received from this phenomenon. Meanwhile, globalization more specifically from a legal context has benefited participants not only in the legal acts but also in the illegal one as well (Ahmed, 2016). The expansion and spread out of crimes into worldwide operations such as money laundering were the bad side of this trend (Amrani, 2017).

Money laundering is a crime that moves dynamically and encounters various important issues in its development. One of the interesting things to deeply analyze is about money laundering jurisdictions due to the internationalization process. This type of crime is committed across the boundaries of multiple jurisdictions in which criminals, proceeds, and documentary evidence can easily move from one jurisdiction to another (Rueda, 2001; Mugarura, 2016). By using the development of technology which facilitates the method of transferring illicit funds across borders, criminals utilize them to make money laundering easier to accomplish and are harder to detect (Sornarajah, 1999; Mikeladze, 2018). Furthermore, this crime can be characterized as a transnational crime that raises worldwide problems (Bossard, 1990; Brown, 2008; Mueller, 1999; Passas, 2003; Narayan, 2019).

As a transnational or cross-border crime, money laundering concentrates on all actions criminalized by regulations from more than one country (Article 3(1)(b) of The United Nations Convention on Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances). Holmes (2003) said that in the case of transnational money laundering, there must meet one of two conditions. First, the

jurisdiction where the illegal results were washed is different from the jurisdiction where the predicate violation occurred. Second, financial transactions that facilitate laundering reach several national jurisdictions. The notion of cross-border transnational crime initially was not a legal concept but merely a criminological (Mueller, 2001; da Silva, 2020), sociological, economic, and even political concept (Serano, 2002; Simmons, Lloyd and Stewart, 2018). By looking at the natures of money laundering as one of transnational crimes, the prevention and suppression of this crime more emphasizes on multilateral efforts at an international level (Martin, 1990; Ebikake, 2016).

The criminalization of the money laundering affects particular problems concerning the existing rules and principles of criminal jurisdiction. These problems arise mainly because of the complexity and transnational characters of money laundering that may be committed across the boundaries of multiple jurisdictions (Nguyen, 2020). In such a case, the offenders could be subject to the money laundering laws of several jurisdictions. This in turns may lead to the jurisdictional conflict because two or more sovereign entities that have a right to assert criminal jurisdiction over the same crime. In addition, it may also lead to the difficulty in prosecuting non-resident defendants outside the boundaries of the state (Sulaimani, 2016).

This article is aimed at analyzing aspects of the limitations of criminal jurisdiction in responding to these conditions. In this context, it will be found that the implementation of money laundering jurisdictions is very difficult to enforce because the natures of such crime involve even more than one related territory in this global era. Hence, the application of this jurisdiction needs to be expanded to deal with money laundering as a cross-border crime. The evolving theory of criminal jurisdiction from a territorial to an extraterritorial, and then to a long-arm jurisdiction will be explored and critically analyzed. The adequacy of traditional doctrine of criminal jurisdiction in dealing with cross-border money laundering is examined. A new approach in settling complicated crime situations such as money laundering is also discussed.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research was a doctrinal legal research using conceptual approach concerning the very strict principle of territorial jurisdiction in criminal law. This study also used case approach related to the application of extraterritorial jurisdiction and long-arm jurisdiction in some cross-border money laundering cases. The collection of legal materials was carried out through literature as well as case study and was analyzed qualitatively based on data reduction, presentation, and concluding.

THE LIMITS OF TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION TO OVERCOME CROSS-BORDER MONEY LAUNDERING

Territorial jurisdiction in dealing with a crime played a very important role, especially to determine where the crime was committed. The term 'jurisdiction' encompasses several definitions and possible meanings (Dodson, 2008; Hirst, 2003; Beale, 1923; Hovell, 2018). Malanczuk (1997) points out that at times jurisdiction simply refers to territory, whereas at other times refers to the power exercised by a state over persons, properties, or events (Blakesley and Stigall, 2007; Colangelo, 2007). This means that the nature and scope of jurisdiction varied depending on the context in which it is to be applied (Blakesley, 1982; Hildebrandt, 2021). From such a perspective, jurisdiction has different forms that may involve the authority of a state to establish prescriptive, judicial, and enforcement jurisdiction (Colangelo, 2007; Coughlan, et al., 2007; Li, 2020). The term 'jurisdiction' concerns the legal competence of any state to make, apply, and enforce the rules of conduct upon persons, properties, or events (Lowe, 2006; Morris, 2019). As such, Justice Holmes pointed out that jurisdiction was addressed 'the right of a state to apply the law to the acts of men' (Borlini, 2008).

The classical theory of jurisdiction stated that one of the rules regarding which court has authorized and which criminal law will be applied. Jurisdiction regulates how a crime can be dealt with so that it can be resolved through appropriate criminal legal instruments as the state's authority for these

crimes. In this context it became known as national criminal jurisdiction which also includes prescriptive, executive, and adjudicative jurisdiction. Driven by the principle of sovereign equality and territorial integrity of states, in general, criminal jurisdiction is facultative rather than mandatory. The exercise of criminal jurisdiction is ultimately a matter for individual states (Nguyen, 2020). On a substantial basis, every state has its right to claim its territorial jurisdiction, giving it the authority to establish jurisdiction over given conduct taking place in its territory (Soranaiah, 1999). Two aspects of territorial jurisdiction include substantive and procedural jurisdiction. The first aspect relates to the power of a state to define any conduct as a crime and to act on the substantive criminal law regarding the conduct. The second refers to the power of a state to investigate, prosecute, and try to defend who violates the substantive criminal law. In sum, any state has the power if the state in question has a personal jurisdiction over a particular defendant (Roxstrom & Gibney, 2017)

Territorial jurisdiction is applied when the government has a control over certain geographical locations. So, it is clear that all crimes are local (Soranaiah, 1998) because this relates to the right of a state to apply the law to a prohibited conducts (Borlini, 2008; Fekete, 2008; Blakesley, 1982; Roxstrom & Gibney, 2017). The application of this principle becomes easy if the type of crime is conventional. For combating transnational or cross-border crimes, this basically will be difficult to exercise. This condition. Of course, raises some of the complexity of the problems in overcoming the character of cross-border money laundering. The question remains about the adequacy of territorial jurisdiction in resolving money laundering cases. As is the case, George Kris illustrates the complexity of money laundering and the involvement of multiple jurisdiction in the following case:

“If the proceeds derived from a drug trafficking operation are physically carried out in country A in which it was obtained and deposited into a financial institution in country B (placement); transfer from the financial institution through various other financial institutions in various countries to another financial institution in country C (layering); and finally paid into a number of corporations in various countries in purported payments of shared transfers (integration); then the investigators/prosecutors in country A would not have much hope in tracing, let alone, confiscating, the proceeds of the drug trafficking without using mutual legal assistance” (Kriz, 1992)

From the above case, three kinds of problems may be identified. The first problem related to punishment of the perpetrator of the predicate offense (s) and money laundering. This crime is indeed the most unique because of its characteristics which can also be called an advanced crime with certain predicate offenses. Money laundering is a process of changing the results obtained from an underlying criminal offense, called a predicate offense, to a property that appears to be legitimate (Sjahdeini, 2007; Teichmann, 2020). The questions may arise in this regard, such as whether money laundering is an autonomous crime or continuation of its predicate offense; whether the author of the predicate offense can be treated as the author of money laundering; and whether the perpetrator of the predicate offense can be convicted as a subsequent launderer. In answering these questions, different opinions from legal scholars and practitioners are used and divided into two categories.

The first opinion considers that money laundering is the continuation of the primary offense. It argued that money laundering is identical to concealment, in which the author of the primary offense cannot be the author of the laundering. Accordingly, concealing illegal funds is intended merely to avoid being detained. It also assumes that there is no new legally protected interest in the laundering offense except for those that have existed in the primary offense (Pinto and Chevalier, 2006). Another reason for this is that it is not allowed to apply two offenses for a single action because of *ne bis in idem* (Pinto and Chevalier, 2006; Maugeri, 2018). As such, this opinion assumes that as a derivative offense, money laundering remains unpunished. This is because the conduct is considered to be a co-penalized act where the punishment of money laundering is already included in the punishment of the primary offense (Pinto and Chevalier, 2006).

The second opinion considers that there is a real distinction between the primary crime and the laundering offense. As a consequence, contrary to the first opinion, it is possible to punish the laundering

as a separate offense and thus is separately punishable. According to this opinion, there are different protected interests between the primary crime and money laundering (Pinto and Chevalier, 2006; AL-Rawashdeh, 2020). Money laundering interests are not only for the administration of justice but also for the national and international economic order. Several countries, as well as international legal instruments, follow this opinion. Switzerland, for example, prosecutes money laundering committed in this country even though the primary crime is perpetrated abroad (Kohler, 1990; Ferwerda & Reuter, 2019). They consider that any person conducts money laundering if criminal proceeds are converted or transferred to conceal its source from unlawful activity. As a consequence, the laundering offense is separated from the predicate crime, thus meaning that the punishment can be cumulated.

The second problem deals with gathering evidence such as bank records that may be spread out in several jurisdictions. Opening bank records in a foreign country poses problems if it follows a strict bank secrecy law. Even though there is mutual legal assistance, on a practical level, it is not an easy task to realize. This is because the requested country may be reluctant or unwilling to meet the request. At this point, there are two reasons why foreign governments may have an uncooperative stance; the first is the inequality of views between countries in their respective laws. Foreign governments sometimes do not see the request for assistance as valid in their legal context because they do not know the exact fact that the request is legitimate and the relevant differences that exist between the requested country's legal system and the requester's. The foreign governments can also see foreign demand as a direct threat to their sovereignty (Hinterseer, 2002; Zolkafilil, Omar, & Syed Mustapha Nazri, 2019). Moreover, law enforcement is part of the sovereign right of the state for violations that occur in its territory.

Finally, the problem focuses on recovering the proceeds of crime. Finding, freezing, forfeiting, and confiscating the proceeds of crime as well as instrumentalities are necessary steps. In seeking the existence of the criminal proceeds, a 'paper trail' is essential for a successful prosecution. Wilke noted that 'the use of stored transaction data for backtracking functions as evidence in the subsequent proceedings' (Wilke, 2008). However, this method is not easy to realize because the launderer tries to obscure the audit trail by converting it from dirty money into a legitimate income, and then using it to buy a property or invest in business industries.

APPLYING EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION: THE NEED FOR A 'PHYSICAL PRESENCE'

The limitation of territorial jurisdiction has resulted in an ineffective handling of money laundering offence so that it should be able to use a new wider method. The territorial jurisdiction is indeed very beneficial to deal with crimes, but the problem is how to ideally implement territorial jurisdiction against money laundering as a cross-border crime. An idea to apply jurisdiction that is wider than just a strict on the theory of territorial jurisdiction in one country can be an alternative, namely extraterritorial jurisdiction and the new long-arm jurisdiction.

Money laundering crimes has involved cross-border state jurisdiction both in committing crimes and their effects. To cope with the issue of state jurisdiction, each country can expand its territorial jurisdiction beyond its borders. This then led to the idea of a country to use extraterritorial jurisdiction to expand its domestic law that are carried out outside the country's territory. The term extraterritorial has a very significant meaning to the development of the prevention of crime. It is possible that transnational money laundering can be dealt with transnationally as well. Extraterritorial jurisdiction explains that a state can exercises its jurisdiction without 'real' and 'substantial' territorial links (Durrieu, 2013; Foley, 2017).

One of the highlights in implementing this principle is as applied in the United States of America to its money laundering law. The States has actively applied extraterritorial jurisdiction through the anti-money laundering regime. Section 1956(f) of the 1986 Money Laundering Control Act (MLCA) regulates in detail the extraterritoriality of the US Anti-Money Laundering laws. Extraterritorial jurisdiction in this provision can be applied to actions of US citizen abroad and non-US citizen who conduct within or partly within the United States. US citizens and companies, along with their foreign

subsidiaries, are included in the former. The latter consists of foreign nationals and entities placed within the boundaries of the United States. Section 1956 (f) explains that extraterritorial jurisdiction over behavior prohibited by this section if the behavior is carried out by US citizens or, in the case of non-US citizens, the behavior occurs in part in the United States and transactions or series of transactions involving funds or monetary instruments with a value exceeding \$10,000 (Hagler, 2004).

Extraterritoriality of the U.S. money-laundering law exemplified in the case of Banco De Occidente which is a Colombian bank that has no connection or presence in the United States. The U.S. government alleged that the Banco de Occidente branch of Panama had received a transfer of drug money from another bank located in the United States, and then sent transfers overseas. Based on these allegations, the U.S. persuaded the relevant authorities in West Germany, Canada, and Switzerland to combine them in the freezing of the Banco de Occidente assets, which amounted to around \$80 million. Frozen assets have no relationship to funds that are tainted by money laundering activities. The United States justified its action on the theory that \$80 million has represented a replacement fund. The seizure of Banco de Occidente funds around the world represents about half of its total assets, and this action immediately forced banks to go bankrupt (Morgan, 1997). Thus, part of the transaction occurred in the territorial jurisdiction of the United States. Therefore, it was reasonable if the Court charged under the U.S. Money Laundering Law as mentioned in Section 1956(f). The essential component of the extraterritoriality principle of the provision is the conduct of non-U.S. citizens occurs at least ‘in part’ in the United States.

The development of the implementation of extraterritorial jurisdiction in the United States of America experienced a very significant shift. Over the years, the application of extraterritorial jurisdiction has been extended to the criminal conduct occurred outside the United States. In the case of United States v. Stein, the perpetrator who was outside the United States, initiated a transfer of funds from a place within the United States to a place outside the United States. In this case, the Court assumed that a transfer of funds across the United States border was considered to be ‘in part in the United States’ even if the defendant ordered such transfer without setting foot in the United States (Hagler, 2004). A foreign citizen conducting the illicit transfer of funds whilst being abroad was still liable under the affected country. This is defined in section 1956(f) of the Money Laundering Control Act. Due to the liquidity of the *actus reus* of money laundering, this territorial relationship with the U.S. jurisdiction can be expanded very far. It can be illustrated if illegitimate money is transferred through U.S. banks as part of the cross-border laundering process this transit will be sufficient to give the U.S. criminal jurisdiction over the entire washing process, so that every foreign bank involved in this process shall thus be subject to the criminal jurisdiction of the United States (Shams, 2004).

The case is reflected in the argument by Hagler that the defendant does not need to have ‘a physical presence’ within the U.S. borders at the time the offense was committed (Hagler, 2004; Tiwari, Gepp, & Kumar, 2020). Thus, it is possible to convict someone under Section 1956(f) of the Money Laundering Control Act if the illicit funds were transferred to or from the United States even though the perpetrator is being abroad. Observing the characteristics of this case, it is apparent that the court interpreted the extraterritorial criminal jurisdiction very broadly. With such a complex form of crime, extraterritorial alone is not enough to overcome it, a broader policy must even be carried out to resolve the problem of money laundering as a transnational crime. From this perspective, there has been a shift of jurisdictional theory over money laundering from extraterritorial jurisdiction to a new theory of criminal jurisdiction that called long-arm jurisdiction. The following section will analyze this development by giving detailed hypothetical cases to create a better understanding of this matter.

FROM PHYSICAL PRESENCE TO MINIMUM CONTACT: TOWARD LONG-ARM JURISDICTION

In the previous sections, it was apparent that there had been an inadequacy of territorial as well as extraterritorial jurisdiction in coping with the acts of money laundering. The United States was the only a country that aggressively has responded to the development of money laundering offenses that

have a transnational character. Here in this context, the United States founded the extraterritorial jurisdiction in the Money Laundering Control Act of 1986 particularly in section 1956(f). It regulates the extraterritorial jurisdiction of conduct by a US citizen or a non-US citizen when it occurs in part in the territory of the United States. The legislation requires an 'actual presence' of the crime within the territory of the United States. However, due to the development of international trade and technology, foreign persons or corporations can commit any crime beyond the territory of the United States - a so-called long-arm jurisdiction.

The term long-arm jurisdiction refers to the ability of state authorities to prosecute foreigners outside its state boundaries. The case of *International Shoe v. Washington* (Gooch, 1998; Lipshie, 2018) has demonstrated this development. A foreign corporation was exercised by the Washington State Court despite the principle of the place of business occurring outside the forum state. The Supreme Court changed the personal jurisdiction from 'having a physical presence' within the affected country to 'having minimum contact'. The Court determined that the leading case on specific jurisdiction, and its descendants, the legal process requires that if a defendant is not present in the forum territory, he [must] have a certain minimum contact with it so that the maintenance of the lawsuit does not offend the traditional notion of fair play and substantial justice (326 U.S. 310, 316, 1945). To satisfy due process, the Court required that 'minimum contact be continuous and systematic'. The Court reasoned that agents acting on behalf of a foreign corporation are still liable in the affected country. The Court also reasoned that a corporation is liable under the country it selects to conduct business with. If there is sufficient contact between the affected country and the foreign defendant, then the Courts have the authority to exercise jurisdiction. In this case, the court applied a two-step test in determining whether the case was liable to its activities. This was done through, at first, analyzing the connections between 'the defendant' and 'the forum state'; and then through determining 'whether the actions of the defendant took place within the authorizing jurisdiction'.

Furthermore, Section 1956(f) of the Money Laundering Control Act requires that the conduct by the United States or foreign citizen occur in part in the territory of the United States. However, over time, the extraterritorial jurisdiction developed beyond the framework of section 1956(f) of the Act. In its development, the extraterritoriality of the United States money laundering laws may also be applied to 'foreign entities even though these are operating with no subsidiaries or branches within the United States boundaries'. The *Banque of Leu* case was a clear example of the extraterritorial jurisdiction applied by the United States. At that time the Luxembourg bank, *Banque Leu (Luxembourg), S.A.*, filed a guilty plea for money laundering at the United States District Court in San Francisco, California. The bank agreed to lose \$2.3 million to the United States and more than \$1 million to Luxembourg. *Banque of Leu* wants to expand the private banking deposit base. As part of its efforts to achieve this goal, the bank hired an account manager who was fluent in Spanish who has contact with South America. After that, as an effort, the new manager opened a variety of accounts by Colombia. Two of these accounts are the basis of criminal charges, both of which are related to US dollar accounts and opened in Luxembourg with cash. As a result, more than \$2.3 million was deposited into the account during the one year. Deposits made are in the form of cashier checks sent from bank customers in Colombia to Luxembourg for deposits. The bank, in turn, sent the cashier's check to his correspondent bank in New York City for collection. Whereas the U.S. correspondent bank then sent the cashier's check to the Bank of America check processing center, located in Northern California, where they were finally paid (Munroe, 1995; Teichmann & Falker, 2020).

In the above case, the criminal act has been committed outside the United States. However, the United States court claimed a criminal jurisdiction over this case by arguing that the *Banque of Leu* used U.S. dollars as a negotiable instrument. As a consequence, the court assumed that the bank is susceptible to the U.S. criminal jurisdiction. The legal justification of the court, as one author commented that 'the used of U.S. dollar notes by banks as a negotiable instrument deems them susceptible to U.S. criminal jurisdiction in money laundering offence' (Munroe, 1995).

Over time, through the International Money Laundering Abatement and Anti-Terrorist Financing Act of 2001 (The USA PATRIOT ACT) (Seay, 2007), the Court established a general personal jurisdiction over foreign banks that maintain bank accounts at United States financial institutions (Cossette, 2003; D'Angelo, 2017). Congress assumed that a long-arm authority over foreign banks, which has correspondent accounts in the United States, because the significance of such accounts was sufficient to invoke personal jurisdiction within the bounds of the Constitution (Cossette, 2003; Nash, 2019). The notion is that 'the foreign bank will then make itself whole by debiting the customer's foreign account, letting the customer take his objections to the court in the United States that authorized the seizure' (Cassella, 2002). An example of this matter is found in the USA PATRIOT ACT 2001, title 18, section 981(k), which states that 'if criminal proceeds are deposited in a foreign account in a foreign bank, and that bank has a correspondent U.S. based account at a U.S. bank, the U.S. government can seize an amount of money equal to the criminal proceeds from the correspondent account'.

The above circumstances showed us the dynamic aspect of criminal jurisdiction in dealing with cross-border money laundering offenses. Criminal jurisdiction has shifted from territorial to extraterritorial jurisdiction, and then to a long-arm jurisdiction. These types of jurisdiction allow a state court 'to gain personal jurisdiction over an out-of-state defendant who transacts business within the state, commits a tort within the state, commits a tort outside the state that causes an injury within the state, or owns, uses, or possesses real property within the state' (West's Encyclopedia of American Law, 2008; Al Banna, 2017). This condition was made clear in the case of U.S. v. Stein. In this case, the district Court found that 'a foreign citizen who causes or orders a transfer of proceeds from or to the United States by telephone or other means while abroad is deemed to have acted 'in' the United States for purposes of section 1956(f)' (Hagler, 2004).

CONCLUSION

The development of the era marked by globalization has changed many things in aspects of legal issues. This includes in the handling of cross-border money laundering that has influenced the change in the face of the territorial jurisdiction from what was originally relied on the territoriality principle very strictly changed to the extraterritorial and up to the long-arm jurisdiction. The reason for this was that the use of the territoriality principle did not seem to be able to offer solutions to the problem of criminal jurisdiction that involved cross-border money laundering which has more than one state's jurisdictional authority. From this development, it is clear that the dynamic aspects of criminal jurisdiction are being faced in money laundering offenses that have cross-border dimensions.

Due to the development of technology which followed by the increasingly complicated and sophisticated methods used in conducting cross-border money laundering, the United States of America has formulated the extraterritoriality principle in its statutes and long-arm authority implemented through its judicial interpretations. This condition is a new phenomenon where a country like the United States formulated its extraterritorial jurisdiction in its Statutes explicitly. At this point, the United States does not hand over the interpretation of criminal jurisdiction to the Courts. Other countries may consider the United States' laws and Supreme Court decisions concerning the formulation and implementation of extraterritorial and long-arm jurisdiction in its money laundering laws as benchmark models. However, in formulating and implementing the extraterritorial and long-arm jurisdiction, further inquiries are important being made to ensure that the implementation of this type of criminal jurisdiction is in accordance with, and not contrary to, the long-standing principles of legal systems of the states in question

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Journal of Money Laundering Control - Decision on Manuscript ID JMLC-06-2021-0059

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The purpose of this study is to analyze the emergence of the changing face of criminal jurisdiction in dealing with cross-border money laundering that develops dynamically due to the development of globalization.

This research was a doctrinal legal research using conceptual approach concerning the very strict principle of territorial jurisdiction in criminal law. This study also used case approach related to the application of extraterritorial jurisdiction and long-arm jurisdiction in some cross-border money laundering cases. The collection of legal materials was carried out through literature as well as case study and was analyzed qualitatively based on data reduction,

presentation, and concluding.

The study revealed that territorial jurisdiction which was originally strictly enforced by state sovereignty over crimes that occurred in its territory then changed widely with multi-territorial perspective. Due to its condition, the state then expands its authority to deal with money laundering as a cross-border crime involving more than one territorial state, namely by using extraterritorial jurisdiction and then developed into a long-arm jurisdiction trend that allows state authorities to prosecute foreigners outside its state boundaries.

The research finding can be used as one of the alternatives by countries to break the territorial jurisdiction in combating the cross-border money laundering

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Journal:	<i>Journal of Money Laundering Control</i>
Manuscript ID	JMLC-06-2021-0059
Manuscript Type:	Scholarly Article
Keywords:	cross-border money laundering, territorial jurisdiction, extraterritorial jurisdiction, long-arm jurisdiction, Globalization, state sovereignty

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A NEW CRIMINAL JURISDICTION TO COMBAT CROSS-BORDER MONEY LAUNDERING

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to analyze the emergence of the changing face of criminal jurisdiction in dealing with cross-border money laundering that develops dynamically due to the development of globalization. This study belongs to doctrinal research using conceptual and case approach. The study revealed that territorial jurisdiction which was originally strictly enforced by state sovereignty over crimes that occurred in its territory then changed widely with multi-territorial perspective. Due to its condition, the state then expands its authority to deal with money laundering as a cross-border crime involving more than one territorial state, namely by using extraterritorial jurisdiction and then developed into a long-arm jurisdiction trend that allows state authorities to prosecute foreigners outside its state boundaries. This study suggests that countries need to adopt the said jurisdiction in their national legal systems to ease the cooperation in the law enforcement and the suppression of cross-border money laundering.

Keywords: cross-border money laundering, territorial jurisdiction, extraterritorial jurisdiction, long-arm jurisdiction.

INTRODUCTION

It is not exaggeration to argue that the globalization has indeed affected various sectors of human life, including law and economics. Ease of transaction which becomes timeless was the only example of a positive impact that can be received from this phenomenon. Meanwhile, globalization more specifically from a legal context has benefited participants not only in the legal acts but also in the illegal one as well (Ahmed, 2016). The expansion and spread out of crimes into worldwide operations such as money laundering were the bad side of this trend (Amrani, 2017).

Money laundering is a crime that moves dynamically and encounters various important issues in its development. One of the interesting things to deeply analyze is about money laundering jurisdictions due to the internationalization process. This type of crime is committed across the boundaries of multiple jurisdictions in which criminals, proceeds, and documentary evidence can easily move from one jurisdiction to another (Rueda, 2001; Mugarura, 2016). By using the development of technology which facilitates the method of transferring illicit funds across borders, criminals utilize them to make money laundering easier to accomplish and are harder to detect (Sornarajah, 1999; Mikeladze, 2018). Furthermore, this crime can be characterized as a transnational crime that raises worldwide problems (Bossard, 1990; Brown, 2008; Mueller, 1999; Passas, 2003; Narayan, 2019).

As a transnational or cross-border crime, money laundering concentrates on all actions criminalized by regulations from more than one country (Article 3(1)(b) of The United Nations Convention on Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances). Holmes (2003) said that in the case of transnational money laundering, there must meet one of two conditions. First, the jurisdiction where the illegal results were washed is different from the jurisdiction where the predicate violation occurred. Second, financial transactions that facilitate laundering reach several national jurisdictions. The notion of cross-border transnational crime initially was not a legal concept but merely a criminological (Mueller, 2001; da Silva, 2020), sociological, economic, and even political concept (Serano, 2002; Simmons, Lloyd and Stewart, 2018). By looking at the natures of money laundering as one of transnational crimes, the prevention and suppression of this crime more emphasizes on multilateral efforts at an international level (Martin, 1990; Ebikake, 2016).

1
2 The criminalization of the money laundering affects particular problems concerning the existing
3 rules and principles of criminal jurisdiction. These problems arise mainly because of the complexity and
4 transnational characters of money laundering that may be committed across the boundaries of multiple
5 jurisdictions (Nguyen, 2020). In such a case, the offenders could be subject to the money laundering
6 laws of several jurisdictions. This in turns may lead to the jurisdictional conflict because two or more
7 sovereign entities that have a right to assert criminal jurisdiction over the same crime. In addition, it may
8 also lead to the difficulty in prosecuting non-resident defendants outside the boundaries of the state
9 (Sulaimani, 2016).

10
11 This article is aimed at analyzing aspects of the limitations of criminal jurisdiction in responding
12 to these conditions. In this context, it will be found that the implementation of money laundering
13 jurisdictions is very difficult to enforce because the natures of such crime involve even more than one
14 related territory in this global era. Hence, the application of this jurisdiction needs to be expanded to
15 deal with money laundering as a cross-border crime. The evolving theory of criminal jurisdiction from
16 a territorial to an extraterritorial, and then to a long-arm jurisdiction will be explored and critically
17 analyzed. The adequacy of traditional doctrine of criminal jurisdiction in dealing with cross-border
18 money laundering is examined. A new approach in settling complicated crime situations such as money
19 laundering is also discussed.
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22

23 **RESEARCH METHOD**

24 This research was a doctrinal legal research using conceptual approach concerning the very strict
25 principle of territorial jurisdiction in criminal law. This study also used case approach related to the
26 application of extraterritorial jurisdiction and long-arm jurisdiction in some cross-border money
27 laundering cases. The collection of legal materials was carried out through literature as well as case
28 study and was analyzed qualitatively based on data reduction, presentation, and concluding.
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32 **THE LIMITS OF TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION TO OVERCOME CROSS-BORDER 33 MONEY LAUNDERING**

34 Territorial jurisdiction in dealing with a crime played a very important role, especially to
35 determine where the crime was committed. The term 'jurisdiction' encompasses several definitions and
36 possible meanings (Dodson, 2008; Hirst, 2003; Beale, 1923; Hovell, 2018). Malanczuk (1997) points
37 out that at times jurisdiction simply refers to territory, whereas at other times refers to the power
38 exercised by a state over persons, properties, or events (Blakesley and Stigall, 2007; Colangelo, 2007).
39 This means that the nature and scope of jurisdiction varied depending on the context in which it is to be
40 applied (Blakesley, 1982; Hildebrandt, 2021). From such a perspective, jurisdiction has different forms
41 that may involve the authority of a state to establish prescriptive, judicial, and enforcement jurisdiction
42 (Colangelo, 2007; Coughlan, et al., 2007; Li, 2020). The term 'jurisdiction' concerns the legal
43 competence of any state to make, apply, and enforce the rules of conduct upon persons, properties, or
44 events (Lowe, 2006; Morris, 2019). As such, Justice Holmes pointed out that jurisdiction was addressed
45 'the right of a state to apply the law to the acts of men' (Borlini, 2008).
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49 The classical theory of jurisdiction stated that one of the rules regarding which court has
50 authorized and which criminal law will be applied. Jurisdiction regulates how a crime can be dealt with
51 so that it can be resolved through appropriate criminal legal instruments as the state's authority for these
52 crimes. In this context it became known as national criminal jurisdiction which also includes
53 prescriptive, executive, and adjudicative jurisdiction. Driven by the principle of sovereign equality and
54 territorial integrity of states, in general, criminal jurisdiction is facultative rather than mandatory. The
55 exercise of criminal jurisdiction is ultimately a matter for individual states (Nguyen, 2020). On a
56 substantial basis, every state has its right to claim its territorial jurisdiction, giving it the authority to
57 establish jurisdiction over given conduct taking place in its territory (Soranaiah, 1999). Two aspects of
58 territorial jurisdiction include substantive and procedural jurisdiction. The first aspect relates to the
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1
2 power of a state to define any conduct as a crime and to act on the substantive criminal law regarding
3 the conduct. The second refers to the power of a state to investigate, prosecute, and try to defend who
4 violates the substantive criminal law. In sum, any state has the power if the state in question has a
5 personal jurisdiction over a particular defendant (Roxstrom & Gibney, 2017)

6 Territorial jurisdiction is applied when the government has a control over certain geographical
7 locations. So, it is clear that all crimes are local (Soranaiah, 1998) because this relates to the right of a
8 state to apply the law to a prohibited conducts (Borlini, 2008; Fekete, 2008; Blakesley, 1982; Roxstrom
9 & Gibney, 2017). The application of this principle becomes easy if the type of crime is conventional.
10 For combating transnational or cross-border crimes, this basically will be difficult to exercise. This
11 condition. Of course, raises some of the complexity of the problems in overcoming the character of
12 cross-border money laundering. The question remains about the adequacy of territorial jurisdiction in
13 resolving money laundering cases. As is the case, George Kris illustrates the complexity of money
14 laundering and the involvement of multiple jurisdiction in the following case:

15
16
17 “If the proceeds derived from a drug trafficking operation are physically carried out in country
18 A in which it was obtained and deposited into a financial institution in country B (placement);
19 transfer from the financial institution through various other financial institutions in various
20 countries to another financial institution in country C (layering); and finally paid into a number
21 of corporations in various countries in purported payments of shared transfers (integration); then
22 the investigators/prosecutors in country A would not have much hope in tracing, let alone,
23 confiscating, the proceeds of the drug trafficking without using mutual legal assistance” (Kriz,
24 1992)

25
26 From the above case, three kinds of problems may be identified. The first problem related to
27 punishment of the perpetrator of the predicate offense (s) and money laundering. This crime is indeed
28 the most unique because of its characteristics which can also be called an advanced crime with certain
29 predicate offenses. Money laundering is a process of changing the results obtained from an underlying
30 criminal offense, called a predicate offense, to a property that appears to be legitimate (Sjahdeini, 2007;
31 Teichmann, 2020). The questions may arise in this regard, such as whether money laundering is an
32 autonomous crime or continuation of its predicate offense; whether the author of the predicate offense
33 can be treated as the author of money laundering; and whether the perpetrator of the predicate offense
34 can be convicted as a subsequent launderer. In answering these questions, different opinions from legal
35 scholars and practitioners are used and divided into two categories.

36
37 The first opinion considers that money laundering is the continuation of the primary offense. It
38 argued that money laundering is identical to concealment, in which the author of the primary offense
39 cannot be the author of the laundering. Accordingly, concealing illegal funds is intended merely to avoid
40 being detained. It also assumes that there is no new legally protected interest in the laundering offense
41 except for those that have existed in the primary offense (Pinto and Chevalier, 2006). Another reason
42 for this is that it is not allowed to apply two offenses for a single action because of *ne bis in idem* (Pinto
43 and Chevalier, 2006; Maugeri, 2018). As such, this opinion assumes that as a derivative offense, money
44 laundering remains unpunished. This is because the conduct is considered to be a co-penalized act where
45 the punishment of money laundering is already included in the punishment of the primary offense (Pinto
46 and Chevalier, 2006).

47
48 The second opinion considers that there is a real distinction between the primary crime and the
49 laundering offense. As a consequence, contrary to the first opinion, it is possible to punish the laundering
50 as a separate offense and thus is separately punishable. According to this opinion, there are different
51 protected interests between the primary crime and money laundering (Pinto and Chevalier, 2006; AL-
52 Rawashdeh, 2020). Money laundering interests are not only for the administration of justice but also for
53 the national and international economic order. Several countries, as well as international legal
54 instruments, follow this opinion. Switzerland, for example, prosecutes money laundering committed in
55 this country even though the primary crime is perpetrated abroad (Kohler, 1990; Ferwerda & Reuter,
56 2019). They consider that any person conducts money laundering if criminal proceeds are converted or
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1 transferred to conceal its source from unlawful activity. As a consequence, the laundering offense is
2 separated from the predicate crime, thus meaning that the punishment can be cumulated.
3

4 The second problem deals with gathering evidence such as bank records that may be spread out
5 in several jurisdictions. Opening bank records in a foreign country poses problems if it follows a strict
6 bank secrecy law. Even though there is mutual legal assistance, on a practical level, it is not an easy task
7 to realize. This is because the requested country may be reluctant or unwilling to meet the request. At
8 this point, there are two reasons why foreign governments may have an uncooperative stance; the first
9 is the inequality of views between countries in their respective laws. Foreign governments sometimes
10 do not see the request for assistance as valid in their legal context because they do not know the exact
11 fact that the request is legitimate and the relevant differences that exist between the requested country's
12 legal system and the requester's. The foreign governments can also see foreign demand as a direct threat
13 to their sovereignty (Hinterseer, 2002; Zolkafilil, Omar, & Syed Mustapha Nazri, 2019). Moreover, law
14 enforcement is part of the sovereign right of the state for violations that occur in its territory.
15

16 Finally, the problem focuses on recovering the proceeds of crime. Finding, freezing, forfeiting,
17 and confiscating the proceeds of crime as well as instrumentalities are necessary steps. In seeking the
18 existence of the criminal proceeds, a 'paper trail' is essential for a successful prosecution. Wilke noted
19 that 'the use of stored transaction data for backtracking functions as evidence in the subsequent
20 proceedings' (Wilke, 2008). However, this method is not easy to realize because the launderer tries to
21 obscure the audit trail by converting it from dirty money into a legitimate income, and then using it to
22 buy a property or invest in business industries.
23
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25

26 **APPLYING EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION: THE NEED FOR A 'PHYSICAL** 27 **PRESENCE'**

28 The limitation of territorial jurisdiction has resulted in an ineffective handling of money
29 laundering offence so that it should be able to use a new wider method. The territorial jurisdiction is
30 indeed very beneficial to deal with crimes, but the problem is how to ideally implement territorial
31 jurisdiction against money laundering as a cross-border crime. An idea to apply jurisdiction that is wider
32 than just a strict on the theory of territorial jurisdiction in one country can be an alternative, namely
33 extraterritorial jurisdiction and the new long-arm jurisdiction.
34

35 Money laundering crimes has involved cross-border state jurisdiction both in committing crimes
36 and their effects. To cope with the issue of state jurisdiction, each country can expand its territorial
37 jurisdiction beyond its borders. This then led to the idea of a country to use extraterritorial jurisdiction
38 to expand its domestic law that are carried out outside the country's territory. The term extraterritorial
39 has a very significant meaning to the development of the prevention of crime. It is possible that
40 transnational money laundering can be dealt with transnationally as well. Extraterritorial jurisdiction
41 explains that a state can exercises its jurisdiction without 'real' and 'substantial' territorial links (Durrieu,
42 2013; Foley, 2017).
43

44 One of the highlights in implementing this principle is as applied in the United States of America
45 to its money laundering law. The States has actively applied extraterritorial jurisdiction through the anti-
46 money laundering regime. Section 1956(f) of the 1986 Money Laundering Control Act (MLCA)
47 regulates in detail the extraterritoriality of the US Anti-Money Laundering laws. Extraterritorial
48 jurisdiction in this provision can be applied to actions of US citizen abroad and non-US citizen who
49 conduct within or partly within the United States. US citizens and companies, along with their foreign
50 subsidiaries, are included in the former. The latter consists of foreign nationals and entities placed within
51 the boundaries of the United States. Section 1956 (f) explains that extraterritorial jurisdiction over
52 behavior prohibited by this section if the behavior is carried out by US citizens or, in the case of non-
53 US citizens, the behavior occurs in part in the United States and transactions or series of transactions
54 involving funds or monetary instruments with a value exceeding \$10,000 (Hagler, 2004).
55

56 Extraterritoriality of the U.S. money-laundering law exemplified in the case of Banco De
57 Occidente which is a Colombian bank that has no connection or presence in the United States. The U.S.
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1
2 government alleged that the Banco de Occidente branch of Panama had received a transfer of drug
3 money from another bank located in the United States, and then sent transfers overseas. Based on these
4 allegations, the U.S. persuaded the relevant authorities in West Germany, Canada, and Switzerland to
5 combine them in the freezing of the Banco de Occidente assets, which amounted to around \$80 million.
6 Frozen assets have no relationship to funds that are tainted by money laundering activities. The United
7 States justified its action on the theory that \$80 million has represented a replacement fund. The seizure
8 of Banco de Occidente funds around the world represents about half of its total assets, and this action
9 immediately forced banks to go bankrupt (Morgan, 1997). Thus, part of the transaction occurred in the
10 territorial jurisdiction of the United States. Therefore, it was reasonable if the Court charged under the
11 U.S. Money Laundering Law as mentioned in Section 1956(f). The essential component of the
12 extraterritoriality principle of the provision is the conduct of non-U.S. citizens occurs at least 'in part'
13 in the United States.
14

15
16 The development of the implementation of extraterritorial jurisdiction in the United States of
17 America experienced a very significant shift. Over the years, the application of extraterritorial jurisdiction
18 has been extended to the criminal conduct occurred outside the United States. In the case of United
19 States v. Stein, the perpetrator who was outside the United States, initiated a transfer of funds from a
20 place within the United States to a place outside the United States. In this case, the Court assumed that
21 a transfer of funds across the United States border was considered to be 'in part in the United States'
22 even if the defendant ordered such transfer without setting foot in the United States (Hagler, 2004). A
23 foreign citizen conducting the illicit transfer of funds whilst being abroad was still liable under the
24 affected country. This is defined in section 1956(f) of the Money Laundering Control Act. Due to the
25 liquidity of the *actus reus* of money laundering, this territorial relationship with the U.S. jurisdiction can
26 be expanded very far. It can be illustrated if illegitimate money is transferred through U.S. banks as part
27 of the cross-border laundering process this transit will be sufficient to give the U.S. criminal jurisdiction
28 over the entire washing process, so that every foreign bank involved in this process shall thus be subject
29 to the criminal jurisdiction of the United States (Shams, 2004).
30

31
32 The case is reflected in the argument by Hagler that the defendant does not need to have 'a
33 physical presence' within the U.S. borders at the time the offense was committed (Hagler, 2004; Tiwari,
34 Gepp, & Kumar, 2020). Thus, it is possible to convict someone under Section 1956(f) of the Money
35 Laundering Control Act if the illicit funds were transferred to or from the United States even though the
36 perpetrator is being abroad. Observing the characteristics of this case, it is apparent that the court
37 interpreted the extraterritorial criminal jurisdiction very broadly. With such a complex form of crime,
38 extraterritorial alone is not enough to overcome it, a broader policy must even be carried out to resolve
39 the problem of money laundering as a transnational crime. From this perspective, there has been a shift
40 of jurisdictional theory over money laundering from extraterritorial jurisdiction to a new theory of
41 criminal jurisdiction that called long-arm jurisdiction. The following section will analyze this
42 development by giving detailed hypothetical cases to create a better understanding of this matter.
43
44

45 **FROM PHYSICAL PRESENCE TO MINIMUM CONTACT: TOWARD LONG-ARM** 46 **JURISDICTION** 47

48 In the previous sections, it was apparent that there had been an inadequacy of territorial as well
49 as extraterritorial jurisdiction in coping with the acts of money laundering. The United States was the
50 only a country that aggressively has responded to the development of money laundering offenses that
51 have a transnational character. Here in this context, the United States founded the extraterritorial
52 jurisdiction in the Money Laundering Control Act of 1986 particularly in section 1956(f). It regulates
53 the extraterritorial jurisdiction of conduct by a US citizen or a non-US citizen when it occurs in part in
54 the territory of the United States. The legislation requires an 'actual presence' of the crime within the
55 territory of the United States. However, due to the development of international trade and technology,
56 foreign persons or corporations can commit any crime beyond the territory of the United States - a so-
57 called long-arm jurisdiction.
58
59

1
2 The term long-arm jurisdiction refers to the ability of state authorities to prosecute foreigners
3 outside its state boundaries. The case of *International Shoe v. Washington* (Gooch, 1998; Lipshie, 2018)
4 has demonstrated this development. A foreign corporation was exercised by the Washington State Court
5 despite the principle of the place of business occurring outside the forum state. The Supreme Court
6 changed the personal jurisdiction from 'having a physical presence' within the affected country to
7 'having minimum contact'. The Court determined that the leading case on specific jurisdiction, and its
8 descendants, the legal process requires that if a defendant is not present in the forum territory, he [must]
9 have a certain minimum contact with it so that the maintenance of the lawsuit does not offend the
10 traditional notion of fair play and substantial justice (326 U.S. 310, 316, 1945). To satisfy due process,
11 the Court required that 'minimum contact be continuous and systematic'. The Court reasoned that agents
12 acting on behalf of a foreign corporation are still liable in the affected country. The Court also reasoned
13 that a corporation is liable under the country it selects to conduct business with. If there is sufficient
14 contact between the affected country and the foreign defendant, then the Courts have the authority to
15 exercise jurisdiction. In this case, the court applied a two-step test in determining whether the case was
16 liable to its activities. This was done through, at first, analyzing the connections between 'the defendant'
17 and 'the forum state'; and then through determining 'whether the actions of the defendant took place
18 within the authorizing jurisdiction'.

19
20 Furthermore, Section 1956(f) of the Money Laundering Control Act requires that the conduct by
21 the United States or foreign citizen occur in part in the territory of the United States. However, over
22 time, the extraterritorial jurisdiction developed beyond the framework of section 1956(f) of the Act. In
23 its development, the extraterritoriality of the United States money laundering laws may also be applied
24 to 'foreign entities even though these are operating with no subsidiaries or branches within the United
25 States boundaries'. The *Banque of Leu* case was a clear example of the extraterritorial jurisdiction
26 applied by the United States. At that time the Luxembourg bank, *Banque Leu (Luxembourg), S.A.*, filed
27 a guilty plea for money laundering at the United States District Court in San Francisco, California. The
28 bank agreed to lose \$2.3 million to the United States and more than \$1 million to Luxembourg. *Banque*
29 *of Leu* wants to expand the private banking deposit base. As part of its efforts to achieve this goal, the
30 bank hired an account manager who was fluent in Spanish who has contact with South America. After
31 that, as an effort, the new manager opened a variety of accounts by Colombia. Two of these accounts
32 are the basis of criminal charges, both of which are related to US dollar accounts and opened in
33 Luxembourg with cash. As a result, more than \$2.3 million was deposited into the account during the
34 one year. Deposits made are in the form of cashier checks sent from bank customers in Colombia to
35 Luxembourg for deposits. The bank, in turn, sent the cashier's check to his correspondent bank in New
36 York City for collection. Whereas the U.S. correspondent bank then sent the cashier's check to the Bank
37 of America check processing center, located in Northern California, where they were finally paid
38 (Munroe, 1995; Teichmann & Falker, 2020).

39
40 In the above case, the criminal act has been committed outside the United States. However, the
41 United States court claimed a criminal jurisdiction over this case by arguing that the *Banque of Leu* used
42 U.S. dollars as a negotiable instrument. As a consequence, the court assumed that the bank is susceptible
43 to the U.S. criminal jurisdiction. The legal justification of the court, as one author commented that 'the
44 used of U.S. dollar notes by banks as a negotiable instrument deems them susceptible to U.S. criminal
45 jurisdiction in money laundering offence' (Munroe, 1995).

46
47 Over time, through the International Money Laundering Abatement and Anti-Terrorist Financing
48 Act of 2001 (The USA PATRIOT ACT) (Seay, 2007), the Court established a general personal
49 jurisdiction over foreign banks that maintain bank accounts at United States financial institutions
50 (Cossette, 2003; D'Angelo, 2017). Congress assumed that a long-arm authority over foreign banks,
51 which has correspondent accounts in the United States, because the significance of such accounts was
52 sufficient to invoke personal jurisdiction within the bounds of the Constitution (Cossette, 2003; Nash,
53 2019). The notion is that 'the foreign bank will then make itself whole by debiting the customer's foreign
54 account, letting the customer take his objections to the court in the United States that authorized the
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1 seizure' (Cassella, 2002). An example of this matter is found in the USA PATRIOT ACT 2001, title 18,
2 section 981(k), which states that 'if criminal proceeds are deposited in a foreign account in a foreign
3 bank, and that bank has a correspondent U.S. based account at a U.S. bank, the U.S. government can
4 seize an amount of money equal to the criminal proceeds from the correspondent account'.
5

6 The above circumstances showed us the dynamic aspect of criminal jurisdiction in dealing with
7 cross-border money laundering offenses. Criminal jurisdiction has shifted from territorial to
8 extraterritorial jurisdiction, and then to a long-arm jurisdiction. These types of jurisdiction allow a state
9 court 'to gain personal jurisdiction over an out-of-state defendant who transacts business within the state,
10 commits a tort within the state, commits a tort outside the state that causes an injury within the state, or
11 owns, uses, or possesses real property within the state' (West's Encyclopedia of American Law, 2008;
12 Al Banna, 2017). This condition was made clear in the case of U.S. v. Stein. In this case, the district
13 Court found that 'a foreign citizen who causes or orders a transfer of proceeds from or to the United
14 States by telephone or other means while abroad is deemed to have acted 'in' the United States for
15 purposes of section 1956(f)' (Hagler, 2004).
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20 CONCLUSION

21 The development of the era marked by globalization has changed many things in aspects of legal
22 issues. This includes in the handling of cross-border money laundering that has influenced the change
23 in the face of the territorial jurisdiction from what was originally relied on the territoriality principle
24 very strictly changed to the extraterritorial and up to the long-arm jurisdiction. The reason for this was
25 that the use of the territoriality principle did not seem to be able to offer solutions to the problem of
26 criminal jurisdiction that involved cross-border money laundering which has more than one state's
27 jurisdictional authority. From this development, it is clear that the dynamic aspects of criminal
28 jurisdiction are being faced in money laundering offenses that have cross-border dimensions.
29

30 Due to the development of technology which followed by the increasingly complicated and
31 sophisticated methods used in conducting cross-border money laundering, the United States of America
32 has formulated the extraterritoriality principle in its statutes and long-arm authority implemented
33 through its judicial interpretations. This condition is a new phenomenon where a country like the United
34 States formulated its extraterritorial jurisdiction in its Statutes explicitly. At this point, the United States
35 does not hand over the interpretation of criminal jurisdiction to the Courts. Other countries may consider
36 the United States' laws and Supreme Court decisions concerning the formulation and implementation of
37 extraterritorial and long-arm jurisdiction in its money laundering laws as benchmark models. However,
38 in formulating and implementing the extraterritorial and long-arm jurisdiction, further inquiries are
39 important being made to ensure that the implementation of this type of criminal jurisdiction is in
40 accordance with, and not contrary to, the long-standing principles of legal systems of the states in
41 question
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Update on your article 'A new criminal jurisdiction to combat cross-border money laundering'

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A new criminal jurisdiction to combat cross-border money laundering

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Abstract

Purpose – The purpose of this study is to analyze the emergence of the changing face of criminal jurisdiction in dealing with cross-border money laundering that develops dynamically due to the development of globalization.

Design/methodology/approach – This research was a doctrinal legal research using conceptual approach concerning the very strict principle of territorial jurisdiction in criminal law. This study also used case approach related to the application of extraterritorial jurisdiction and long-arm jurisdiction in some cross-border money laundering cases. The collection of legal materials was carried out through literature as well as case study and was analyzed qualitatively based on data reduction, presentation and concluding.

Findings – This study revealed that territorial jurisdiction which was originally strictly enforced by state sovereignty over crimes that occurred in its territory then changed widely with multi-territorial perspective. Because of its condition, the state then expands its authority to deal with money laundering as a cross-border crime involving more than one territorial state, namely, by using extraterritorial jurisdiction and then developed into a long-arm jurisdiction trend that allows state authorities to prosecute foreigners outside its state boundaries.

Originality/value – The research finding can be used as one of the alternatives by countries to break the territorial jurisdiction in combating the cross-border money laundering.

Keywords Extraterritorial jurisdiction, Territorial jurisdiction, Cross-border money laundering, %2C Long-arm jurisdiction

Paper type Research paper

Introduction

It is not exaggeration to argue that the globalization has indeed affected various sectors of human life, including law and economics. Ease of transaction which becomes timeless was the only example of a positive impact that can be received from this phenomenon. Meanwhile, globalization more specifically from a legal context has benefited participants not only in the legal acts but also in the illegal one as well (Ahmed, 2016). The expansion and spread out of crimes into worldwide operations such as money laundering were the bad side of this trend (Amrani, 2017).

Money laundering is a crime that moves dynamically and encounters various important issues in its development. One of the interesting things to deeply analyze is about money laundering jurisdictions due to the internationalization process. This type of crime is committed across the boundaries of multiple jurisdictions in which criminals, proceeds and documentary evidence can easily move from one jurisdiction to another (Rueda, 2001; Mugarura, 2016). By using the development of technology which facilitates the method of transferring illicit funds across borders, criminals use them to make money laundering easier to accomplish and are harder to detect (Sornarajah, 1999; Mikeladze, 2018).



Furthermore, this crime can be characterized as a transnational crime that raises worldwide problems (Bossard, 1990; Brown, 2008; Mueller, 1999; Passas, 2003; Narayan, 2019).

As a transnational or cross-border crime, money laundering concentrates on all actions criminalized by regulations from more than one country (Article 3(1)(b) of The United Nations Convention on Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances). Holmes (2003) said that in the case of transnational money laundering, there must meet one of two conditions. First, the jurisdiction where the illegal results were washed is different from the jurisdiction where the predicate violation occurred. Second, financial transactions that facilitate laundering reach several national jurisdictions. The notion of cross-border transnational crime initially was not a legal concept but merely a criminological (Mueller, 2001; da Silva, 2020), sociological, economic and even political concept (Serano, 2002; Simmons *et al.*, 2018). By looking at the natures of money laundering as one of transnational crimes, the prevention and suppression of this crime more emphasizes on multilateral efforts at an international level (Martin, 1990; Ebikake, 2016).

The criminalization of the money laundering affects particular problems concerning the existing rules and principles of criminal jurisdiction. These problems arise mainly because of the complexity and transnational characters of money laundering that may be committed across the boundaries of multiple jurisdictions (Nguyen, 2020). In such a case, the offenders could be subject to the money laundering laws of several jurisdictions. This in turns may lead to the jurisdictional conflict because two or more sovereign entities that have a right to assert criminal jurisdiction over the same crime. In addition, it may also lead to the difficulty in prosecuting nonresident defendants outside the boundaries of the state (Sulaimani, 2016).

This paper is aimed at analyzing aspects of the limitations of criminal jurisdiction in responding to these conditions. In this context, it will be found that the implementation of money laundering jurisdictions is very difficult to enforce because the natures of such crime involve even more than one related territory in this global era. Hence, the application of this jurisdiction needs to be expanded to deal with money laundering as a cross-border crime. The evolving theory of criminal jurisdiction from a territorial to an extraterritorial and then to a long-arm jurisdiction will be explored and critically analyzed. The adequacy of traditional doctrine of criminal jurisdiction in dealing with cross-border money laundering is examined. A new approach in settling complicated crime situations such as money laundering is also discussed.

Research method

This research was a doctrinal legal research using conceptual approach concerning the very strict principle of territorial jurisdiction in criminal law. This study also used case approach related to the application of extraterritorial jurisdiction and long-arm jurisdiction in some cross-border money laundering cases. The collection of legal materials was carried out through literature as well as case study and was analyzed qualitatively based on data reduction, presentation and concluding.

Limits of territorial jurisdiction to overcome cross-border money laundering

Territorial jurisdiction in dealing with a crime played a very important role, especially to determine where the crime was committed. The term “jurisdiction” encompasses several definitions and possible meanings (Dodson, 2008; Hirst, 2003; Beale, 1923; Hovell, 2018). Malanczuk (1997) points out that at times jurisdiction simply refers to territory, whereas at other times refers to the power exercised by a state over persons, properties or events (Blakesley and Stigall, 2007; Colangelo, 2007). This means that the nature and scope of jurisdiction varied depending on the context in which it is to be applied (Blakesley, 1982; Hildebrandt, 2021). From such a perspective, jurisdiction has different forms that may involve the authority of a state to establish prescriptive, judicial and enforcement

jurisdiction (Colangelo, 2007; Coughlan *et al.*, 2007; Li, 2020). The term “jurisdiction” concerns the legal competence of any state to make, apply and enforce the rules of conduct upon persons, properties, or events (Lowe, 2006; Morris, 2019). As such, Justice Holmes pointed out that jurisdiction was addressed “the right of a state to apply the law to the acts of men” (Borlini, 2008).

The classical theory of jurisdiction stated that one of the rules regarding which court has authorized and which criminal law will be applied. Jurisdiction regulates how a crime can be dealt with so that it can be resolved through appropriate criminal legal instruments as the state’s authority for these crimes. In this context, it became known as national criminal jurisdiction which also includes prescriptive, executive and adjudicative jurisdiction. Driven by the principle of sovereign equality and territorial integrity of states, in general, criminal jurisdiction is facultative rather than mandatory. The exercise of criminal jurisdiction is ultimately a matter for individual states (Nguyen, 2020). On a substantial basis, every state has its right to claim its territorial jurisdiction, giving it the authority to establish jurisdiction over given conduct taking place in its territory (Sornarajah, 1999). Two aspects of territorial jurisdiction include substantive and procedural jurisdiction. The first aspect relates to the power of a state to define any conduct as a crime and to act on the substantive criminal law regarding the conduct. The second refers to the power of a state to investigate, prosecute and try to defend who violates the substantive criminal law. In sum, any state has the power if the state in question has a personal jurisdiction over a particular defendant (Roxstrom and Gibney, 2017)

Territorial jurisdiction is applied when the government has a control over certain geographical locations. So, it is clear that all crimes are local (Sornarajah, 1998) because this relates to the right of a state to apply the law to a prohibited conducts (Borlini, 2008; Fekete, 2008; Blakesley, 1982; Roxstrom and Gibney, 2017). The application of this principle becomes easy if the type of crime is conventional. For combating transnational or cross-border crimes, this basically will be difficult to exercise. This condition, of course, raises some of the complexity of the problems in overcoming the character of cross-border money laundering. The question remains about the adequacy of territorial jurisdiction in resolving money laundering cases. As is the case, George Kris illustrates the complexity of money laundering and the involvement of multiple jurisdiction in the following case:

If the proceeds derived from a drug trafficking operation are physically carried out in country A in which it was obtained and deposited into a financial institution in country B (placement); transfer from the financial institution through various other financial institutions in various countries to another financial institution in country C (layering); and finally paid into a number of corporations in various countries in purported payments of shared transfers (integration); then the investigators/prosecutors in country A would not have much hope in tracing, let alone, confiscating, the proceeds of the drug trafficking without using mutual legal assistance. (Kriz, 1992)

From the above case, three kinds of problems may be identified. The first problem related to punishment of the perpetrator of the predicate offense (s) and money laundering. This crime is indeed the most unique because of its characteristics which can also be called an advanced crime with certain predicate offenses. Money laundering is a process of changing the results obtained from an underlying criminal offense, called a predicate offense, to a property that appears to be legitimate (Sjahdeini, 2007; Teichmann, 2020). The questions may arise in this regard, such as whether money laundering is an autonomous crime or continuation of its predicate offense; whether the author of the predicate offense can be treated as the author of money laundering; and whether the perpetrator of the predicate offense can be convicted as

a subsequent launderer. In answering these questions, different opinions from legal scholars and practitioners are used and divided into two categories.

The first opinion considers that money laundering is the continuation of the primary offense. It argued that money laundering is identical to concealment, in which the author of the primary offense cannot be the author of the laundering. Accordingly, concealing illegal funds is intended merely to avoid being detained. It also assumes that there is no new legally protected interest in the laundering offense except for those that have existed in the primary offense (Pinto and Chevalier, 2006). Another reason for this is that it is not allowed to apply two offenses for a single action because of *ne bis in idem* (Pinto and Chevalier, 2006; Maugeri, 2018). As such, this opinion assumes that as a derivative offense, money laundering remains unpunished. This is because the conduct is considered to be a co-penalized act where the punishment of money laundering is already included in the punishment of the primary offense (Pinto and Chevalier, 2006).

The second opinion considers that there is a real distinction between the primary crime and the laundering offense. As a consequence, contrary to the first opinion, it is possible to punish the laundering as a separate offense and thus is separately punishable. According to this opinion, there are different protected interests between the primary crime and money laundering (Pinto and Chevalier, 2006; AL-Rawashdeh, 2020). Money laundering interests are not only for the administration of justice but also for the national and international economic order. Several countries, as well as international legal instruments, follow this opinion. Switzerland, for example, prosecutes money laundering committed in this country even though the primary crime is perpetrated abroad (Kohler, 1990; Ferwerda and Reuter, 2019). They consider that any person conducts money laundering if criminal proceeds are converted or transferred to conceal its source from unlawful activity. As a consequence, the laundering offense is separated from the predicate crime, thus meaning that the punishment can be cumulated.

The second problem deals with gathering evidence such as bank records that may be spread out in several jurisdictions. Opening bank records in a foreign country poses problems if it follows a strict bank secrecy law. Even though there is mutual legal assistance, on a practical level, it is not an easy task to realize. This is because the requested country may be reluctant or unwilling to meet the request. At this point, there are two reasons why foreign governments may have an uncooperative stance; the first is the inequality of views between countries in their respective laws. Foreign governments sometimes do not see the request for assistance as valid in their legal context because they do not know the exact fact that the request is legitimate and the relevant differences that exist between the requested country's legal system and the requester's. The foreign governments can also see foreign demand as a direct threat to their sovereignty (Hinterseer, 2002; Zolkafil *et al.*, 2019). Moreover, law enforcement is part of the sovereign right of the state for violations that occur in its territory.

Finally, the problem focuses on recovering the proceeds of crime. Finding, freezing, forfeiting and confiscating the proceeds of crime as well as instrumentalities are necessary steps. In seeking the existence of the criminal proceeds, a "paper trail" is essential for a successful prosecution. Wilke noted that "the use of stored transaction data for backtracking functions as evidence in the subsequent proceedings" (Wilke, 2008). However, this method is not easy to realize because the launderer tries to obscure the audit trail by converting it from dirty money into a legitimate income and then using it to buy a property or invest in business industries.

Applying extraterritorial jurisdiction: the need for a “physical presence”

The limitation of territorial jurisdiction has resulted in an ineffective handling of money laundering offence so that it should be able to use a new wider method. The territorial jurisdiction is indeed very beneficial to deal with crimes, but the problem is how to ideally implement territorial jurisdiction against money laundering as a cross-border crime. An idea to apply jurisdiction that is wider than just a strict on the theory of territorial jurisdiction in one country can be an alternative, namely, extraterritorial jurisdiction and the new long-arm jurisdiction.

Money laundering crimes has involved cross-border state jurisdiction both in committing crimes and their effects. To cope with the issue of state jurisdiction, each country can expand its territorial jurisdiction beyond its borders. This then led to the idea of a country to use extraterritorial jurisdiction to expand its domestic law that are carried out outside the country's territory. The term extraterritorial has a very significant meaning to the development of the prevention of crime. It is possible that transnational money laundering can be dealt with transnationally as well. Extraterritorial jurisdiction explains that a state can exercises its jurisdiction without “real” and “substantial” territorial links (Durrieu, 2013; Foley, 2017).

One of the highlights in implementing this principle is as applied in the USA to its money laundering law. The States has actively applied extraterritorial jurisdiction through the anti-money laundering regime. Section 1956(f) of the 1986 Money Laundering Control Act (MLCA) regulates in detail the extraterritoriality of the US Anti-Money Laundering laws. Extraterritorial jurisdiction in this provision can be applied to actions of US citizen abroad and non-US citizen who conduct within or partly within the USA. US citizens and companies, along with their foreign subsidiaries, are included in the former. The latter consists of foreign nationals and entities placed within the boundaries of the USA. Section 1956 (f) explains that extraterritorial jurisdiction over behavior prohibited by this section if the behavior is carried out by US citizens or, in the case of non-US citizens, the behavior occurs in part in the USA and transactions or series of transactions involving funds or monetary instruments with a value exceeding \$10,000 (Hagler, 2004).

Extraterritoriality of the US money-laundering law exemplified in the case of Banco De Occidente which is a Colombian bank that has no connection or presence in the United States. The US government alleged that the Banco de Occidente branch of Panama had received a transfer of drug money from another bank located in the USA and then sent transfers overseas. Based on these allegations, the US persuaded the relevant authorities in West Germany, Canada and Switzerland to combine them in the freezing of the Banco de Occidente assets, which amounted to around \$80 million. Frozen assets have no relationship to funds that are tainted by money laundering activities. The USA justified its action on the theory that \$80m has represented a replacement fund. The seizure of Banco de Occidente funds around the world represents about half of its total assets, and this action immediately forced banks to go bankrupt (Morgan, 1997). Thus, part of the transaction occurred in the territorial jurisdiction of the United States. Therefore, it was reasonable if the Court charged under the US Money Laundering Law as mentioned in Section 1956(f). The essential component of the extraterritoriality principle of the provision is the conduct of non-US citizens occurs at least “in part” in the USA.

The development of the implementation of extraterritorial jurisdiction in the USA experienced a very significant shift. Over the years, the application of exterritorial jurisdiction has been extended to the criminal conduct occurred outside the USA. In the case of USA v. Stein, the perpetrator who was outside the USA, initiated a transfer of funds from a place within the USA to a place outside the USA. In this case, the Court assumed that a

transfer of funds across the USA border was considered to be “in part in the USA” even if the defendant ordered such transfer without setting foot in the USA (Hagler, 2004). A foreign citizen conducting the illicit transfer of funds whilst being abroad was still liable under the affected country. This is defined in section 1956(f) of the MLCA. Due to the liquidity of the *actus reus* of money laundering, this territorial relationship with the US jurisdiction can be expanded very far. It can be illustrated if illegitimate money is transferred through US banks as part of the cross-border laundering process this transit will be sufficient to give the US criminal jurisdiction over the entire washing process, so that every foreign bank involved in this process shall thus be subject to the criminal jurisdiction of the USA (Shams, 2004).

The case is reflected in the argument by Hagler that the defendant does not need to have “a physical presence” within the US borders at the time the offense was committed (Hagler, 2004; Tiwari *et al.*, 2020). Thus, it is possible to convict someone under Section 1956(f) of the MLCA if the illicit funds were transferred to or from the USA even though the perpetrator is being abroad. Observing the characteristics of this case, it is apparent that the court interpreted the extraterritorial criminal jurisdiction very broadly. With such a complex form of crime, extraterritorial alone is not enough to overcome it, a broader policy must even be carried out to resolve the problem of money laundering as a transnational crime. From this perspective, there has been a shift of jurisdictional theory over money laundering from extraterritorial jurisdiction to a new theory of criminal jurisdiction that called long-arm jurisdiction. The following section will analyze this development by giving detailed hypothetical cases to create a better understanding of this matter.

From physical presence to minimum contact: toward long-arm jurisdiction

In the previous sections, it was apparent that there had been an inadequacy of territorial as well as extraterritorial jurisdiction in coping with the acts of money laundering. The USA was the only a country that aggressively has responded to the development of money laundering offenses that have a transnational character. Here, in this context, the USA founded the extraterritorial jurisdiction in the MLCA of 1986 particularly in section 1956(f). It regulates the extraterritorial jurisdiction of conduct by a US citizen or a non-US citizen when it occurs in part in the territory of the USA. The legislation requires an “actual presence” of the crime within the territory of the USA. However, due to the development of international trade and technology, foreign persons or corporations can commit any crime beyond the territory of the USA – a so-called long-arm jurisdiction.

The term long-arm jurisdiction refers to the ability of state authorities to prosecute foreigners outside its state boundaries. The case of *International Shoe v. Washington* (Gooch, 1998; Lipshie, 2018) has demonstrated this development. A foreign corporation was exercised by the Washington State Court despite the principle of the place of business occurring outside the forum state. The Supreme Court changed the personal jurisdiction from “having a physical presence” within the affected country to “having minimum contact.” The Court determined that the leading case on specific jurisdiction, and its descendants, the legal process requires that if a defendant is not present in the forum territory, he [must] have a certain minimum contact with it so that the maintenance of the lawsuit does not offend the traditional notion of fair play and substantial justice (326 US 310, 316, 1945). To satisfy due process, the Court required that “minimum contact be continuous and systematic.” The Court reasoned that agents acting on behalf of a foreign corporation are still liable in the affected country. The Court also reasoned that a corporation is liable under the country it selects to conduct business with. If there is sufficient contact between the affected country and the foreign defendant, then the Courts have the authority to

exercise jurisdiction. In this case, the court applied a two-step test in determining whether the case was liable to its activities. This was done through, at first, analyzing the connections between “the defendant” and “the forum state”; and then through determining “whether the actions of the defendant took place within the authorizing jurisdiction.”

Furthermore, Section 1956(f) of the MLCA requires that the conduct by the USA or foreign citizen occur in part in the territory of the USA. However, over time, the extraterritorial jurisdiction developed beyond the framework of section 1956(f) of the Act. In its development, the extraterritoriality of the USA money laundering laws may also be applied to “foreign entities even though these are operating with no subsidiaries or branches within the USA boundaries.” The Banque of Leu case was a clear example of the extraterritorial jurisdiction applied by the USA. At that time the Luxembourg bank, Banque Leu (Luxembourg), S.A., filed a guilty plea for money laundering at the USA District Court in San Francisco, CA. The bank agreed to lose \$2.3m to the USA and more than \$1m to Luxembourg. Banque of Leu wants to expand the private banking deposit base. As part of its efforts to achieve this goal, the bank hired an account manager who was fluent in Spanish who has contact with South America. After that, as an effort, the new manager opened a variety of accounts by Colombia. Two of these accounts are the basis of criminal charges, both of which are related to US dollar accounts and opened in Luxembourg with cash. As a result, more than \$2.3m was deposited into the account during the one year. Deposits made are in the form of cashier checks sent from bank customers in Colombia to Luxembourg for deposits. The bank, in turn, sent the cashier’s check to his correspondent bank in New York City for collection. Whereas the US correspondent bank then sent the cashier’s check to the Bank of America check processing center, located in Northern California, where they were finally paid (Munroe, 1995; Teichmann and Falker, 2020).

In the above case, the criminal act has been committed outside the USA. However, the USA court claimed a criminal jurisdiction over this case by arguing that the Banque of Leu used US dollars as a negotiable instrument. As a consequence, the court assumed that the bank is susceptible to the US criminal jurisdiction. The legal justification of the court, as one author commented that “the used of US dollar notes by banks as a negotiable instrument deems them susceptible to US criminal jurisdiction in money laundering offence” (Munroe, 1995).

Over time, through the International Money Laundering Abatement and Anti-Terrorist Financing Act of 2001 (The USA PATRIOT ACT) (Seay, 2007), the Court established a general personal jurisdiction over foreign banks that maintain bank accounts at USA financial institutions (Cossette, 2003; D’Angelo, 2017). Congress assumed that a long-arm authority over foreign banks, which has correspondent accounts in the USA, because the significance of such accounts was sufficient to invoke personal jurisdiction within the bounds of the Constitution (Cossette, 2003; Nash, 2019). The notion is that “the foreign bank will then make itself whole by debiting the customer’s foreign account, letting the customer take his objections to the court in the USA that authorized the seizure” (Cassella, 2002). An example of this matter is found in the USA PATRIOT ACT 2001, title 18, section 981(k), which states that “if criminal proceeds are deposited in a foreign account in a foreign bank, and that bank has a correspondent US based account at a US bank, the US government can seize an amount of money equal to the criminal proceeds from the correspondent account.”

The above circumstances showed us the dynamic aspect of criminal jurisdiction in dealing with cross-border money laundering offenses. Criminal jurisdiction has shifted from territorial to extraterritorial jurisdiction and then to a long-arm jurisdiction. These types of jurisdiction allow a state court “to gain personal jurisdiction over an out-of-state defendant who transacts business within the state, commits a tort within the state, commits a tort

outside the state that causes an injury within the state, or owns, uses, or possesses real property within the state” (Jurisdiction, 2008; Al Banna, 2017). This condition was made clear in the case of *USA v. Stein*. In this case, the district Court found that “a foreign citizen who causes or orders a transfer of proceeds from or to the USA by telephone or other means while abroad is deemed to have acted ‘in’ the USA for purposes of section 1956(f)” (Hagler, 2004).

Conclusion

The development of the era marked by globalization has changed many things in aspects of legal issues. This includes in the handling of cross-border money laundering that has influenced the change in the face of the territorial jurisdiction from what was originally relied on the territoriality principle very strictly changed to the extraterritorial and up to the long-arm jurisdiction. The reason for this was that the use of the territoriality principle did not seem to be able to offer solutions to the problem of criminal jurisdiction that involved cross-border money laundering which has more than one state’s jurisdictional authority. From this development, it is clear that the dynamic aspects of criminal jurisdiction are being faced in money laundering offenses that have cross-border dimensions.

Due to the development of technology which followed by the increasingly complicated and sophisticated methods used in conducting cross-border money laundering, the USA has formulated the extraterritoriality principle in its statutes and long-arm authority implemented through its judicial interpretations. This condition is a new phenomenon where a country like the USA formulated its extraterritorial jurisdiction in its Statutes explicitly. At this point, the USA does not hand over the interpretation of criminal jurisdiction to the Courts. Other countries may consider the US laws and Supreme Court decisions concerning the formulation and implementation of extraterritorial and long-arm jurisdiction in its money laundering laws as benchmark models. However, in formulating and implementing the extraterritorial and long-arm jurisdiction, further inquiries are important being made to ensure that the implementation of this type of criminal jurisdiction is in accordance with, and not contrary to, the long-standing principles of legal systems of the states in question.

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