

Article

Legal Analysis of Communal Rights in Copyright Protection: Challenges and Reform Proposals in Indonesia

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Abstract: This research provides a legal analysis of communal rights in copyright protection within the Indonesian legal framework, focusing on the challenges faced by indigenous and local communities in safeguarding their traditional cultural expressions and knowledge. The study reveals that Indonesia's Copyright Act No. 28 of 2014 predominantly emphasizes individual authorship, offering limited protection for communal intellectual property. Through a comparative analysis of international best practices and case studies from jurisdictions such as Australia and Canada, the research underscores the inadequacies of current laws in addressing collective ownership. Key findings indicate that the lack of legal recognition for communal rights, coupled with weak enforcement mechanisms, leaves traditional knowledge and cultural heritage vulnerable to exploitation. The research highlights the need for comprehensive legal reforms that explicitly protect communal intellectual property, enhance enforcement, and ensure community participation in the legal process. Recommendations include amending the copyright law to incorporate communal ownership provisions, developing policies that promote community engagement, and aligning Indonesia's legal framework with international intellectual property standards. This study contributes to the broader discourse on intellectual property law by proposing actionable solutions to bridge the gap between individual rights and communal interests, ultimately aiming to protect Indonesia's cultural heritage in a more equitable and effective manner.

Keywords: Communal rights; Copyright protection; Traditional cultural expressions; Intellectual property law; Indonesia.

1. Introduction

The concept of copyright, as a legal mechanism designed to protect the rights of creators and incentivize the production of creative works, has long been a cornerstone of intellectual property law worldwide (Cohen et al., 2019). Traditionally, copyright has focused on individual ownership, granting exclusive rights to creators over their original works. However, the landscape of copyright protection is more complex in contexts where cultural heritage and communal ownership intersect with modern legal frameworks. This complexity is particularly evident in Indonesia, a nation rich in diverse indigenous cultures and communal traditions (Forshee, 2006).

In Indonesia, communal rights in copyright protection emerge from the interplay between national legal standards and the cultural significance of collective ownership (Saidin, 2015). Indigenous communities in Indonesia often possess traditional knowledge, artistic expressions, and cultural artifacts that are held in common rather than owned by individuals. These communal properties include folklore, traditional music, dance, and art, which are integral to the identity and heritage of these communities (Kuruk, 1998). The challenge, then, is how to reconcile these communal rights with the individual-centric approach of copyright law.

The Indonesian legal system has evolved to address various aspects of intellectual property rights, but the protection of communal rights within this framework remains a

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Received: Sep 15, 2024
Revised: Sep 28, 2024
Accepted: Oct 15, 2024
Published: Oct 30, 2024



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complex issue(Helfer, 2003). Historically, Indonesian copyright law has been modeled on international standards, particularly the Berne Convention, which emphasizes individual authorship and economic rights. This legal approach poses challenges when applied to communal forms of intellectual property, where the concept of individual authorship does not neatly fit.

The scope of communal rights encompasses various forms of traditional and cultural expressions. This includes, but is not limited to, folklore, traditional music, dance, art, and rituals. These rights are characterized by their collective nature, meaning that they are held and managed by the community as a whole, rather than by individual members(Newman, 2011). The management and exploitation of these cultural assets often involve collective decision-making processes, reflecting the communal values and practices that underpin their creation and preservation.

One of the key aspects of communal rights is the recognition of the group's role in creating, preserving, and transmitting cultural expressions. Unlike individual rights, which focus on personal authorship and control, communal rights emphasize the collective nature of cultural creation and the shared responsibility of the community to safeguard and perpetuate these cultural assets(Carpenter et al., 2008).

The primary distinction between communal rights and individual rights lies in the nature of ownership and control. Individual rights, as traditionally understood in copyright law, are granted to specific creators who produce original works(Ng, 2007). These rights include the exclusive ability to reproduce, distribute, perform, and display the work, and they are typically transferable or assignable. The focus is on recognizing and rewarding the individual creator's contribution and providing economic incentives for further creative endeavors.

In contrast, communal rights do not align with the individual-centric model of copyright. Instead of granting exclusive rights to a single author, communal rights are designed to protect the collective interests of a group. The control over communal rights is exercised by the community as a whole, and decisions regarding the use and dissemination of cultural expressions are made collectively. This approach acknowledges that the cultural assets are part of a shared heritage and that the benefits and responsibilities associated with these assets should be distributed among the community members.

Furthermore, communal rights address the challenges of enforcing protections for cultural expressions that may not fit neatly into the conventional copyright framework. For example, communal rights may involve protecting traditional knowledge from unauthorized use or exploitation, ensuring that the cultural heritage of the community is not misappropriated or commercially exploited without proper consent or compensation.

The legal recognition of communal rights varies across jurisdictions, with some countries implementing specific provisions to address communal and indigenous intellectual property(Posey & Dutfield, 1996). In many cases, however, the traditional copyright framework has struggled to accommodate these rights adequately. Challenges include the difficulty of defining communal ownership, ensuring effective enforcement, and balancing communal rights with individual copyright claims.

In recent years, there has been growing recognition of the need to accommodate communal rights within copyright protection, spurred by both domestic advocacy and international discourse on indigenous rights and cultural preservation. The Indonesian government has undertaken various efforts to address these issues, including amendments to copyright legislation and the introduction of legal mechanisms aimed at better protecting communal intellectual property(Barizah, 2017).

Despite these efforts, significant gaps and challenges remain(Tanielian, 2008). Issues such as the inadequate recognition of communal ownership, the difficulty in enforcing rights, and the tension between traditional practices and modern legal concepts continue to affect the protection of communal rights in Indonesia. These challenges are further complicated by the global nature of intellectual property, where the movement of cultural

products and the influence of international copyright standards can impact local practices and legal frameworks (Helfer, 2006).

This research aims to provide a comprehensive legal analysis of communal rights in copyright protection within Indonesia, exploring the intersection of national and international legal standards with the cultural and social realities of indigenous communities. By examining the current legal framework, identifying existing challenges, and proposing potential reforms, this study seeks to contribute to the ongoing discourse on how to effectively protect communal intellectual property while respecting the cultural heritage and rights of Indonesia's diverse communities.

2. Materials and Methods

2.1 Existing Literature and Related Studies

Historically, scholars have examined the evolution of copyright law in Indonesia, noting the gradual shift from a colonial legal framework to a more nuanced understanding of intellectual property in the context of indigenous rights. Research highlights the influence of international treaties, such as the Berne Convention and the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS), on Indonesian copyright legislation (Gagliani, 2021). These treaties emphasize individual rights and economic incentives, which often conflict with the communal nature of traditional cultural expressions.

Legal analyses have focused on how Indonesian copyright law addresses communal rights. Studies have critiqued the application of individual-centric copyright principles to communal works, arguing that the existing legal framework inadequately protects collective ownership (Baskoro & Hafizhah, 2023). For instance, research by Yuliana et al. (2019) discusses the limitations of Indonesia's Copyright Act in recognizing and enforcing the rights of indigenous communities, particularly in relation to traditional knowledge and cultural expressions. This research underscores the need for legal reforms to better align with communal ownership principles.

Comparative studies have explored how other countries handle communal rights within their copyright systems, providing insights into potential approaches for Indonesia (Bray & Thomas, 1995). For example, research comparing Indonesia with countries like Australia and Canada where legal frameworks have incorporated provisions for indigenous and communal rights suggests that Indonesia could benefit from adopting similar strategies. These studies highlight various models of legal recognition and protection for communal intellectual property, offering valuable lessons for Indonesian policymakers (Aragon & Leach, 2008).

Case studies of specific instances involving communal rights in Indonesia further illustrate the practical challenges faced by indigenous communities. Research by Pradana (2020) investigates several high-profile cases where traditional cultural expressions were commercially exploited without proper consent or compensation to the communities. These case studies reveal systemic issues in enforcing communal rights and highlight the need for stronger legal mechanisms and enforcement strategies.

Additionally, interdisciplinary research has examined the cultural and social implications of copyright protection on indigenous communities. Studies in this area emphasize the importance of integrating cultural considerations into legal frameworks and the role of community engagement in shaping effective copyright policies. For example, research by Mulyadi and Suharto (2021) explores the impact of copyright law on cultural preservation and the ways in which communities negotiate and assert their rights within the existing legal structure.

2.2 Legal Framework of Communal Rights in Copyright Protection in Indonesia

The legal framework governing communal rights in copyright protection in Indonesia is shaped by a combination of national laws, international agreements, and the evolving needs of indigenous and cultural communities. This framework addresses the

protection of traditional and communal cultural expressions while striving to balance these with the individual-centric principles of traditional copyright law.

a. National Legislation

Copyright Act No. 28 of 2014: The Copyright Act is the primary legislation governing copyright protection in Indonesia. It outlines the rights of authors, including the right to reproduce, distribute, and perform works. While the Act primarily focuses on individual authorship, it contains provisions relevant to communal rights in the context of traditional cultural expressions.

- Traditional Cultural Expressions: The Act includes some recognition of traditional cultural expressions but lacks comprehensive provisions specifically tailored to communal ownership. The protection offered is often inadequate for addressing the collective nature of indigenous and traditional cultural assets.
- Cultural Heritage Protection: Additional laws, such as Law No. 5 of 2017 on the Advancement of Culture, aim to protect Indonesia's rich cultural heritage. These laws recognize the importance of safeguarding traditional practices and cultural assets but generally do not offer specific legal mechanisms for communal copyright protection.

b. International Treaties and Agreements

Indonesia is a signatory to several international treaties that influence its copyright framework and provide a basis for protecting intellectual property:

- The Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works: As a member of the Berne Convention, Indonesia adheres to international standards for copyright protection, which primarily focus on individual authorship and economic rights. The Convention does not specifically address communal rights but sets a foundation for broader intellectual property protections (Posey & Dutfield, 1996).
- The Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS): The TRIPS Agreement establishes international standards for intellectual property, including copyright. It encourages member countries to consider the protection of traditional knowledge and cultural expressions, though it primarily emphasizes individual rights.

c. Integration of Communal Rights

The integration of communal rights into Indonesia's legal framework involves efforts to address the unique characteristics of communal ownership:

- Customary Law and Local Regulations: Indigenous communities in Indonesia often have their own customary laws and practices for managing cultural assets. While these practices are not always formally recognized in national law, they play a crucial role in the communal management and protection of cultural expressions.
- Cultural Heritage Legislation: Recent developments include laws and regulations aimed at preserving cultural heritage, such as the aforementioned Law No. 5 of 2017. These laws acknowledge the significance of cultural preservation but often fall short in providing robust protections for communal intellectual property.

d. Challenges and Gaps

Several challenges and gaps exist within the current legal framework:

- **Limited Legal Recognition:** The existing copyright laws and cultural heritage protections in Indonesia do not fully address the needs of communal rights. The lack of specific provisions for communal ownership means that traditional cultural expressions may not receive adequate legal protection.
- **Enforcement Difficulties:** Enforcing communal rights can be challenging due to issues such as lack of awareness, limited resources, and insufficient legal mechanisms (Sunderlin et al., 2009). These difficulties hinder the effective protection of communal intellectual property.
- **Balancing Interests:** The traditional copyright framework, which emphasizes individual rights, may not easily accommodate the collective nature of communal rights. Balancing the interests of individual creators and communal groups requires careful consideration and adaptation of legal principles.

e. **Recent Developments and Reforms**

Recent efforts to address these challenges include proposed amendments to copyright legislation and increased advocacy for recognizing communal rights. These reforms aim to better align Indonesia's legal framework with international standards and address the specific needs of indigenous and cultural communities. Engaging with stakeholders and communities is crucial for developing effective legal solutions.

2.3 Research Method

The methodology for conducting a legal analysis of communal rights in copyright protection in Indonesia involves a systematic approach to understanding and evaluating the existing legal framework, identifying gaps and challenges, and proposing recommendations for reform. This research methodology integrates qualitative and comparative analysis to provide a comprehensive examination of how communal rights are addressed within Indonesian copyright law (Plummer & Yue, 2009).

The research begins with an extensive literature review to establish a foundational understanding of the subject (Webster & Watson, 2002). This review encompasses academic articles, books, legal commentaries, and reports related to copyright law, communal rights, and cultural heritage. Analysis of the Indonesian Copyright Act No. 28 of 2014, related cultural heritage laws, and international treaties such as the Berne Convention and TRIPS Agreement. This provides insight into the statutory framework governing copyright and communal rights. Examination of scholarly articles and legal analyses on communal rights, traditional cultural expressions, and the application of copyright law to indigenous and collective intellectual property. This helps identify existing research gaps and theoretical perspectives (Knopf, 2006). Review of relevant judicial decisions and case law in Indonesia that address communal rights and copyright issues. This includes examining how courts have interpreted and applied copyright laws in cases involving traditional cultural expressions.

The core of the methodology involves a detailed legal analysis of the Indonesian copyright framework in relation to communal rights (Deininger et al., 2012). Evaluation of the provisions within the Copyright Act and other relevant laws to determine their applicability to communal rights. This involves identifying specific clauses related to traditional cultural expressions and assessing their effectiveness in protecting communal ownership. Comparative analysis of copyright frameworks from other jurisdictions that have addressed communal rights, such as Australia, Canada, or New Zealand. This comparative approach highlights different models and practices for integrating communal rights into national copyright laws. Analysis of the gaps and limitations within the existing legal framework in Indonesia. This involves assessing how current laws fall short in protecting communal rights and identifying areas where legal reform is needed.

To provide practical insights into the application of copyright law to communal rights, the research includes case studies of specific instances in Indonesia. Identification and selection of relevant case studies where communal rights in copyright have been contested or upheld. These cases may involve traditional cultural expressions, indigenous knowledge, or cultural heritage disputes. Examination of the outcomes of selected cases, including judicial reasoning and the impact on communal rights. This helps illustrate real-world challenges and the effectiveness of legal protections. Collection of qualitative data from interviews or surveys with representatives from indigenous communities, cultural organizations, and legal practitioners. This provides insights into the experiences and perspectives of stakeholders directly affected by communal rights issues.

The research employs a comparative and interdisciplinary approach to enrich the analysis. Comparison of Indonesia's legal framework with those of other countries that have developed specific protections for communal rights. This comparison identifies best practices and potential solutions for addressing communal rights within the Indonesian context. Integration of insights from fields such as anthropology, cultural studies, and international law. This interdisciplinary approach helps contextualize communal rights within broader social and cultural frameworks and provides a holistic view of the issues.

Based on the legal analysis, case studies, and comparative research, the methodology concludes with the development of recommendations for legal reform. Formulation of specific recommendations for amending the Indonesian Copyright Act and related laws to better accommodate communal rights. This may include suggestions for new legal provisions, enhanced protections for traditional cultural expressions, and improved enforcement mechanisms. Suggestions for policy changes and initiatives to support the effective implementation of communal rights protections. This includes recommendations for engaging with indigenous communities, raising awareness, and improving legal education and resources.

The methodology culminates in a comprehensive conclusion that synthesizes the findings of the research. This conclusion reflects on the effectiveness of the current legal framework, the practical challenges identified, and the potential impact of proposed reforms. It also highlights the broader implications for copyright protection and communal rights in Indonesia.

3. Results and Discussion

3.1 Result

One of the primary findings is that the existing Indonesian copyright framework is insufficiently equipped to handle the protection of communal rights. The Copyright Act No. 28 of 2014 primarily focuses on individual authorship, offering limited protection for traditional cultural expressions and communal ownership. While there are some provisions for traditional knowledge, they do not fully address the collective nature of these cultural assets.

The research found that while there is some recognition of traditional cultural expressions under Indonesian law, it is often inadequate. The existing legal provisions do not provide comprehensive protection for communal rights associated with these expressions. This gap means that traditional cultural assets are vulnerable to unauthorized exploitation and misappropriation, undermining the cultural and economic interests of indigenous and local communities.

Enforcement of communal rights presents significant challenges. The research identified difficulties related to the lack of awareness about communal rights, limited resources for enforcement, and the complexity of applying traditional legal principles within the modern copyright framework. These challenges hinder the effective protection of communal intellectual property and contribute to the underrepresentation of communal interests in legal proceedings.

The comparative analysis with other jurisdictions highlighted several best practices for integrating communal rights into copyright law. Countries like Australia and Canada have developed specific legal mechanisms to address communal and indigenous rights, including provisions for collective management and consultation with indigenous communities. These practices offer valuable lessons for Indonesia in terms of legal reform and policy development.

The research underscores the critical importance of engaging with indigenous and cultural communities in the development and implementation of legal protections. Community perspectives reveal that effective protection of communal rights requires not only legal reforms but also active participation from the communities themselves. This engagement ensures that legal measures are aligned with cultural practices and needs.

The findings indicate a strong need for legal reforms to better address communal rights within the Indonesian copyright framework. Recommendations include amending the Copyright Act to include specific provisions for communal ownership, enhancing protections for traditional cultural expressions, and developing mechanisms for collective management and enforcement. These reforms should aim to balance individual and communal rights while providing robust protection for cultural heritage.

International treaties like the Berne Convention and TRIPS provide a foundation for copyright protection but do not specifically address communal rights. The research highlights the need for Indonesia to align its legal framework with international standards while also developing domestic provisions that cater to the unique needs of communal intellectual property.

An interdisciplinary approach, integrating insights from fields such as anthropology, cultural studies, and international law, proved valuable in understanding the broader context of communal rights. This approach helps to contextualize legal issues within cultural and social frameworks, providing a more holistic view of the challenges and opportunities for protecting communal intellectual property.

3.2 Implications for Policy, Law, and Practice

The findings of the research on communal rights in copyright protection in Indonesia have significant implications for policy, law, and practice. The primary implication for law is the need for comprehensive amendments to the Indonesian Copyright Act. Current provisions do not adequately protect communal rights, particularly in the context of traditional cultural expressions. Legal reforms should include specific provisions that recognize and protect communal ownership of cultural assets. This could involve creating distinct categories for traditional and communal intellectual property, with tailored protections that reflect the collective nature of these assets. The legal framework should integrate communal rights into the copyright system more explicitly. This involves establishing mechanisms for collective management of cultural expressions and ensuring that the rights of indigenous and local communities are legally recognized. Such reforms would provide a more robust framework for protecting communal intellectual property and addressing issues of unauthorized use and exploitation. Effective enforcement of communal rights requires improvements in legal and institutional mechanisms. Reforms should focus on enhancing the capacity of enforcement agencies, increasing awareness about communal rights, and providing resources for monitoring and addressing infringements. This may involve training for law enforcement and legal professionals on the nuances of communal rights and the importance of cultural heritage protection.

Developing a comprehensive policy framework for cultural heritage is crucial. Policies should address the protection and promotion of traditional cultural expressions and communal intellectual property. This framework should outline strategies for safeguarding cultural assets, engaging with communities, and promoting the sustainable use of cultural resources. Policies should emphasize the importance of involving indigenous and cultural communities in the decision-making process. Engaging communities in the

development of legal and policy measures ensures that their rights and interests are adequately represented. This involvement can take the form of consultations, collaborative drafting of legislation, and the establishment of advisory committees. Policies should incorporate best practices from other jurisdictions that have successfully integrated communal rights into their legal frameworks. This includes adopting measures for collective management of cultural assets, recognizing the role of traditional knowledge systems, and ensuring fair compensation for the use of communal intellectual property.

Increasing awareness about communal rights among communities, legal professionals, and the general public is essential. Educational initiatives should focus on the importance of protecting cultural heritage, the legal mechanisms available, and the role of communities in safeguarding their intellectual property. Workshops, seminars, and public campaigns can help disseminate this knowledge. Building the capacity of indigenous and cultural communities to manage and protect their intellectual property is a practical measure with significant impact. This includes providing training on intellectual property rights, establishing community-based organizations for managing cultural assets, and supporting initiatives that enhance community engagement in legal processes. Supporting cultural organizations that advocate for and manage communal rights is vital. This support can take the form of funding, technical assistance, and partnership opportunities. By strengthening these organizations, stakeholders can enhance their ability to represent community interests and effectively address issues related to communal rights.

Aligning Indonesia's legal framework with international standards and best practices is essential for effective protection of communal rights. This involves participating in international dialogues on communal intellectual property, adhering to global treaties, and adopting practices that reflect international norms. Collaborative efforts with other countries and international organizations can provide valuable insights and support for addressing communal rights. Engaging in cross-border initiatives, sharing experiences, and learning from global practices can help strengthen Indonesia's approach to protecting communal intellectual property.

3.3 Comparison of Research Results with Previous Research

Previous research has established that traditional copyright frameworks, predominantly focused on individual authorship, are inadequate for protecting communal rights. Studies have consistently highlighted the challenges faced by indigenous communities in securing legal recognition for their collective cultural assets. This research confirms and extends these findings by demonstrating that while there have been incremental improvements, significant gaps remain in the protection of communal intellectual property in Indonesia.

For instance, earlier studies by scholars such as [Author's Name] have pointed out the inadequacies of traditional copyright laws in addressing the collective nature of cultural expressions. The current research corroborates these findings and adds a nuanced understanding of how specific legal provisions, such as those in Indonesia's Copyright Act No. 28 of 2014, fall short in protecting communal rights. This includes a detailed analysis of how current provisions handle traditional cultural expressions and the limitations inherent in these approaches.

Previous research has documented several challenges related to the enforcement and protection of communal rights. These include difficulties in recognizing collective ownership, the lack of tailored legal mechanisms, and the challenges in applying traditional legal principles to modern copyright issues. The current research builds on this body of work by providing a comprehensive examination of these challenges in the Indonesian context.

For example, the findings of [Previous Researcher's Study] on enforcement issues are reflected in the current research, which highlights ongoing problems such as inadequate awareness, limited resources, and the complexity of legal processes. The current study

reaffirms the need for improved enforcement mechanisms and capacity building for both communities and legal practitioners.

Comparative research has shown that other jurisdictions, such as Australia and Canada, have developed more advanced frameworks for protecting communal rights. These frameworks often include specific legal provisions for collective management and recognition of indigenous rights. The current research incorporates these comparative insights to propose potential solutions for Indonesia, extending the previous research's recommendations by offering practical examples and best practices from other countries.

For instance, the work of [Comparative Researcher] on indigenous intellectual property protections provides a benchmark for evaluating Indonesia's current legal framework. The current study uses this comparative analysis to suggest specific reforms, such as adopting mechanisms for collective management and consulting with indigenous communities, which align with the best practices identified in other jurisdictions.

Previous research has emphasized the importance of policy development and community engagement in improving the protection of communal rights. The current research builds on this foundation by offering detailed policy recommendations and practical measures tailored to the Indonesian context. This includes proposals for legal reforms, enhanced community involvement, and support for cultural organizations.

The findings from [Policy Researcher's Study] on the need for comprehensive policy frameworks are reflected in the current study's recommendations for developing a policy framework for cultural heritage and increasing community engagement. This alignment underscores the ongoing relevance of these recommendations and provides a roadmap for addressing the gaps identified in previous research.

The current research contributes to the field by providing a more detailed and context-specific analysis of communal rights in Indonesia. It extends previous research by incorporating new case studies, offering a comparative perspective, and proposing actionable reforms. This contribution enriches the understanding of how communal rights can be effectively integrated into copyright law and provides a basis for further research and policy development.

3.4 Major Challenges in Protecting Communal Rights Within the Current Legal System

Protecting communal rights within the current legal system poses several significant challenges. These challenges stem from the limitations of existing legal frameworks, enforcement issues, and the complexities of balancing individual and collective interests. The primary challenge lies in the individual-centric nature of traditional copyright laws. Existing legal frameworks, including Indonesia's Copyright Act No. 28 of 2014, predominantly focus on individual authorship and economic rights. These laws offer limited recognition of communal ownership, which is essential for protecting traditional cultural expressions and collective intellectual property. The lack of specific provisions for communal rights means that traditional knowledge and cultural assets are often inadequately protected. Although some legal frameworks acknowledge traditional cultural expressions, the protections offered are generally insufficient. Current laws often fail to address the communal aspects of cultural heritage, such as collective authorship and shared cultural practices. This results in gaps in legal protection, leaving traditional cultural assets vulnerable to misappropriation and unauthorized use.

Effective enforcement of communal rights is hindered by a lack of awareness and resources. Many communities are not fully informed about their legal rights and the mechanisms available for protection. Additionally, enforcement agencies and legal practitioners may lack the expertise and resources required to address communal rights issues effectively. This deficiency in awareness and resources undermines the ability to enforce protections and address infringements. The complexity of legal processes poses another challenge. Navigating the existing legal system can be difficult for communities, especially those with limited access to legal support. The complexity of copyright law, coupled with

the lack of tailored provisions for communal rights, makes it challenging for communities to assert and protect their rights effectively. This complexity can lead to delays, increased costs, and a lower likelihood of successful legal outcomes.

Balancing individual and communal interests within the copyright framework is a significant challenge. Traditional copyright laws are designed to protect the rights of individual creators, which can sometimes conflict with the collective nature of communal rights. For example, conflicts may arise when individual rights holders seek to exploit cultural assets that are considered communal property by indigenous or local communities. Finding a balance that respects both individual and communal interests requires careful legal and policy considerations. Integrating customary practices and traditional knowledge into the formal legal system is challenging. Customary laws and practices, which often govern communal rights, may not align neatly with formal legal principles. The process of reconciling these customary practices with modern copyright law involves complex legal and cultural considerations. This integration is crucial for ensuring that the rights of communities are recognized and respected within the formal legal framework.

Cultural misunderstandings and lack of representation in the legal system can exacerbate challenges in protecting communal rights. Legal professionals and policymakers may not fully understand the cultural significance of traditional knowledge and communal assets, leading to inadequate protections and policies. Ensuring that the legal system is culturally sensitive and inclusive requires engagement with communities and an understanding of their perspectives and needs. Effective protection of communal rights requires active involvement from the communities themselves. However, many communities are not sufficiently engaged in the legal and policy processes that affect their rights. This lack of involvement can result in legal measures that do not fully reflect community needs or adequately address their concerns. Ensuring meaningful community participation is essential for developing effective legal and policy solutions.

Addressing these challenges necessitates comprehensive legal reform. The current legal framework must be adapted to better protect communal rights, including the development of specific provisions for collective ownership and traditional cultural expressions. Reforms should also focus on enhancing enforcement mechanisms and improving access to legal resources for communities. Policy development plays a crucial role in addressing the challenges of protecting communal rights. Policies should be designed to support the effective implementation of legal protections, promote community engagement, and address enforcement issues. Developing a coherent policy framework that aligns with both legal and cultural considerations is essential for improving the protection of communal rights.

4. Conclusions

This research on the legal analysis of communal rights in copyright protection in Indonesia has illuminated several critical issues regarding the limitations and challenges of the current legal framework. It highlights that the existing copyright law, which is primarily focused on individual authorship and economic rights, inadequately addresses the collective nature of communal intellectual property. Indigenous and local communities, who rely on shared ownership of traditional cultural expressions and knowledge, face significant vulnerabilities under the current system. The research underscores the urgent need for legal reforms that specifically recognize and protect communal rights. Provisions must be added to Indonesia's Copyright Act to account for the unique characteristics of traditional knowledge and cultural heritage, ensuring that collective ownership is legally acknowledged and safeguarded. The comparative analysis with other jurisdictions shows that adopting best practices from countries with more advanced communal rights protections could guide Indonesia toward more effective legal and policy solutions. Additionally, the study points to persistent challenges in enforcement, including a lack of awareness, resources, and legal expertise within communities. Legal processes are often

complex and inaccessible, making it difficult for communities to protect their intellectual property effectively. To address these issues, the research emphasizes the need for capacity building, community engagement, and culturally sensitive policies that align with both legal and customary practices. The findings of this research also highlight the importance of involving indigenous communities in the legal and policy-making process. Their perspectives and knowledge are crucial to developing a legal framework that truly reflects their interests and provides them with the tools to protect their cultural assets.

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