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UPAYA UNI EROPA DALAM MENANGANI MASALAH SAMPAH PLASTIK DI IRLANDIA

Yesika Kezia Celsianayustin¹

Abstract: The issue of plastic waste in Ireland has become a threat to the ocean, especially marine wildlife, which, if it is not fixed, can impact the marine ecosystem of neighboring countries. Therefore, an efforts is needed to solve Ireland's plastic waste issue. The Irish government has taken several initiatives, and also the European Union, as one of the influential international organizations in Europe, initiate the Circular Ocean Project. The Circular Ocean project contain various activities which includes organizing the "Exploration Scenario" Workshop, the Environment Ireland Conference, the Irish Waste Management Conference 2017, and the Irish "Big Beach Clean" coastal clean-up activities which is aims to deal with Ireland plastic waste issue. The European Union's securitization efforts aims to elevate public awareness of plastic waste threat in its member states especially Ireland. Circular Ocean project has been successful and create some project items and goods from the management of marine plastic waste, and also in exchanging knowledge, experiences, and best practices to deal with marine plastic issue in its member states.

Keywords: European Union, Ireland, Plastic Waste, Circular Ocean, Securitization

Pendahuluan

Plastik menjadi salah satu bahan yang sangat populer di masyarakat Eropa dan secara massal mulai digunakan pada tahun 1974. Di kawasan regional Uni Eropa, penggunaan plastik sangat tinggi karena memiliki daya tahan tinggi serta serba guna. Industri plastik di Eropa menjadi salah satu pionir dalam perkembangan dan pertumbuhan ekonomi Uni Eropa. Namun seiring berjalannya waktu, produksi plastik juga menimbulkan masalah berupa limbah plastik yang menumpuk dan dapat menjadi ancaman yang sangat berbahaya. Berdasarkan data Komisi Eropa (European Commission), setiap warga Eropa rata-rata menghasilkan limbah plastik sebanyak 31 kg pertahun. Di antara negara anggota Uni Eropa, Irlandia merupakan negara dengan konsumsi plastik tahunan dengan angka tertinggi. (Eurostat, 2018)

Berdasarkan data dari Komisi Eropa, sekitar 80% sampah laut di Eropa termasuk area Irlandia, adalah plastik dari daratan atau bekas dari kebutuhan sehari-hari manusia seperti botol air dan kemasan plastik non-decomposable lainnya. (European Commission, 2020) Plastik darat tersebut kemudian dibuang ke sungai mengakibatkan

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