

BNN Goes to UPNVJ Campus: Preventing Student Drug Abuse from a Legal Perspective on the 48th Anniversary

Wednesday, 19 November 2025 19:50 WIB



UPNVJ Public Relations – Veteran National Development University Jakarta (UPNVJ) held a Studium Generale in commemoration of its 48th Anniversary on Wednesday, November 19, 2025. Dr. Kaharuddin, S.Ag., M.Hum., a lecturer at the UPNVJ Faculty of Law, was the main speaker with material on the Dangers of Drugs from a Legal Perspective at the BNN Goes to Campus Panel Discussion. The event, attended by hundreds of students, lecturers, and academics, aimed to strengthen the prevention of drug abuse in the university environment.

Dr. Kaharuddin opened his presentation with the definition of narcotics according to Law Number 35 of 2009 concerning Narcotics. He explained that narcotics are substances derived from plants or non-plants, both synthetic and semi-synthetic, that can reduce consciousness, cause hallucinations, and lead to physical and psychological dependence. "Drugs not only damage the body, but also the future of the younger generation. Their impact is comprehensive on personal life, family, and society," he emphasized to the participants.

He highlighted data from the National Narcotics Agency (BNN) for 2023–2025, which showed a worrying trend. The prevalence of drug abuse reached 1.73 percent, equivalent to 3.33 million people, with 312,000 of them being teenagers aged 15–25. Students are particularly vulnerable because drugs damage the prefrontal cortex, thus reducing rational decision-making, concentration, and academic achievement.

Triggers for abuse among teenagers and students include the desire to appear trendy, peer influence, group solidarity, and curiosity. Drug trafficking is increasingly organized through systematic syndicates that utilize technology and online networks. Dr. Kaharuddin detailed the strict sanctions in Articles 112, 114, and 132 of the Narcotics Law, including life imprisonment and billions of rupiah in fines for dealers and those involved in criminal conspiracy.

However, he emphasized a humanistic approach through rehabilitation. Based on Article 54 of the Narcotics Law, addicts and victims of abuse are required to undergo medical and social rehabilitation. "Rehabilitation restores the victim's full function in life, encompassing physical, mental, educational, and social aspects. The support of family, medical personnel, and counselors is crucial in this process," he said.

As a National Defense campus, UPNVJ must be at the forefront of drug prevention through regular education, a zero-tolerance policy, the formation of anti-drug cadres, and strict campus environmental monitoring. The academic community acts as agents of change by rejecting drug offers and participating in positive activities.

This activity is part of a series of events for the 48th Anniversary, which will culminate on November 30, 2025, emphasizing UPNVJ's transformation as an educational institution responsive to contemporary social and legal issues.

Export tanggal : Monday, 22 June 2026 Pukul 04:41:02 WIB.

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