

# Police law enforcement in dealing with online gambling crimes

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## Article Info

### Article history:

Received: 17 Juli, 2025

Revised: 21 Juli, 2025

Accepted: 30 Juli, 2025

### Keywords:

Obstacles in Crime;  
Online Gambling;  
Law Enforcement;  
Prevention.

## ABSTRACT

With the rapid advancement of technology and information, gambling has transformed into an online form that offers more convenience and security. In the last three years, the number of online gambling cases in the jurisdiction of the Mojokerto Police has increased quite dramatically. This research aims to understand the role of the police as well as the various factors that hinder their efforts in tackling online gambling crimes in the area. The method used in this study is empirical juridical, which examines the applicable legal regulations while observing the reality in the field. From the results of the study, it was found that the role of the police in tackling online gambling includes three important aspects: preventive efforts such as socialization to the community, preventive measures, and repressive measures through law enforcement. However, there are still several obstacles faced by the police, such as lack of resources and coordination between agencies. These inhibiting factors must be addressed immediately so as not to cause legal impacts that can reduce public trust in law enforcement. This research provides a clear picture of the challenges faced and the need for more effective strategies in tackling online gambling.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Based on data from the Criminal Investigation Agency (Bareskrim) of the National Police, over the past five years, the number of online gambling cases handled has increased significantly. Although the police have made various efforts to crack down on this practice, there are still many obstacles faced, such as limited resources, lack of public understanding of the impact of online gambling, and difficulties in tracking transactions made online. This shows that law enforcement against online gambling needs to be reviewed more deeply in order to produce effective solutions.

From a legal perspective, online gambling is often in a gray area in law enforcement. Many online gamblers operate outside the reach of national law, by utilizing servers located abroad. This poses challenges for the police in terms of jurisdiction and international cooperation. In addition, inconsistent and less firm law enforcement from the police has caused dissatisfaction in the community, which demands stricter and more transparent action (Saputra Hasibuan, 2023). In addition, social and cultural factors also play an important role in the spread of online gambling. The lack of public understanding of the risks and consequences of online gambling leaves many people trapped in this practice, which can have a negative impact on individuals and the social environment.

Online gambling is highly accessible, offers anonymity, and a wide variety of types of games, thus increasing the risk of addiction, especially in vulnerable groups such as adolescents, men, and those experiencing economic or mental health difficulties (Ghelfi et al., 2024). This requires a comprehensive approach, not only law enforcement, but also education and socialization to the public about the dangers of online gambling. This preventive effort is expected to reduce the number of participation in online gambling and increase public legal awareness.

This study aims to analyze the role of the police in law enforcement against online gambling crimes, including the challenges faced and solutions that can be implemented. Using a qualitative approach, this study will collect data from interviews with resource persons, document analysis, and case studies regarding the handling of online gambling in various regions. It is hoped that the results of this research can contribute to the development of more effective law enforcement policies.

Recent research shows that collaboration between the police, government agencies, and civil society significantly increases the effectiveness of online gambling countermeasures. This synergy allows for more comprehensive prevention and enforcement efforts, where the police play a role in socialization, law enforcement, and education, while the community is at the forefront of early detection and case reporting (Rizki Nurdiansyah et al., 2024). Collaboration also includes strengthening regulations, building technology capacity, and community involvement in anti-gambling campaigns and discussion forums (Wijaya, 2023). International studies highlight the importance of cross-border cooperation and the use of integrated investigative models to address the complexity of technology-based online gambling crimes (Masogo & Motsamai Modise, 2024). In addition, public education about the risks of online gambling has been proven to reduce interest and participation, especially if supported by media literacy programs and community-based interventions (Siricharoen, 2024). The government is also expected to improve communication strategies and strengthen cross-sector collaboration so that prevention messages are more effective in reaching the wider community (Estriana & Ratu, 2024). Overall, a collaborative approach that involves various stakeholders and integrates legal, technological, and public education aspects has proven to be more effective in creating an environment free from the threat of online gambling (Sigit & Torrido, 2024).

By understanding the complexity of the problem of online gambling and the challenges faced by the police, this study is expected to provide concrete and applicable recommendations. The recommendations will focus on strengthening law enforcement capacity, increasing inter-agency cooperation, and developing effective socialization programs. Through these efforts, it is hoped that online gambling practices can be suppressed, and the public can be educated to understand the dangers posed.

Therefore, it is important to conduct in-depth research on police law enforcement in dealing with online gambling crimes. With a better understanding of the existing challenges and solutions, it is hoped that law enforcement policies can be improved and adjusted to the needs of the community. This research is expected to make a significant contribution to the development of more responsive and effective law enforcement policies and practices in tackling online gambling in Indonesia.

## 2. METHOD

The approach used is qualitative, which is designed to understand the phenomenon of police law enforcement in dealing with online gambling crimes. The qualitative approach was chosen because it can provide an in-depth picture of the challenges and strategies applied by the police in dealing with this problem. Through this method, researchers can explore the perspectives of various sources, including members of the police, legal experts, and the public affected by online gambling. This approach allows researchers to identify crucial patterns, themes, and issues that may not be revealed in quantitative research. The main source of data in this study is in-depth interviews with relevant sources. Resource persons will be selected based on certain criteria, such as work experience in the field of law enforcement and direct involvement in handling online gambling cases. In addition to interviews, the research will also involve the analysis of documents, such as official reports from the police, case studies, as well as government policies related to online gambling. Secondary data from the existing literature will also be used to provide additional context and compare the results obtained. The use of these various data sources is expected to enrich the research results and provide a comprehensive view. Once the data is collected, the next step is to conduct data analysis. Data analysis in this study will be carried out using thematic analysis techniques, where the researcher will identify themes that arise from interviews and documents that have been analyzed. Each theme

will be studied in depth to understand its context and implications for police law enforcement. In addition, the analysis will also include comparisons between various perspectives obtained from the speakers, so that certain patterns can be found in dealing with online gambling. The object of this research consists of several important elements, including the police as a law enforcement institution, the widespread practice of online gambling in the community, and the social impact it causes. The focus of the research will be on several areas that are considered vulnerable to online gambling practices, taking into account variables such as the level of community participation in gambling and the law enforcement actions that have been taken by the local police. By understanding the object of research holistically, it is hoped that the results of this research can provide effective and applicable recommendations for the development of better law enforcement policies in the future..

### 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### 3.1. Data on online gambling crime cases in the Porles Mojokerto legal area

In recent years, the Mojokerto Police have recorded a significant increase in the number of cases of online gambling crimes. Based on data from the Criminal Investigation unit, there have been around 100 cases of online gambling reported in the last three years. This figure shows an alarming trend, where online gambling is increasingly rampant among the public, especially among the younger generation. These cases include different types of gambling, from card games to sports betting, all of which are done through online platforms. One of the factors driving the increase in online gambling cases is the high accessibility to information technology. Many people use smartphones and the internet to access online gambling sites. In addition, social media and other digital platforms also make it easier to promote and access gambling sites (Andrade et al., 2022). According to a survey conducted by the Central Statistics Agency, around 70% of households in Mojokerto have internet access. This makes it easier for the perpetrators to carry out gambling practices secretly without being detected by law enforcement officials. Therefore, the existence of online gambling sites is a serious challenge for the Mojokerto Police in law enforcement.

From the data obtained, the majority of online gamblers are men, especially aged 18 to 35, who are very vulnerable to the influence of online gambling (Ioannidis & Bowden-Jones, 2023). The percentage of adolescents who have gambled online varies, with rates ranging from 9–18% in some regions, and higher in males than females (Lombardi et al., 2024). Adolescents often start online gambling out of curiosity, peer pressure, or a desire to try new things (Sahputra et al., 2022). This makes efforts to counter online gambling even more complex, because it is not only related to law enforcement, but also to public education and understanding.

The Mojokerto Police have implemented various strategies. One of them is conducting cyber patrols to identify gambling sites that operate. In addition, the police also collaborate with other government agencies to comprehensively tackle online gambling practices. These efforts are not only limited to law enforcement, but also include socialization to the public about the dangers of online gambling. However, the challenges faced are still huge, considering the number of gambling sites that use foreign domains so that it is difficult to act upon. Online gambling is regulated in Law No. 7 of 1974 concerning the Regulation of Gambling. However, this law is still considered insufficient to address the growing problem of online gambling. Therefore, revisions and updates to laws and regulations related to gambling are urgently needed. In addition to the legal aspect, the social impact of online gambling also needs to be considered. Research shows that individuals who engage in online gambling have a high risk of experiencing economic and psychological problems (Håkansson & Widinghoff, 2020). Online gambling can also trigger an increase in crime, worsen poverty, and damage the morale of the community (Bakhtiar & Adilah, 2024). This not only affects the perpetrator, but also impacts their families and social environment. Cases of divorce and family problems due to gambling are on the rise, which is an alarm for the public and the authorities. Therefore, a holistic approach is needed to address the social impact it causes.

Looking at law enforcement, the Mojokerto Police need to evaluate the strategy that has been implemented. Although there has been an increase in the number of cases handled, the effectiveness of law enforcement is still a question. Many perpetrators have managed to escape legal proceedings due to a lack of sufficient evidence or difficulty tracking transactions made online. This indicates the need to develop technical capacity for police officers in terms of investigating online gambling cases. In an effort to overcome online gambling, it is also important to involve the community in the prevention process. Education and socialization about the dangers of online

gambling needs to be carried out on an ongoing basis, not only by the police but also by educational institutions and community organizations. Continuous and collaborative education also helps build mutual awareness, so that people are more proactive in preventing and fighting online gambling practices (Nurhidayanti et al., 2024).

The existence of online platforms that provide gambling-related information and services also needs to be monitored. Some seemingly legal sites often hide illegal practices behind the legality on display. Online platforms that provide gambling-related information and services are indeed often a hotbed of illegal practices hidden behind the appearance of legality (Sopian et al., 2024). Therefore, strict monitoring of such sites is very important to prevent people from falling deeper into the world of gambling. The Mojokerto Police can also utilize technology to develop a complaint application that allows the public to report online gambling cases anonymously. Synergy between various parties, including the police, local governments, and the community, is key in tackling online gambling. Increased cooperation between institutions is also needed to create more effective policies. In this regard, the results of the study show that a collaborative approach can improve the effectiveness of law enforcement and online gambling prevention. Thus, it is hoped that a safer and healthier environment can be created for the community.

This study shows that online gambling prevention requires a comprehensive approach, including law enforcement, public education, and technology-based and policy-based interventions (Rahardjo et al., 2024). In addition, it also includes law enforcement, public education, and evaluation of existing policies. With the right steps, it is hoped that the crime of online gambling can be suppressed and the community can avoid the negative impact caused. Further research is expected to provide deeper insights into the effectiveness of the strategies implemented and their impact on society.

### **3.2. Enforcement of Police Officers in Countering Online Gambling Crimes in the Jurisdiction of Porles Mojokerto**

The Mojokerto Police have taken various steps to enforce the law and prevent online gambling practices. Effective law enforcement is essential, considering that online gambling not only violates the law, but also negatively impacts society. In this context, the Mojokerto Police plays a role as the main institution responsible for maintaining order and security in its area. However, the challenges faced in law enforcement against online gambling are complex. One of the first steps taken by the Mojokerto Police is to socialize about the dangers of online gambling to the public. Through educational programs, the police try to increase public awareness about the risks and impacts caused by online gambling. This socialization activity was carried out in various forums, including schools, communities, and other public places. The aim of this activity is to reduce the number of public participation in online gambling practices and create a more law-conscious environment.

In addition to socialization, the Mojokerto Police also carry out direct law enforcement against online gambling perpetrators. The Mojokerto Police Criminal Investigation Team conducted an arrest operation against detected online gambling perpetrators. In some cases, the police managed to arrest the perpetrators and confiscated evidence, such as gambling tools and cash. This operation was carried out very carefully to avoid leaking information to the perpetrators that could interfere with the law enforcement process. However, law enforcement against online gambling in Mojokerto does not always run smoothly. One of the main challenges faced by police officers is the difficulty of tracking and identifying online gamblers. Many perpetrators use technology to hide their identities, such as using VPNs and anonymous accounts. This makes it difficult for the police to obtain strong evidence and make arrests. Limited resources and technology are also factors that affect the effectiveness of law enforcement.

In addition, the police also face jurisdiction-related issues. Many online gambling sites operate abroad and are not covered by Indonesian law. Although the Mojokerto Police can handle local cases, they are often hampered by legal limitations in cracking down on perpetrators operating internationally. To overcome this problem, the Mojokerto Police are trying to collaborate with international institutions and local governments to create a more effective information network. The community also has an important role in supporting law enforcement efforts. The Mojokerto Police have invited the public to actively report online gambling cases they encounter. With the existence of a complaint channel, the public can submit information anonymously without fear of repercussions. This approach not only increases public participation in law enforcement, but also provides police with the information needed to handle online gambling cases more effectively.

Based on existing data, online gambling cases in Mojokerto continue to increase from year to year. Research shows that online gambling practices are increasingly in demand by various groups,

including teenagers and youth. This adds to the challenges for the police in law enforcement, as they have to deal with perpetrators who are increasingly sophisticated in hiding their illegal activities. For this reason, it is important for the Mojokerto Police to continue to update law enforcement strategies in accordance with technological developments. On the other hand, government policies also affect the effectiveness of law enforcement. Law No. 7 of 1974 on Gambling Regulation already exists, but it is not enough to address the complexities of online gambling today. Therefore, some parties call for a revision or addition of more specific regulations regarding online gambling. The Mojokerto Police hopes that support from the government in terms of regulations can facilitate law enforcement efforts carried out.

From a social perspective, the impact of online gambling is not only felt by the perpetrators, but also by the family and the surrounding community. Online gambling often leads to addiction, which leads to serious financial problems such as debt, thus disrupting the family's economic stability (Finance et al., 2024). The Mojokerto Police recognize the importance of a more holistic approach in dealing with this problem, by involving various parties, including social and community institutions, to provide support for gambling victims. Law enforcement against online gambling in Mojokerto also involves increasing the capacity of the police force. Training and development of technical skills for police members is very important to strengthen their ability to handle online gambling cases. The Mojokerto Police has held various trainings related to information technology and online investigations, so that members can be better prepared to face the existing challenges.

In addition, technology can also be used as a tool to support law enforcement. The Mojokerto Police is trying to adopt a digital system to make it easier to report and supervise online gambling activities. By using technology, it is hoped that the police can identify gambling sites operating in their area more quickly and accurately. The application of information technology in law enforcement is expected to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the process of handling online gambling cases. Cooperation with the media is also one of the strategies implemented by the Mojokerto Police. Through cooperation with the media, the police are trying to disseminate information about the law enforcement actions taken. This publication not only provides transparency to the public, but also serves as a warning to online gamblers that their actions will get serious attention from the police. Thus, it is hoped that there will be a deterrent effect for perpetrators who intend to commit online gambling crimes.

The Mojokerto Police also tried to accommodate the aspirations of the community regarding the law enforcement policies implemented. By listening to input from the community, the police can adjust the strategies used to better suit the needs and conditions in the field. This participatory approach is expected to create a better relationship between the police and the community, so that the community feels involved in the law enforcement process. Despite the many challenges faced, the Mojokerto Police continues to be committed to tackling online gambling crimes. By adopting a comprehensive and collaborative approach, the police seek to create a safer and healthier environment. These efforts are not only aimed at eradicating online gambling, but also to educate the public about the dangers and risks associated with gambling. It is hoped that the public can better understand the consequences of their actions and stay away from online gambling practices.

In the future, it is hoped that the Mojokerto Police can continue to innovate in the law enforcement strategies implemented. The development of technology and social dynamics that continue to change requires the police to always be ready to adapt. With collaboration between the police, the government, and the community, efforts to counter online gambling can be carried out effectively. Further research is also needed to evaluate existing policies and practices, so that law enforcement can be improved. Law enforcement against online gambling in the jurisdiction of the Mojokerto Police requires close cooperation between all elements of society. With a comprehensive and data-based approach, it is hoped that law enforcement can run effectively. In addition, the active participation of the community in reporting and education regarding online gambling will greatly contribute to reducing the number of gambling in the Mojokerto area. Hopefully the efforts made by the Mojokerto Police can have a positive impact on the community and significantly reduce the number of online gambling.

In an interview conducted on March 7, 2024 with Endyk Budhi H. PS., Paur Subbagdalpers Bag HR of the Mojokerto Police, it was revealed that the police in the jurisdiction of the Mojokerto Police have implemented a number of preventive measures to tackle online gambling. The police provide education to the public about the dangers of gambling and conduct surveillance in cyberspace

through the internet. Endyk also emphasized that the police's task in handling online gambling crimes is to solve the problem based on applicable legal regulations.

Table 1. Data on Online Gambling Crime Cases in the Jurisdiction of the Mojokerto Police in 2021-2023

Types of Gambling	2021		2022		2023	
	Report	Finish	Report	Finish	Report	Finish
White/lottery coupons	0	0	3	3	2	2
Slot	0	0	0	0	0	0
Joker Cards	0	0	0	0	0	0
Africa	0	0	0	0	0	0
Soccer Gambling	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	3	3	2	2

Based on table 1 above, it can be seen that there are 4 (four) types of online gambling that occur in the jurisdiction of the Mojokerto Police, namely white coupons (lottery), slots, joker cards and soccer gambling. In 2020-2023 there were (5) reports, each for the types of white coupon gambling (lottery), slots, and soccer gambling while there were 5 (5) cases that were successfully resolved. Trending Coupons White/Lottery; There was an increase in the number of lottery incidents from 2021 (0) to 2022 (3), but then decreased in 2023 (2). This shows fluctuations in lottery occurrence over that three-year period. Coupons, Slots, Joker Cards, and Soccer Gambling; During the period, no incidents were reported for coupons, slots, joker cards, or soccer gambling. This could indicate that the focus of law enforcement or reports of illegal activities is more concentrated on the lottery than on other types of gambling.

Case Settlement It seems that the number of reports that are completed by the authorities each year is quite consistent. However, it should be noted that there is no explanation for the outcome of such settlements, whether they involve legal action or out-of-court settlements. Focus on Law Enforcement From this data, it can be seen that law enforcement in the jurisdiction of the Mojokerto Police has a focus on gambling crimes, especially the lottery, and that the handling of these cases may be a top priority during this period. The analysis is based on the data presented and does not take into account other factors that may affect the actual trends or circumstances on the ground. The data above shows that there is a decrease in online gambling activities, especially the lottery, from 2022 to 2023 in the jurisdiction of the Mojokerto Police. This is a positive indication that the government's efforts in eradicating gambling are starting to show results. However, keep in mind that gambling is still a serious problem in Indonesia. There needs to be a stronger effort to eradicate gambling and help people who have problems with gambling.

### 3.3. Enforcement of Police Officers in Countering Online Gambling Crimes in the Jurisdiction of the Mojokerto Police

The results of an interview conducted on March 7, 2024 with Endyk Budhi H. PS., Paur Subbagdalpers Bag HR of the Mojokerto Police, revealed that the police in the jurisdiction of the Mojokerto Police have implemented various preventive measures to tackle online gambling. In this effort, the police provide socialization to the public about the dangers posed by gambling, as well as conduct surveillance in cyberspace through various internet media. Endyk also emphasized that one of the main tasks of the police in dealing with online gambling crimes is to solve the problem based on applicable regulations and laws. The enforcement of police officers in overcoming online gambling crimes in the jurisdiction of the Mojokerto Police is a complex issue and requires serious attention. In recent years, online gambling has grown rapidly, especially with the increasing use of the internet and smartphones. This makes online gambling more accessible to a wide range of people, including teenagers and youth. Effective law enforcement against this practice is important so that the community can avoid its negative impact.

The Mojokerto Police have implemented several strategies to tackle online gambling crimes. One of the first steps is socialization to the public about the dangers of online gambling. The police actively participate in community and school forums to convey information about the risks posed. In this way, it is hoped that the public can be more aware of the impact of gambling, both economically and socially. This socialization effort also aims to create collective awareness that online gambling is an illegal act that can harm many parties. In addition to socialization, the Mojokerto Police also carried out direct law enforcement by conducting arrest operations against online gamblers. In this operation, the Mojokerto Police Criminal Investigation team collaborated with various parties to arrest the perpetrators involved. The arrest process was carried out carefully so as not to interfere with the ongoing legal process. In some cases, police officers have managed to confiscate evidence in the form of cash and devices used for gambling, which shows the seriousness of law enforcement.

However, in the implementation of law enforcement against online gambling, the Mojokerto Police are faced with various challenges. One of the main challenges is the difficulty in tracking and identifying the perpetrators. Especially in terms of tracking and identifying perpetrators. The characteristics of the anonymous cyberspace, the use of advanced technology such as VPNs and anonymous accounts, and the cross-border nature of online gambling sites make it difficult for police officers to trace digital traces and reveal the identities of the perpetrators and operators of the gambling sites (Magister et al., 2023). The use of VPNs and anonymous accounts makes it difficult for the police to obtain strong evidence in the investigation process. In addition, limited human and technological resources in law enforcement institutions, as well as regulations that are not fully adaptive to the development of cybercrime, exacerbate obstacles to law enforcement (Ahadi Fajrin Prasetya, 2023). This requires the police to continue to increase technical capacity in terms of investigations.

The Mojokerto Police also face jurisdiction-related issues, considering that many online gambling sites operate from abroad. Although police can handle local cases, they are often hampered by international law that does not allow direct action against perpetrators who are abroad. To overcome this, the Mojokerto Police is trying to collaborate with international institutions and related organizations to create a better information network. This cooperation is important so that the police can expand the reach of law enforcement. The role of the community is also very important in supporting law enforcement. A community that is aware and supports the law can play an active role in supervising, criticizing, and reporting violations of the law that occur around it (Alkaida et al., 2024). The Mojokerto Police have invited the public to actively report online gambling cases they encounter. With the existence of a complaint channel provided, the public can report gambling activities anonymously. This approach not only increases community participation, but also provides the necessary information for the police to handle cases more effectively. Public awareness in reporting violations of the law is one of the keys to the success of law enforcement.

Data shows that online gambling cases in Mojokerto continue to increase from year to year. Research shows that online gambling is increasingly in demand by various groups, including teenagers and youth. This phenomenon further adds to the challenges for the police, who have to deal with perpetrators who are increasingly sophisticated in hiding their illegal activities. In this case, the Mojokerto Police need to continue to update its law enforcement strategy to remain relevant to existing developments. In addition, government policies related to gambling also greatly affect the effectiveness of law enforcement. Although Law No. 7 of 1974 on Gambling Regulation exists, it is considered inadequate to address the complexities of online gambling today. Therefore, many parties propose the need for revisions or additions to more specific regulations regarding online gambling. The Mojokerto Police hopes that support from the government in terms of regulations can facilitate law enforcement efforts carried out.

From a social perspective, the impact of online gambling is not only felt by the perpetrators but also by the family and the surrounding community. Many individuals are trapped in debt due to gambling, which has an impact on family well-being. In addition, online gambling can damage social relationships, create social stigma, and increase the risk of social isolation because perpetrators tend to withdraw from the surrounding environment (Nayottama, 2024). Strong law enforcement is expected to prevent more people from falling into gambling practices. Therefore, the efforts of the police are not only focused on arresting the perpetrators, but also on prevention so that the public can avoid the bad effects of online gambling. Law enforcement against online gambling in Mojokerto also involves increasing the capacity of the police force. Training and development of technical skills for police members is very important. The Mojokerto Police has held various trainings related to information technology and online investigations so that its members are better prepared to face the existing challenges. With this capacity increase, it is hoped that law enforcement against online gambling can be more effective and efficient.

Technology can also be used as a tool to support law enforcement. The Mojokerto Police is trying to adopt a digital system to make it easier to report and supervise online gambling activities. The use of information technology in law enforcement is expected to improve the ability of the police to identify and track gambling sites operating in their area. With the right technology, the investigation process can be carried out faster and more accurately.

The Mojokerto Police also tried to accommodate the aspirations of the community regarding the law enforcement policies implemented. By listening to input from the public, the police can adjust the

strategies used to better suit the conditions on the ground. This participatory approach is expected to create a better relationship between the police and the community, so that the community feels involved in the law enforcement process. Despite the many challenges faced, the Mojokerto Police continues to be committed to tackling online gambling crimes. By adopting a comprehensive and collaborative approach, the police seek to create a safer and healthier environment. These efforts are not only aimed at eradicating online gambling, but also to educate the public about the dangers and risks associated with gambling. It is hoped that the public can better understand the consequences of their actions and stay away from online gambling practices.

It is hoped that the Mojokerto Police can continue to innovate in the law enforcement strategy implemented. The development of technology and social dynamics that continue to change requires the police to always be ready to adapt. With collaboration between the police, the government, and the community, efforts to counter online gambling can be carried out effectively. Further research is also needed to evaluate existing policies and practices, so that law enforcement can be improved. Law enforcement against online gambling in the jurisdiction of the Mojokerto Police requires close cooperation between all elements of society. With a comprehensive and data-based approach, it is hoped that law enforcement can run effectively. In addition to a comprehensive legal approach, the active participation of the community in reporting and education is essential to prevent the spread of online gambling practices (Nayottama, 2024). Reporting on online gambling will greatly contribute to reducing the number of gambling in the Mojokerto area. Hopefully the efforts made by the Mojokerto Police can have a positive impact on the community and significantly reduce the number of online gambling.

Based on an interview with Endyk Budhi H. PS., Paur Subbagdalpers Bag HR of the Mojokerto Police on March 7, 2024, it was revealed that there are several types of gambling games that are commonly carried out by the public in the jurisdiction of the Mojokerto Police, such as slot gambling, white coupons or lottery, and card gambling, including jokers and dominoes. Data on the handling of gambling cases at the Mojokerto Police from 2021 to 2023 shows the commitment of the police in tackling online gambling crimes through various repressive efforts that have been implemented:

Table 2. Data on the Handling of Online Gambling Cases at the Mojokerto Police Station

NO	Year	Report	Finish
1.	2021	0	0
2.	2022	3	3
3.	2023	2	2
	TOTAL	5	5

Based on the data listed in the table, the Mojokerto Police received a total of five reports regarding gambling crimes throughout 2021, 2022, and 2023. Of these, all cases, namely five cases, were successfully resolved. From the available details, five of the reports came from the public who reported gambling activities, while the other five cases were revealed on the initiative of the police themselves. Thus, it can be concluded that the Mojokerto Police has shown good performance in handling and overcoming gambling problems in its jurisdiction, because all incoming reports can be handled effectively through a repressive approach. The case settlement process is carried out in accordance with the provisions stipulated in the Criminal Procedure Code (KUHAP) and the Indonesian National Police Law.

In the research conducted by the author, it was revealed that there are a number of factors underlying the increase in cases of online gambling crimes in the jurisdiction of the Mojokerto Police. The results of an interview with Endyk Budhi H. PS, Paur Subbagdalpers Bag HR of the Mojokerto Police on March 7, 2023, show that there are two main categories of factors that affect the emergence of gambling, namely internal factors that come from the individual himself and external factors that come from the surrounding environment. The first factor is related to the individual, namely lack of legal awareness. Lack of legal awareness is a major factor that encourages individuals, especially adolescents, to engage in gambling, since they often do not understand or ignore the legal consequences of the activity (Delfi Aurelia Power, 2022). This condition greatly affects their attitudes and actions towards gambling. Low awareness of legal risks causes them to ignore the consequences of their activities. In addition, there is an attraction of quick earning money that often makes gambling seem like an easy and quick option to make a profit without going through a lot of effort. The most in-demand type of gambling in this context is slot and lottery games, which are considered to offer the opportunity to earn money quickly. Lastly, there are also individuals who make gambling a hobby, enjoying the pleasure and satisfaction felt while engaging in the activity.

In terms of external factors, economic conditions are one of the main drivers. Difficulties in making ends meet often encourage individuals to look for shortcuts, and gambling is often seen as a temporary solution to earn money. However, this approach has the potential to create more serious problems later on. The social environment also plays an important role; A positive social environment can form good attitudes and behaviors, while a negative environment can influence individuals to engage in harmful activities, including gambling. The influence of the family is no less significant, since the family is the first place where a person's character and personality are formed. If the family environment supports positive behavior, then individuals are likely to stay away from harmful activities. From the point of view of law enforcement theory, it appears that enforcement by police officers at the Mojokerto Police still leaves many shortcomings. The actions taken by the police, as well as the public response to the problem of online gambling, have not fully demonstrated the seriousness of addressing this issue. There are stark differences in the way the public and law enforcement respond to each gambling case that arises, creating challenges for law enforcement. An interview with Endyk Budhi H. PS on March 7, 2024 highlighted that in the context of law enforcement, the police are conducting investigations into individuals suspected of being involved in online gambling. If sufficient evidence is found, arrests will be made against the perpetrators involved. This investigation is crucial, because the results will be the basis for the public prosecutor to draft charges and bring cases to court. All evidence collected will be evaluated and tried by a panel of judges. This process underscores the importance of legal steps taken by police officers in an effort to eradicate.

#### 3.4. Obstacles Faced by the Police in Overcoming Online Gambling Crimes in the Jurisdiction of Porles Mojokerto

The crime of online gambling is still a significant problem in the community within the jurisdiction of the Mojokerto Police. One of the main reasons why online gambling continues to be rampant is because of its relatively new nature, as well as various factors that are obstacles for the police in handling this phenomenon. In an interview conducted by the author with Endyk Budhi H. PS, Paur Subbagdalpers Bag HR of the Mojokerto Police, on March 7, 2024, it was revealed that several obstacles faced in efforts to overcome online gambling crimes in the legal area of the Mojokerto Police were revealed.

##### 3.4.1. Internal Factors That Hinder Handling by the Police

One of the main challenges faced by police officers is the limited knowledge and expertise in handling online gambling cases. Given that this crime is relatively new, its handling requires a high level of expertise and adequate intellectual ability. In the interview, Endyk Budhi H. PS explained that the police need special knowledge related to crimes related to cyber crime. Although these crimes can be handled by investigators in any unit, not all police officers have adequate education or training backgrounds regarding technology-based crime. This limitation results in a longer and less effective handling process. Some of the obstacles faced within the police force include: Quality and Quantity of Law Enforcement, Not all police officers have sufficient training in the field of information technology and cybercrime. This limited knowledge results in an inability to handle online gambling crimes efficiently. Lack of Appreciation for Members, Low appreciation for the efforts of police members in solving cases can reduce the enthusiasm and motivation of officers in carrying out their duties optimally. This leads to a lack of passion to improve performance. Inadequate Law Enforcement Facilities, Adequate facilities and infrastructure are very important in the law enforcement process. To deal with increasingly complex technological developments and crime, the police need the support of modern facilities, such as computer devices and other advanced tools. Without appropriate facilities, law enforcement efforts will be hampered and the results will be unsatisfactory.

##### 3.4.2. Challenges in Gathering Evidence and Arresting Perpetrators

One of the main difficulties faced by the police in handling online gambling cases is gathering enough evidence to make an arrest. The police cannot simply arrest people suspected of involvement in gambling; they must have strong evidence to support the action. This process becomes more complicated when crimes are committed through computers. If the device used for gambling is turned off, all digital traces that can be used as evidence can be easily erased. Additionally, gamblers are often difficult to track because they use fake identities to transact.

##### 3.4.3. Lack of Expertise in Information Technology

Advances in information technology provide its own challenges for law enforcement officials. Limited knowledge in the use of information technology, especially in crime scene processing techniques, is an obstacle in uncovering online gambling cases. This shows that there is still a shortage in terms of competent human resources in the IT field. As a result, many online gambling cases cannot be revealed optimally due to the lack of expertise among investigators.

Thus, it is clear that the handling of online gambling crimes in the jurisdiction of the Mojokerto Police faces various challenges both from within the police body itself and from the increasingly complex characteristics of crime. The availability of skilled human resources, adequate facilities and infrastructure, and better efforts to increase appreciation for police members are important steps that need to be taken to address this problem more effectively in the future.

### 3.5. External Factors Causing the Obstacles Faced by the Police in the Jurisdiction of the Mojokerto Police

The results of an interview with Endyk Budhi H. PS, Paur Subbagdalpers Bag HR of the Mojokerto Police, which was conducted on March 7, 2024, revealed that there are various significant external obstacles in law enforcement efforts related to online gambling crimes. One of the main obstacles is the reluctance of the community to cooperate with the police in uncovering gambling cases that occur in their neighborhoods. People often prefer to create an atmosphere of peace and feel safe without getting involved in the reporting process to the authorities. While the public has great potential to help stop gambling cases, there is a tendency to be indifferent and less proactive in providing information that can help police uncover such crimes. The crime of online gambling remains an important issue in the community in the jurisdiction of the Mojokerto Police. One of the main reasons for the high number of online gambling is its relatively new nature, as well as the various challenges faced by the police in responding to this phenomenon. In an interview with Endyk Budhi H. PS, Paur Subbagdalpers Bag HR of the Mojokerto Police on March 7, 2024, it was revealed that there are a number of obstacles that hinder law enforcement efforts against online gambling in this area.

One of the internal challenges faced by the police is the lack of knowledge and skills in handling online gambling cases. Given that this phenomenon is just emerging, its handling requires specialized expertise and a deep understanding of cybercrime. In the interview, Endyk Budhi H. PS emphasized the need to increase knowledge related to cyber crime among police officers. Although investigative units from various sections can handle these cases, not all officers have adequate education or training on technology-based crimes. As a result, the handling process becomes slower and less effective. Some of the problems that arise within police institutions include the low quality and quantity of trained human resources, lack of appreciation for members' efforts in resolving cases, and lack of adequate law enforcement facilities.

The lack of training in the field of information technology and cybercrime makes many officers unable to handle online gambling cases efficiently. In addition, apathy towards members' contributions can reduce their motivation to perform tasks optimally. Inadequate facilities and infrastructure are also an inhibiting factor, especially in the face of increasingly complex technological developments and crime. For this reason, the police need the support of modern facilities, such as computer devices and other advanced tools, in order to carry out law enforcement better. On the other hand, external challenges also greatly affect law enforcement efforts against online gambling. The results of the interview with Endyk Budhi H. PS show that there are various external obstacles that are quite significant. One of the main obstacles is the lack of cooperation from the community. Many individuals prefer not to get involved in the process of reporting gambling cases that occur around them, as they feel safer by creating a peaceful atmosphere without involving the police. Although communities have great potential to help address the problem of gambling, they often show indifference and lack of proactivity in providing information that can help law enforcement.

The impact of online gambling is not only felt by the perpetrators, but also by their family members who also suffer from the losses experienced. Therefore, it is important for the public to be more sensitive and take the initiative to help the police in combating online gambling practices. There are moments where people show dissatisfaction with gambling activities, but there are also groups that enjoy these activities. Some of the obstacles that arise in reporting gambling cases include the attitude of the community who tend to close themselves. Many people feel indifferent to the gambling going on around them, so reports to the police are minimal. Fear of social consequences often deter them from reporting, including the potential for being hated by the gambler or his or her family.

Another problem faced by the police is that when they carry out raids on gambling sites, the perpetrators have often fled before officers arrive. This usually happens because information

regarding raid plans is leaked, which may be disseminated by individuals in the surrounding neighborhood. This condition is certainly detrimental to law enforcement efforts, because the absence of the perpetrator at the location makes the arrest process more difficult. Community attitudes and existing social dynamics are important factors in facing the challenges of law enforcement against online gambling. Therefore, it is necessary for the police to increase socialization and build better relationships with the community, so that they are willing to contribute to efforts to overcome this gambling problem. A more effective handling of online gambling crimes requires cooperation between the authorities and the public so that it can be more optimal in the future.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis that has been presented in the previous chapters, several important points can be drawn regarding the problems that have been identified. First of all, the role of police officers in society is crucial, especially in conveying information about the risks posed by gambling and monitoring activities that occur in the digital world. In this case, the police have a responsibility to provide solutions in accordance with the applicable laws to eradicate the crime of online gambling. However, despite the efforts, law enforcement by the Mojokerto Police in dealing with this problem is still relatively ineffective. This is reflected in the increasing number of online gambling cases in the last three years, which shows that the problem is getting worse as time goes on. In an effort to handle it, the Mojokerto Police applied an approach that included preventive, preemptive, and repressive measures. In terms of prevention, the police strive to instill positive values in the community through various counseling activities at places of worship, supervision carried out by Bhayangkari members, and direct visits to residents' homes to convey messages related to security and order. They strive to instill good norms in the community. In addition, legal advice is also provided at village halls and community leaders' homes, with the aim of increasing legal awareness among the community. In order to prevent this, the police routinely conduct patrols and supervision to maintain peace. On the repressive side, the police conduct investigations, interrogations, prosecutions, and the application of criminal sanctions in accordance with applicable legal regulations. Referring to Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia, especially Article 5 Paragraph 1, it is stated that "The National Police of the Republic of Indonesia is a state institution responsible for maintaining public order." Thus, the duties of the police include law enforcement and providing protection and services to the community in order to create security. However, there are a number of obstacles faced by the police in trying to overcome online gambling crimes, which come from internal and external factors. Internally, challenges related to the quality and quantity of law enforcement personnel in handling online gambling cases are the main issue. In addition, the lack of appreciation for the performance of police members contributes to a lack of motivation in carrying out their duties. Limited facilities and infrastructure, difficulties in collecting evidence, and low mastery of information technology among investigators are also significant obstacles. On the other hand, external factors that are barriers include the attitude of the public who tend not to be open in providing information, as well as gambling perpetrators who often run away when facing law enforcement.

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