

**EXPLORING ENGLISH TERMINOLOGIES USED IN  
PROSECUTOR LEGAL PRACTICES**

**SKRIPSI**



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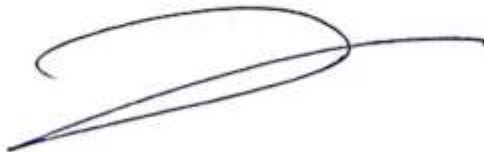
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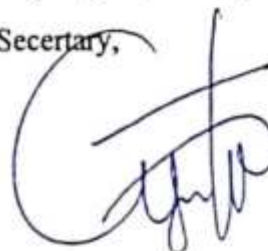
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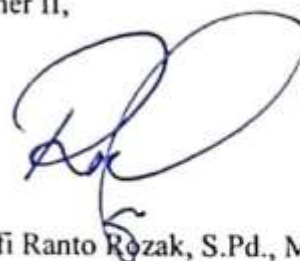
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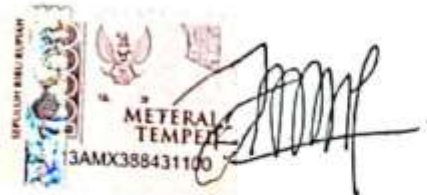
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## MOTTO

**"Our task is not to succeed, our task is to try, because it is in trying that we discover the opportunity to succeed."**

(Buya Hamka)

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First and foremost, I wish to convey my utmost gratitude to Allah SWT for His boundless mercy, guidance, and strength, which have allowed me to complete this research successfully.

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Bojonegoro, 9 July 2025



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## ABSTRACT

Rizki, Khana Maulida (2025). Exploring English Terminologies used in Prosecutor Legal Practices, *Skripsi*, English Education Department, Faculty of Languages and Arts Education, IKIP PGRI Bojonegoro, Advisor (I) Dr. Ima Isnaini Taufiqur Rohmah, M.Pd., (II) Ayu Fitrianingsih, M.Pd.

**Keywords:** Legal Terminologies, Legal Translation, Legal English

The use of English legal terminology is increasingly important in prosecutorial practice, particularly in the context of international cooperation and reference to global legal systems. In these situations, prosecutors are required to understand and accurately translate English legal terms in order to maintain legal clarity and avoid misunderstandings. However, there is limited research on how English legal terminology is used and translated in Indonesian prosecutorial practice. This study aims to identify English legal terminology commonly used in prosecutorial practice and describe how it is translated into Indonesian. This research was conducted at the Kejaksaan Tinggi Jawa Timur from February to March 2025.

This research used a qualitative descriptive design. Data was obtained through observations, interviews, and document analysis involving prosecutors and prosecution staff. The findings show that: (1) frequently used English legal terms include defendant, prosecutor, plea bargain, jurisdiction, and indictment, which appear both in legal documents and in courtroom discussions; and (2) translation of these terms is done through literal, contextual, and descriptive approaches, depending on the equivalence of the terms in the Indonesian legal system. In conclusion, this research emphasizes the importance of consistent use of legal glossaries and contextual understanding to ensure accurate translations, thereby supporting effective legal communication in a multilingual prosecutorial environment.

## ABSTRAK

Rizki, Khana Maulida (2025). Exploring English Terminologies used in Prosecutor Legal Practices, *Skripsi*, English Education Department, Faculty of Languages and Arts Education, IKIP PGRI Bojonegoro, Advisor (I) Dr. Ima Isnaini Taufiqur Rohmah, M.Pd., (II) Ayu Fitrianingsih, M.Pd.

**Keywords :** Legal Terminologies, Legal Translation, Legal English

Penggunaan terminologi hukum berbahasa Inggris semakin penting dalam praktik kejaksaan, terutama dalam konteks kerja sama internasional dan referensi terhadap sistem hukum global. Dalam situasi ini, jaksa dituntut untuk memahami serta menerjemahkan istilah-istilah hukum berbahasa Inggris secara akurat guna menjaga kejelasan hukum dan menghindari kesalahpahaman. Namun, penelitian mengenai bagaimana terminologi hukum Inggris digunakan dan diterjemahkan dalam praktik kejaksaan di Indonesia masih terbatas. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi terminologi hukum Inggris yang umum digunakan dalam praktik kejaksaan serta mendeskripsikan cara penerjemahannya ke dalam bahasa Indonesia. Penelitian ini dilakukan di Kejaksaan Tinggi Jawa Timur dari bulan Februari hingga Maret 2025.

Penelitian ini menggunakan desain deskriptif kualitatif. Data diperoleh melalui observasi, wawancara, dan analisis dokumen yang melibatkan jaksa serta staf kejaksaan. Temuan menunjukkan bahwa: (1) istilah hukum Inggris yang sering digunakan antara lain *defendant*, *prosecutor*, *plea bargain*, *jurisdiction*, dan *indictment*, yang muncul baik dalam dokumen hukum maupun dalam diskusi di ruang sidang; dan (2) penerjemahan istilah-istilah tersebut dilakukan melalui pendekatan literal, kontekstual, dan deskriptif, bergantung pada kesetaraan istilah dalam sistem hukum Indonesia. Penelitian ini menekankan pentingnya penggunaan glosarium hukum yang konsisten dan pemahaman kontekstual untuk memastikan terjemahan yang akurat, sehingga mendukung komunikasi hukum yang efektif dalam lingkungan kejaksaan multibahasa.



## PREFACE

All praise is due to Allah SWT, the Most Gracious and Most Merciful, for His guidance, strength, and blessings that have enabled me to complete this undergraduate thesis entitled "*Exploring English Terminologies Used In Prosecutor Legal Practices*." This thesis is submitted as part of the requirements for obtaining the degree of Sarjana Pendidikan at the English Education Department, Faculty of Language and Arts Education, IKIP PGRI Bojonegoro.

This research focuses on two main objectives: (1) to identify and analyze the English terms frequently used by prosecutors in legal proceedings, both in official documents and courtroom discourse, and (2) to explore how English legal terminology is translated into Indonesian, with attention to preserving meaning and avoiding misinterpretation in the legal process. The findings are expected to offer valuable insights into the intersection between legal practice and language, particularly within bilingual or multilingual legal contexts.

The completion of this thesis would not have been possible without the support, encouragement, and assistance of many people. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my supervisors, Mrs. Dr. Ima Isnaini, M.Pd and Mrs. Ayu Nurdianingsih, M.Pd, for their invaluable guidance, encouragement, and constructive feedback throughout the research and writing process of this thesis.

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Lastly, my heartfelt appreciation goes to my dearest family and friends for their unwavering support, love, and prayers, which have been my greatest source of strength and motivation throughout this academic journey.

I am fully aware that this thesis is not without its shortcomings. Therefore, I humbly accept constructive suggestions and criticism for future improvement. I hope this research will be useful to readers, especially those interested in the use of English in the context of law and legal translation practice.

Bojonegoro, 9 July 2025



Khana Maulida Rizki

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# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **A. Background of Study**

English is an international language frequently used in the global legal context, including in the practice of law in Indonesia, and English plays an important role in the international legal order. As Indonesia's legal system increasingly interacts with the global community, it becomes especially important for prosecutors to understand legal terms in English, which are often used in international legal work. According to (Biel & Kockaert, 2023), legal terminology is part of the language system used in legal communication that has a technical and specialized meaning, often different from everyday usage. Legal terminology in English includes words or phrases with specific legal meanings, which encourages research into their use and translation in prosecution practice. As (Tirtanawati, 2021) explains that learning and understanding vocabulary is a basic skill, because without it, it is hard to develop other abilities. This is especially true in legal situations, where words must be understood very clearly to avoid mistakes.

According to Webster, (2022), legal language differs from daily language in its structure, meaning and usage. Legal terminology in English often contains more complex and technical meanings than words used in daily conversation. For example, the term “defendant” in a legal context not only refers to the “accused,” but also contains various legal implications related to that individual's role and responsibilities in the criminal justice system. Therefore, it is important to identify

English terms that are frequently used in prosecutorial legal practice, as well as how they are translated into Indonesian so that they can be properly understood in different legal contexts.

The main difference between general or conversational English and legal English lies in the specificity and structured nature of legal terminology, which is closely related to legal principles and judicial procedures. For example, the word “guilty” may simply mean “bersalah” in everyday usage, but in legal contexts, it has a formal connotation associated with legal guilt and is often associated with procedural steps that establish a person's guilt. Therefore, a proper understanding of legal terminology in English is essential to ensure that prosecutors can communicate effectively in international or bilingual legal environment. (Fitrianingsih, 2017) supports this, noting that many Indonesians believe mastering English is a critical skill for navigating the globalized world.

The phenomenon of the use of English legal terminology among prosecutors in Indonesia shows a gap in understanding between translation and application in everyday legal practice. Some prosecutors may have difficulty accurately translating certain terms due to ambiguities or differences in meaning between English and Indonesian. This has the potential to affect the judicial process, especially in cases involving international law or the use of international legal terms. In addition, there is a tendency to translate English legal terms directly without considering the legal nuances contained in the original context. This problem is reflected in a study by Ana and Puspani (2021), which found that literal translation ranked highest among fifteen techniques used by legal translators, followed by calque, pragmatic amplification, and established equivalence. These



findings support the observation that literal translation remains the dominant approach even in legal contexts that require more nuanced and functional interpretation.

Understanding English legal terminology is crucial for prosecutors, as it directly supports their tasks such as drafting indictments, presenting legal arguments, and interacting with international stakeholders. A strong understanding of legal vocabulary helps prevent misinterpretation that can negatively impact the judicial process. As (Dupras et al., 2011) explain, in-depth knowledge of legal terminology minimizes the risk of mistranslation or misunderstanding, which can affect the fairness of a trial. For example, confusion between terms such as “jurisdiction” and “competence” in international law can lead to inappropriate handling of cross-border cases. Therefore, this research seeks to explore the use, translation and application of legal terms in Indonesian prosecution practice.

However, in practice, Indonesian prosecutors often face challenges in accurately translating English legal terms due to differences in legal systems and the ambiguity of certain terms. This gap between translation and practical application can affect legal outcomes, especially in international cases. (Ariska dwi fatmasari et al., 2024) emphasize that vocabulary mastery is a crucial component in the process of learning English, reinforcing its importance in legal translation and communication. Similarly, (Nurdianingsih et al., 2024) note that English serves not only as a communication tool but also as a means to broaden perspectives, strengthen intercultural understanding, and enhance global competitiveness.

Furthermore, Indonesian prosecutors often face challenges in accurately translating English legal terms due to differences in legal systems and the ambiguity of certain terms. This gap between translation and practical application can affect legal outcomes, especially in international cases. (Ariska dwi fatmasari et al., 2024) emphasize that vocabulary mastery is a crucial component in the process of learning English, reinforcing its importance in legal translation and communication. Similarly, (Nurdianingsih et al., 2024) note that English serves not only as a communication tool but also as a means to broaden perspectives, strengthen intercultural understanding, and enhance global competitiveness.

## **B. Research Problem**

1. What are the English terminologies commonly used in prosecutor legal practices?
2. How is the way of English terminology translated in prosecutor legal practices?

## **C. The Objective of the Research**

1. This study aims to identify and analyze the English terms frequently used by prosecutors in legal proceedings, both in official documents and in court conversations. This identification is important to understand the types of terminology that are part of the legal routine in prosecution practice.
2. This research aims to explore how English terminologies used in prosecutorial legal practice is translated into Indonesian. The main focus is to understand how accurate translation and context is required to ensure that

the legal terms do not lose meaning or become misinterpreted in the legal process.

## **D. Research Significance**

### **1. Theoretical**

This research makes an important contribution to the field of legal linguistics, particularly in understanding the use of English terminology commonly used in prosecutorial legal practice. By identifying and analyzing legal terms frequently used in official documents and judicial conversations, this research offers a deeper understanding of the role of language in legal communication, especially in the context of prosecution. It also develops existing theories in legal translation and terminology studies, focusing on how to translate legal terms from English to Bahasa Indonesia, as well as how accurate and contextualized translation is essential to avoid changes in meaning or misinterpretation in legal proceedings.

### **2. Practically**

Practically, the results of this study will be useful for legal practitioners, translators and law enforcement institutions in ensuring accurate and precise translations of legal documents and judicial proceedings. Understanding the most frequently used English legal terms and their appropriate Indonesian equivalents is crucial to maintaining the integrity of legal practice and preventing misinterpretations that could impact legal outcomes. By providing a comprehensive overview of the terminology used in prosecutorial legal practice, this research also helps to improve the quality of legal translation,

allowing for more clear and precise legal communication and supporting more effective legal practice, both nationally and internationally.

## **E. Definition of Key Terminologies**

### **1. English Terminology**

English terminology refers to the collection of words and phrases used in English to convey specific and technical concepts in various fields, such as law. In the legal context, this terminology is crucial as it includes terms used to describe various aspects of the legal process, such as judicial procedures, terms relating to individual rights, and legal concepts applicable in a jurisdiction. According to Biel (2023), legal terminology is a structured system of technical terms that carry precise and fixed meanings within the legal domain and differ significantly from general language usage. These terms are essential for ensuring clarity and consistency in legal interpretation, especially when applied in multilingual or cross-jurisdictional settings. Bhatia et al., 2008 emphasizes that legal terminology in English consists of words that have specific meanings that cannot be conventionally understood without considering the legal context in which they are used.

In addition, Gotti (2016) notes that legal language serves to communicate complex legal ideas with great precision, which cannot be replaced by common words. Legal terminology in English, according to Gotti, is formed to ensure that the meaning contained in the law can be clearly understood by parties involved in justice. This includes courts, lawyers, prosecutors, and other parties involved in legal proceedings, where clarity of terms is essential to avoid legal uncertainty.

The use of legal terminology in legal practice requires a deep understanding of the context and function of each term, as the accuracy and relevance of legal translations are critical to preserving the original meaning and legal effect (Cao, 2023). Inaccurate translations can lead to misunderstandings that may potentially influence legal outcomes, making a strong understanding of English legal terms essential, especially in multilingual legal environments. From a theoretical perspective, this contributes to the field of legal linguistics by clarifying the role of English legal terminology in prosecutorial communication, while practically providing insights for legal practitioners, translators, and law enforcement to improve the clarity and accuracy of translations. As noted by Rohmah (2017), English proficiency opens up employment opportunities not only in law but also in various fields such as entrepreneurship and public service.

As globalization and international interaction develop, the use of English terminology is also increasingly important in the context of international law. Mellinkoff (2019) states that English legal terms are heavily influenced by the Anglo-Saxon legal system and have spread to many countries in the world. Therefore, legal professionals involved in international courts or cross-border legal transactions must master legal English terminology to ensure that communication between different legal systems can run smoothly and without language barriers.

In conclusion, English terminology in a legal context are terms used in the English language to describe very specific technical and legal concepts. This language is designed to convey legal ideas clearly and accurately, with the

aim of ensuring that every parties involved in the legal process can understand precisely the meaning and implications of the terms used. As Bhatia, Gotti, Cao, and Mellinkoff explain, legal terminology plays an important role in achieving clarity and precision in legal communication, both in national and international contexts.

## **2. Prosecutor Legal Practice**

According to Firdaus (2022), prosecutor legal practice plays a central role in the criminal justice system, particularly in ensuring that the prosecution process adheres to principles of justice, fairness, and public accountability. Prosecutors are not only responsible for representing the state in criminal cases but are also key actors in upholding the rule of law and protecting public interests. Their authority and discretion carry significant consequences, making it essential for them to act with integrity and professionalism throughout legal proceedings. Firdaus emphasizes that understanding the procedures and ethical considerations involved in prosecution is crucial to maintaining the credibility and effectiveness of the legal system.

According to Saputra et al. (2022) prosecutor legal practice encompasses activities carried out by prosecutors in various legal domains, including court proceedings, civil matters, and state administration. Their role is centered on upholding justice, ensuring governmental authority, safeguarding the nation's wealth, and protecting the public interest. This multifaceted responsibility highlights the pivotal position prosecutors hold in maintaining the balance between state authority and public welfare.

Sunggara & Marbun (2021), emphasize a critical perspective on prosecutor legal practice, noting that public prosecutors often exhibit a

tendency to disregard broader legal relationships that contribute to the commission of a suspected crime. This narrow focus can lead to an oversight of contextual factors and the interconnected nature of legal and social issues, potentially affecting the fairness and comprehensiveness of judicial outcomes.

Underscores the ethical dimension of prosecutor legal practice, emphasizing the expectation for prosecutors to maintain high professional ethics in their roles as enforcers of the law (Taher, 2019). As an institution responsible for prosecution and the execution of court decisions, the integrity and ethical conduct of prosecutors are fundamental to ensuring public trust and the effective functioning of the legal system.

In conclusion, prosecutor legal practice represents a critical function within the judicial system, combining the pursuit of justice, adherence to ethical standards, and protection of societal interests. While their role is indispensable in upholding the rule of law, it also demands continuous scrutiny and accountability to address tendencies that might undermine the fairness and efficacy of legal processes. This duality defines the complexity and significance of prosecutorial work in modern legal systems.