



## The Role of the Police in Controlling the Use of Electric Bicycles in Gorontalo City

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### **Abstract:**

*The widespread use of electric bicycles on the highway by the public, including children and teenagers, without complying with legal provisions has the potential for serious traffic accidents. Therefore, the role of the police in law enforcement and enforcement is important to ensure that the use of electric bicycles is in accordance with applicable regulations in the Gorontalo City area. This study aims to analyze the role of the police in handling and regulating the use of electric bicycles on the highway, especially in the Gorontalo City area, within the framework of traffic law enforcement based on Law Number 22 of 2009 concerning Traffic and Road Transportation and Regulation of the Minister of Transportation Number 45 of 2020. Electric bicycles as an alternative mode of transportation that uses battery power and electric motors are increasingly in demand by the public, including children and adolescents. However, the widespread use of electric bicycles that do not comply with legal provisions has the potential for traffic accidents, which is a serious concern for the police. This study uses an empirical legal approach by collecting data through interviews and observations of the Gorontalo City Police Traffic Unit. The results of the study show that the police have an important role in educating the public, conducting outreach, and taking firm action against traffic violations by electric bicycle users. However, limited infrastructure such as special bicycle lanes, minimal technical regulations, and lack of public legal awareness are significant obstacles in the law enforcement process. Therefore, special regulations are needed at the regional level that comprehensively regulate the use of electric bicycles, as well as collaboration between the police, local governments, and the community in building a safe, orderly, and equitable traffic system. This study recommends strengthening the supervision function and improving infrastructure as the main strategy in reducing the risk of traffic accidents due to the use of electric bicycles that do not comply with the rules.*

**Keywords:** *Electric Bike, Law Enforcement, Police*

### **Abstrak :**

Maraknya penggunaan sepeda listrik di jalan raya oleh masyarakat, termasuk anak-anak dan remaja, tanpa mematuhi ketentuan hukum menimbulkan potensi kecelakaan lalu lintas yang serius. Oleh karena itu, peran kepolisian dalam penertiban dan penegakan hukum menjadi penting untuk memastikan penggunaan sepeda listrik sesuai dengan peraturan yang berlaku di wilayah Kota Gorontalo. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis peran kepolisian dalam penanganan dan penertiban penggunaan sepeda listrik di jalan raya khususnya di wilayah Kota Gorontalo dalam rangka penegakan hukum lalu lintas berdasarkan Undang-Undang Nomor 22 Tahun 2009 tentang Lalu Lintas dan Angkutan Jalan serta Peraturan Menteri Perhubungan Nomor 45 Tahun 2020. Sepeda listrik sebagai salah satu moda transportasi alternatif yang menggunakan tenaga baterai dan motor listrik semakin diminati oleh masyarakat termasuk anak-anak dan remaja. Namun maraknya penggunaan sepeda listrik yang tidak sesuai dengan ketentuan perundang-undangan berpotensi terjadinya kecelakaan lalu lintas yang menjadi perhatian serius kepolisian. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan hukum empiris dengan cara mengumpulkan data melalui wawancara dan observasi terhadap Satuan Lalu Lintas Polres Kota Gorontalo. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa kepolisian memiliki peran penting dalam memberikan edukasi kepada masyarakat, melakukan sosialisasi, dan menindak tegas pelanggaran lalu lintas yang dilakukan oleh pengguna sepeda listrik. Namun, keterbatasan infrastruktur seperti jalur khusus sepeda, minimnya regulasi teknis, dan minimnya kesadaran hukum masyarakat menjadi kendala yang cukup signifikan dalam proses penegakan hukum. Oleh karena itu, diperlukan regulasi khusus di tingkat daerah yang mengatur secara komprehensif penggunaan sepeda listrik, serta kolaborasi antara kepolisian, pemerintah daerah, dan masyarakat dalam membangun sistem lalu lintas yang aman, tertib, dan berkeadilan. Penelitian ini merekomendasikan penguatan fungsi pengawasan dan peningkatan infrastruktur sebagai strategi utama dalam mengurangi risiko kecelakaan lalu lintas akibat penggunaan sepeda listrik yang tidak sesuai aturan.

**Kata Kunci:** Penegakan Hukum, Polisi, Sepeda Listrik.

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## INTRODUCTION

The law in Indonesia regulates the transportation sector in two forms of laws, namely in the form of codification through the Commercial Code (KUHD) and the Civil Code (KUHPerdata), as well as in the form of ordinary laws that are outside of both. (Bakung et al, 2024) In the context of road traffic and transportation, the state has formed Law Number 22 of 2009 concerning Road Traffic and Transportation (UULLAJ No. 22/2009). This law in Article 47 paragraph (1) broadly classifies vehicles into two groups, namely motorized vehicles and non-motorized vehicles. Motorized vehicles are vehicles that are driven by engines and do not run on rails, while non-motorized vehicles are driven by human and/or animal power. One form of non-motorized vehicle that is currently popular is the electric bicycle. (Jannatun, 2023)

An electric bicycle is a vehicle operated by an electric motor powered by a dynamo and accumulator. This bicycle does not use fuel and is considered cleaner and more environmentally friendly. In the development of today's transportation technology, electric bicycles or e-bikes have become a significant innovation because they are not only environmentally friendly but also energy efficient. This bicycle is a development of conventional bicycles, with the addition of an electric motor and battery as a means of movement. Electric bicycles are now used as an alternative to motorized vehicles by the public, especially in the midst of efforts to reduce air pollution and dependence on fossil fuels. In the era of the industrial revolution 4.0, technological developments are very rapid, including in the field of transportation, and electric bicycles are part of this transformation.

This mode of transportation is considered efficient because it uses rechargeable batteries, saving energy consumption and reducing carbon dioxide emissions. There are various types of electric bicycles available, ranging from those with small motors to high-powered motors, which provide stronger performance. However, behind its benefits, concerns arise, especially because many children use electric bicycles without supervision and adequate safety protection. Teenagers tend to be emotionally unstable and do not have good driving awareness, so they are vulnerable to the risk of traffic accidents.

To address the lack of regulation on these vehicles, the Indonesian Government through the Regulation of the Minister of Transportation Number 45 of 2020 has specifically regulated electric bicycles. In the regulation, an electric bicycle is defined as a two-wheeled vehicle equipped with an electric motor, and is required to meet safety standards such as headlights, rear and side reflectors, a properly functioning brake system, a horn or bell, and a maximum speed of 25 km/hour. In addition, Article 4 paragraph (1) of the regulation requires electric bicycle users to wear helmets, be at least 12 years old, not carry passengers unless there is an additional seat, not modify the speed of the motorbike, and must understand and obey traffic regulations. (Thomyustin, 2024)

The Indonesian National Police, based on the mandate of Law No. 2 of 2002 concerning the Indonesian National Police, specifically Article 14 paragraph (1) letter b, has the responsibility to ensure security, order, and smooth traffic on the highway. Therefore, the police play an important role in ensuring that electric bicycle users comply with the regulations, especially considering the increasing use of electric bicycles by children who ignore safety

regulations and often use these vehicles on the highway. This situation causes unrest in the community because it endangers other road users and creates the potential for traffic accidents.

Gorontalo City is one of the cities that has recorded cases of traffic accidents caused by electric bicycle users. Data from the Gorontalo City Police show that in 2023 there were two accidents involving electric bicycle riders, although in previous years there were no similar cases recorded. The rampant use of electric bicycles by children on the highway without safety equipment such as helmets, as well as reckless driving behavior and without good traffic awareness, shows the need for more serious and structured handling by the police. In addition, internal factors such as the lack of role models from traffic officers, and external factors such as inadequate road infrastructure and minimal legal awareness from the community, also increase the potential for accidents. Thus, an active and firm role from the police is needed to enforce regulations, provide education to the public, and prevent the recurrence of traffic accidents involving electric bicycles.

#### **Formulation of the problem**

1. What is the role of the Gorontalo City Police in handling traffic accidents involving electric bicycle riders?
2. How do the Gorontalo City Police handle traffic accidents involving electric bicycle riders?

#### **Research Purposes**

1. To find out the role of the Gorontalo City Police in handling traffic accidents involving electric bicycle riders
2. To find out the operational of the Gorontalo City Police in handling traffic accidents involving electric bicycle riders

### **RESEARCH METHODS**

The type of research used in this study is empirical legal research. Empirical legal research, in English called empirical legal research and in Dutch known as empirical juridisch onderzoek, is a type of legal research that analyzes and examines the workings of law in society. This research aims to examine the extent to which legal norms that have been normatively determined are applied in real terms by individuals, community groups, or legal institutions in social life. According to Muhaimin, empirical legal research focuses on how the law works in reality, especially in relation to the behavior of individuals, organizations, or legal institutions, as well as the effectiveness of the application of law to people's lives. (Syarif et al, 2024)

This research was conducted in the Gorontalo City Police area, located at Jalan Pangeran Kalengkongan No. 31, Tenda Village, Hulonthalangi District, Gorontalo City. This location was chosen because it is an institution that has direct authority in supervising and taking action against traffic, especially regarding the use of electric bicycles which are the focus of this study. This location is the main source for obtaining actual and relevant data on traffic dynamics and police policies regarding the use of electric bicycles.

The sources and types of data used in this study consist of primary data and secondary data. Primary data were obtained directly from interviews, observations, and documentation in the field, involving sources such as the Head of the Traffic Unit and members of the Gorontalo City Police Traffic Police. This data reflects empirical facts obtained from practice and direct interaction in the field. Meanwhile, secondary data is used as support to strengthen primary data and is obtained through a study of primary, secondary, and tertiary legal materials. The primary legal materials used include Law Number 22 of 2009 concerning Traffic and Road Transportation, Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the Indonesian National Police, Presidential Regulation Number 22 of 2017 concerning the National Energy General Plan, and Regulation of the Minister of Transportation Number 45 of 2020 concerning Certain Vehicles with Electric Motor Drives. Secondary legal materials include books, journals, and relevant research results, while tertiary legal materials include

sources such as legal dictionaries and the Great Dictionary of the Indonesian Language, as well as data from the internet that provides explanations of previous legal materials.

The population in this study were all members of the Gorontalo City Police Traffic Unit. Meanwhile, due to limited time, manpower, and resources, the researcher took a sample consisting of the Head of the Traffic Unit and several Traffic Police personnel who had the competence and direct experience in handling cases of electric bicycle use on the highway. They were selected purposively because they were considered to be able to provide in-depth and relevant information to the focus of the study.

Data collection techniques used include interviews, observations, and documentation. Interviews were conducted directly with respondents to gain in-depth information related to perceptions, experiences, and policies applied to electric bicycle riders. Observations were conducted to directly observe activities in the field in order to see real interactions between road users and police officers, as well as the behavior of electric bicycle riders. Documentation was used to collect various supporting data in the form of archives, photos, and official documents available at the research location to strengthen field findings.

The data analysis technique in this study uses a descriptive analysis method. According to Mukti Fajar ND and Yulianto Achmad, data analysis is a process of reviewing data that can be in the form of critical opinions, support, or rejection of a fact, which then ends with drawing conclusions based on one's own thoughts and supported by relevant theories. In the context of this study, descriptive analysis is used to systematically present various data and information obtained, without providing justification for whether an action is correct or not, but rather objectively describing the existing empirical conditions, so that it can provide a complete picture of the implementation of traffic laws on electric bicycles in Gorontalo City.

## DISCUSSION

### 1. The role of the Gorontalo City Police in handling traffic accidents involving electric bicycle riders

Law in a social context does not only function as a tool to control human behavior, but also as a norm that has the main purpose of protecting, regulating, and maintaining the balance of public interest. (Al-Hadrawi et al, 2024) The main characteristic of law as a social norm is its desire to create a harmonious order in society. (Amer & Muhtar, 2023) When there is a violation of legal provisions, especially those that disrupt or neglect public interest, society as part of the social system will react to the imbalance. This reaction is in the form of corrective action aimed at violators of the law, and this action is generally carried out by institutions that are legally authorized, such as the police, which are tasked with providing sanctions or punishments as an effort to restore legal disturbances. (Nggilu et al, 2024)

It is important to note that the law applied in this context is positive law or *ius constitutum*, namely the law that is currently in force and in a particular place, not a law that is no longer in force or is still being drafted. According to LJ van Apeldoorn, the purpose of law is to maintain order in society. In order to achieve this goal, the law must function fairly and in balance in protecting existing social interests. (Abdussamad et al, 2024)

In the Indonesian constitutional system that adheres to the principle of a state based on law as stated in Article 1 paragraph (3) of the 1945 Constitution, the existence of the police institution is a main pillar in guaranteeing the supremacy of law. The Republic of Indonesia National Police has a function that is not only to enforce the law repressively, but also preventively and educatively. However, in empirical reality, the police face limitations, both in terms of personnel, budget, and equipment. Therefore, community involvement in creating traffic security and order is very important. In the context of traffic and road transportation, Law Number 22 of 2009 provides a comprehensive legal framework. The changes brought by this law are very significant, including in terms of cross-sectoral regulations, provision of road preservation funds ,

incentives for the national transportation industry, strengthening the education and socialization system, and more assertive and rational law enforcement.

Traffic problems are not only about congestion and accidents, but also include many aspects such as incomplete vehicle documents and violations of traffic regulations. These violations are the main problems that must be handled seriously by the police. Traffic violations, or commonly referred to as "tickets," are included in the scope of criminal law because they are related to acts that are prohibited by law and can be subject to criminal sanctions. The main objective of enforcing criminal law in traffic is to provide a deterrent effect and educate the public to become more disciplined and responsible road users. In Law Number 22 of 2009, traffic is defined as the movement of vehicles and people in road traffic space, which is an infrastructure for land transportation activities. Thus, roads are not only physical infrastructure, but also social and legal spaces that must be regulated to ensure the safety and order of the community. (Lesmana & Fithry, 2023)

Electric bicycles as a form of modern non-motorized vehicles, have a place in Indonesian transportation regulations. Article 1 number 7 of the Regulation of the Minister of Transportation of the Republic of Indonesia Number 45 of 2020 states that electric bicycles are vehicles with two wheels equipped with electric motors. This bicycle uses battery power and has advantages in energy efficiency and reducing carbon dioxide emissions. Although electric bicycles are legally regulated, their implementation in the field still leaves many problems. Many users, especially children, use electric bicycles on the highway without safety equipment such as helmets and without paying attention to the rules of use. This raises concerns about safety not only for electric bicycle riders themselves, but also for other road users. In fact, Article 3 paragraph (2) and Article 4 paragraph (1) of the Minister of Transportation Regulation Number 45 of 2020 have expressly regulated safety requirements for electric bicycle users, including age limits, safety equipment, prohibitions on modifications, and a maximum speed of 25 km/hour.

The reality on the ground shows that many electric bicycle users do not comply with these provisions, and are often found using these vehicles on public roads, which are not designated for vehicles without Motor Vehicle Registration Numbers (TNKB). This discrepancy between legal norms and social practices is a major concern for the police, because it concerns public safety and traffic order. In this case, the role of the police becomes very strategic, not only as law enforcers, but also as the main actors in the process of socialization and legal education to the public. The police as an institution authorized to regulate and control traffic, must be able to build public legal awareness regarding the risks of using electric bicycles that do not comply with regulations.

Based on the researcher's interview with the Traffic Unit (Satlantas) of the Gorontalo City Police, it is known that the police have taken various steps to deal with problems arising from the use of electric bicycles. First, the police carry out law enforcement functions by ensuring that all drivers comply with the established rules, especially regarding speed, lanes used, and the use of safety equipment such as helmets. Second, the police are responsible for investigating traffic accidents involving electric bicycles, to determine the cause of the incident and ensure legal certainty for all parties involved. Third, in the context of prevention, the Gorontalo City Satlantas actively conducts patrols and enforcement, as well as providing education to the public about the dangers of using electric bicycles carelessly. This education is not only carried out in public spaces, but also through collaboration with schools, to target children who are often the main users of electric bicycles.

Furthermore, the police also function as protectors of the community by receiving accident reports and providing follow-up, including medical examinations of victims and legal action against violators. In the context of handling electric bicycle cases, the police also play a role in collecting data and formulating policy strategies together with related agencies, including the Transportation Agency and Regional Government, in order to create a safe and sustainable transportation ecosystem. The results of the interviews also showed challenges faced by the police, including the

limited number of personnel in reaching all areas, as well as community resistance to disciplinary policies that are considered to limit their freedom of movement. However, the role of the police remains at the forefront in maintaining traffic order, including in the context of electric bicycles.

Uncontrolled use of electric bicycles can have legal consequences, especially if there is a traffic accident involving the bicycle user. In this case, articles in Law Number 22 of 2009 can be applied, such as Article 280 which regulates the obligation to install TNKB and its criminal sanctions. Although electric bicycles are not included in the category of motorized vehicles that are required to have TNKB, when used on public roads, their use must still meet traffic safety standards. In certain cases, this violation can be categorized as a traffic violation that leads to administrative or criminal sanctions. Therefore, it is important for all parties to understand that electric bicycles are not just an alternative means of transportation, but also part of the traffic law system that has legal consequences.

From a positive legal perspective, the existence of electric bicycles has been legalized through various regulations such as Presidential Regulation Number 55 of 2019 concerning the Acceleration of the Battery-Based Electric Motor Vehicle Program and Regulation of the Minister of Transportation Number 45 of 2020. However, this legality must be balanced with consistent supervision and law enforcement. In this context, the role of the police is very crucial to ensure that these regulations are implemented effectively and efficiently. The police are not only tasked with taking action against violations, but also as strategic partners in the process of legal education, building a culture of orderly traffic, and developing a safe and inclusive transportation system. (Faadihilah & Wibowo, 2022)

The development of infrastructure such as special lanes for electric bicycles is also an important factor in supporting the regulations that have been made. Without adequate infrastructure support, the use of electric bicycles remains high risk and difficult to control. In this case, synergy between the police, local governments, and the community is needed to create an inclusive and adaptive traffic space to the development of transportation technology. The government must also pay attention to social and economic aspects in formulating transportation policies, so that every citizen can enjoy the benefits of electric vehicles without ignoring aspects of safety and public order.

Overall, the role of the police in handling traffic accidents due to the use of electric bicycles cannot be separated from their constitutional duties as law enforcers. The police must be able to become an institution that not only enforces the rules, but also builds awareness and legal culture in society. In dealing with the dynamics of the use of electric bicycles that continue to grow, law enforcement officers are required to be adaptive and responsive to the social changes that occur. Law enforcement must be carried out in a humane manner, but remain firm and fair. Only with a comprehensive approach that includes law enforcement, legal education, and infrastructure development can the goal of a safe, orderly, and sustainable transportation system be realized. Thus, electric bicycles as a symbol of modernity and environmentally friendly energy transformation must be accompanied by legal awareness and social responsibility of all parties so as not to become a new threat in urban traffic.

## **2. The efforts of the Gorontalo City Police in handling traffic accidents involving electric bicycle riders**

Electric bicycles as vehicles that use electric motors need to be regulated properly in the appropriate legal category to avoid legal ambiguity in the field. The provisions of Article 57 of Law Number 22 of 2009 concerning Road Traffic and Transportation (LLAJ Law) state that every motorized vehicle must have standard safety equipment. Meanwhile, Article 61 of the LLAJ Law stipulates that non-motorized vehicles operated on the road must meet safety requirements such as steering systems, wheel systems, construction, brakes, front and rear lights, and horns. These provisions are important to ensure the safety of electric bicycle users and provide legal certainty to the police in carrying out supervision and enforcement. The use of helmets as safety equipment is

also a must for electric bicycle users as regulated in the Regulation of the Minister of Transportation of the Republic of Indonesia Number 45 of 2020. (Bangun & Ginting, 2022)

Ideally, the use of electric bicycles should utilize different lanes from other motorized vehicles, such as bicycle lanes or special lanes for low-speed vehicles. Article 62 of the LLAJ Law has emphasized the importance of providing such special lanes to ensure traffic safety and smoothness. In practice, the existence of road infrastructure that does not yet support this in various regions, including in Gorontalo City, is one of the obstacles in implementing this policy. Education and socialization programs on the use of electric bicycles also need to be strengthened as emphasized in Article 93 paragraphs (1) and (3) and Article 94 paragraph (4) of the LLAJ Law. This socialization aims to increase public awareness of rights and obligations in traffic, especially in the use of non-conventional vehicles such as electric bicycles.

The implementation of the LLAJ Law must provide a clear basis for supervision for traffic units (Satlantas) in various regions, especially in Gorontalo City. Supervision and law enforcement against violations committed by electric bicycle users need to be strengthened, including the implementation of strict sanctions for violations of safety standards such as not wearing helmets, exceeding the maximum speed, and using electric bicycles on highways without supporting legal provisions. In addition, cooperation between Satlantas, local governments, and the electric bicycle user community must be improved to ensure that existing regulations are implemented consistently and effectively. The use of traffic monitoring technology and traffic violation reporting systems can also be optimized to increase the effectiveness of supervision and law enforcement.

Electric bicycles are a relatively new form of transportation in Indonesia. Unfortunately, not all traffic regulations specifically regulate these vehicles, which makes it difficult for police to enforce the law effectively in the field. Many electric bicycle users, especially children and teenagers, do not understand traffic regulations and the importance of driving safety. This increases the risk of accidents and increases the burden of supervision that must be carried out by the police. Moreover, the road infrastructure in Gorontalo City currently does not fully support the use of electric bicycles, such as the absence of special lanes. Without adequate infrastructure support, the potential for accidents on the highway will increase, especially if electric bicycle users mix with motorized vehicle traffic.

In addition, supervision of e-bike riders' compliance with regulations such as speed limits and helmet use is still limited. Lack of public awareness and minimal socialization are major obstacles to law enforcement. In fact, the LLAJ Law clearly stipulates that every driver must comply with traffic safety principles, including the use of safety equipment, compliance with traffic signs, and concern for other road users. The importance of legal education for the public is an integral part of the strategy to overcome traffic violations committed by e-bike users. (Amin et al, 2020)

In the context of Gorontalo City, the use of electric bicycles has begun to develop and become an alternative transportation for the community. In fact, electric bicycles are now being rented commercially, both to children and adults. Based on the results of the researcher's interview with the Head of the Gorontalo City Police Traffic Unit, AKP Octalya Saka, it was explained that the police had made efforts to coordinate with electric bicycle rental places to provide socialization and education to users regarding the risks and dangers of using electric bicycles on the highway. However, according to his confession, these efforts have not been running optimally due to several obstacles.

First, socialization has not reached all groups of electric bicycle users so that many are still unaware of the applicable traffic regulations. Second, in traffic management, electric bicycles often move faster than regular bicycles, but there are no strict regulations governing the position of electric bicycles on the highway. Third, the use of electric bicycles on busy highways without special lanes increases the risk of accidents. Fourth, the police also face obstacles in law enforcement due to the lack of provisions that specifically regulate these vehicles, especially in the current Laws and Regional Regulations.

According to the Gorontalo City Police Traffic Unit records, throughout 2023 there have been two traffic accidents involving electric bicycle users. Both cases were resolved amicably through a restorative justice approach. The principles of restorative justice applied include restitution for victims through compensation, peace, social work, and other forms of agreement. However, if the accident results in serious injury or death, of course a more formal legal approach must be applied to ensure a sense of justice and legal accountability in society.

Although until now there is no Regional Regulation (Perda) or Mayor Regulation (Perwako) that specifically regulates the use of electric bicycles, the regional government and the Gorontalo Regional Police (Polda) are currently drafting the regulation. One of the initial formulations is that electric bicycles may not be used on public roads, except in certain areas such as residential areas or tourist areas that have limited lanes. The purpose of this regulation is to reduce the risk of traffic accidents and provide a safe space for electric bicycle users without disrupting motorized vehicle traffic.

The urgency of the formation of this regulation cannot be separated from the need to increase public legal awareness, especially in traffic. The low level of public awareness of safety and legal compliance is the main obstacle in creating orderly and safe traffic. Therefore, the police together with local governments must take an active role in building a legal culture in society. This is in line with the mandate of Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the Republic of Indonesia Police, especially Article 5 paragraph (1) which states that the Republic of Indonesia Police is a state apparatus that plays a role in maintaining public security and order, enforcing the law, and providing protection and services to the community.

Furthermore, the police's duties in the context of using electric bicycles include preventive, repressive, and educational aspects. In the preventive aspect, the police must be able to build collective public awareness through educational programs and traffic safety campaigns. In the repressive aspect, the police are required to be firm in taking action against violations that can threaten public safety. Meanwhile, in the educational aspect, the police must build partnerships with the community and educational institutions to instill a culture of orderly traffic from an early age. This strategy is in line with the mandate of Article 1 paragraph (3) of the 1945 Constitution that the Republic of Indonesia is a country of law, which means that every action of the government and citizens must be subject to the law.

To maximize the use of electric bicycles as environmentally friendly future transportation, there needs to be strong and comprehensive legal system support. Regulations regarding the classification of electric bicycles, safety equipment, areas of use, and sanctions for violations must be formulated in detail and implemented. In addition, the development of infrastructure such as special lanes for electric bicycles and the provision of adequate parking spaces are integral parts in supporting this policy. Integration between legal planning and infrastructure development will be an effective solution in addressing the challenges of using electric bicycles in Indonesian cities.

Thus, electric bicycles as an alternative vehicle should not be allowed to develop without adequate supervision and regulation. The police, in this case the Traffic Unit, have a great responsibility to ensure that every electric bicycle user complies with applicable legal provisions. Strengthening regulations, improving infrastructure, and building public legal awareness must run in parallel so that traffic safety and order can be realized. Handling of accident cases involving electric bicycles must also be based on the principle of justice, both through formal law and a restorative approach that considers the social aspects of society. Within the framework of a state of law, there should be no legal vacuum or legal uncertainty, especially in the context of traffic that concerns the safety of human life. Therefore, efforts to increase the role of the police, adequate regulatory support, and public legal awareness are key elements in creating a more humane and sustainable traffic order.

## CONCLUSION

The police have a strategic role and legal responsibility in handling and regulating the use of electric bicycles on the highway, especially in ensuring compliance with applicable regulations and ensuring safety standards. The police do not only act as law enforcers, but also as implementers of educational and preventive functions through socialization activities and the preparation of more specific regulatory proposals, including regulations on special lanes for electric bicycles. Therefore, it is recommended that the Gorontalo City government immediately prepare comprehensive regulations related to the use of electric bicycles, including technical aspects, user age, and the provision of special lanes. The police also need to increase collaboration with related agencies such as the Transportation Agency to strengthen law enforcement and supervision of traffic violations by electric bicycle users. In addition, the public is expected to increase legal awareness and discipline in traffic, including understanding and complying with safety regulations in the use of electric bicycles, in order to create orderly and safe traffic in Gorontalo City.

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