

The Indonesian Update

Monthly Review on Economic, Legal, Security, Political, and Social Affairs



Main Report:

The Significance of the 2024 EIT Law to the Problems of the Right to Freedom of Expression in Previous EIT Laws

The Economics

- Analysis of the Impact of AI and Democracy Decline on the Indonesian Economy in 2024 ■
- Optimizing the Potential of the Blue Economy in Indonesia ■

Politics

- The Observation on the 2024 Elections for Organizers and Participants ■
- The Implications of the Multiparty System in Indonesia ■
- Anticipating Data Leaks for the 2024 Election ■

Social

- Highlighting the Welfare of Key Population Groups in Indonesia ■
- The Reflection on the PKH Program as a Form of Social Protection Program in 2023 ■

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FOREWORD

The January 2024 edition of the Indonesian Update highlights a main report regarding the formal suitability analysis of the preparations for the second amendment to the Law on Information and Electronic Transactions (UU ITE) as well as the material of the second amendment to the ITE Law, as well as how this Law addresses the problems of regulating freedom of expression in the digital realm. This is important, as the implementations of the ITE Law should always respect the right to freedom of expression.

In the economic field, the Indonesian Update addresses the challenges of the development of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology and the decline of democracy. This also affects the economy in Indonesia. Next, we also discuss the development of the blue economy in Indonesia. However, a number of homework must be done by the Government to develop the potential of the blue economy in Indonesia.

In the political field, the Indonesian Update raises notes related to the implementations of the 2024 elections. There are three points that the organizers should address; namely, the election outreach program before the campaign, the length of the campaign period, and women's issues in the elections. Meanwhile, the election participants should address the political party system, public education and campaign ethics. Next, we examine the implications of the multiparty system in Indonesia. The diversity of political parties reflects the diversity of opinions and aspirations in the society. This creates challenges in forming coalitions and making effective political decisions.

Next, we also discuss anticipating data leaks for the 2024 elections. KPU must be able to provide guarantees regarding the security of election data. KPU should not let another election leak occur, which will result in a decline in public confidence in the election results.

In the social sector, the Indonesian Update addresses the welfare of key population groups, which is currently considered to be the Government's main focus in controlling the spread of HIV/AIDS. This also affects the economy in Indonesia. Furthermore, we also discuss the implementations of social services, which are the keys in meeting community needs as mandated by law. Participation and collaboration of various parties are needed to create a prosperous country and quality of human life.

It is hoped that the monthly publication of the Indonesian Update with current themes will help policy makers in government and business institutions - as well as academic circles, think tanks and elements of civil society, both at home and abroad, to obtain actual information and contextual analysis about economic conditions, politics, social and law in Indonesia, as well as an understanding of public policy in Indonesia.

Happy reading.

The Significance of the 2024 EIT Law to the Problems of the Right to Freedom of Expression in Previous EIT Laws

The Law on Electronic Information and Transactions has been considered problematic since it was first enacted through Law Number 11/2008 on Electronic Information and Transactions (EIT Law). The 2008 EIT Law was then amended for the first time through Law Number 19/2016 concerning the first amendment to the EIT Law (old EIT Law). However, this first amendment is still considered to have not answered the problems created for freedom of speech. As a result, a second amendment needed to be made again to the EIT Law. The second amendment to the EIT Law is expected to answer the problems that have been ongoing since the first EIT Law was enacted.

In following up on the need to amend the EIT Law, the second amendment to the EIT Law in Law Number 1/2024 was enacted in 2024. President of the Republic of Indonesia Joko Widodo said that the second amendment to the EIT Law aimed to provide protection for the public interest from disturbances in the digital realm caused by the misuse of electronic information, electronic documents, information technology, and electronic transactions that interfere with interests (cnbcindonesia.com, 9/1/2024).

However, many criticisms have emerged toward the second amendment to the EIT Law, from the formal drafting to the material. In this paper, we will summarize the analysis of the formal conformity of the drafting of the second amendment to the EIT Law as well as the material of the second amendment to the EIT Law, and how this Law answers the problem of regulating freedom of speech in the digital realm.

The Formal Analysis of the Drafting Process of the Second Amendment to the EIT Law

The second amendment to the EIT Law had long been awaited, but its drafting, which was closed, had invited public criticism (Purnamasari in kompas.id, 9/1/2024). According to the Civil

Society Coalition for EIT Law Advocacy, consisting of more than 20 civil society organizations committed to overseeing changes to the EIT Law, the process of drafting the second amendment to the EIT Law was not transparent and had not provided opportunities for the public to get involved (kontras.org, 5/1/2024).

Looking back at the track record of the development of the second amendment bill to the EIT Law reported on the House of Representatives (*Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat/DPR*) portal in the *Prolegnas* (National Legislation Program) option, the second amendment to the EIT Law was proposed in the *Prolegnas* on December 17, 2019 and was enacted on January 2, 2024. In the track record, the progress of the discussion of the bill on the second amendment to the EIT Law had not been updated, so the latest development was still in the “Start” status as of the date of this writing (11/01) (dpr.go.id, 17/12/2019). The track record for all bills in *Prolegnas* is on this page, which is the main place where the public can access it. However, this is not matched by the DPR’s efforts to keep the public informed and up-to-date on bill texts and their progress through this page.

Nowhere in the official track record of the DPR website is the timeline of the development of the bill on the second amendment to the EIT Law. Instead, this information is found in the Legislation Info, which is an internal report from the Center for Drafting Laws in the Fields of Politics, Law, and Human Rights and the Fields of Economy, Finance, Industry, and Development and People’s Welfare on the portal by the Expertise Agency of the House of Representatives. In addition, the author also summarizes the DPR Commission I meeting schedule and the Plenary Session Schedule on the dpr.go.id portal. Of the 31 meeting dates scheduled in these pages, public hearings (*rapat dengar pendapat umum/RDPU*) involving the public were conducted 2 (two) times during the discussion; that is, first with the Indonesian Fintech Association (AFTECH), Amnesty International, SAFEnet, and AJI (Alliance of Independent Journalists). Furthermore, a public hearing was conducted with Dr. Hj Sinta Dewi, S.H., LL.M. (UNPAD), Dr. Edmon Makarim, S.Kom., S.H., LL.M. (Dean of Faculty of Law-UI), and Dr. Helni Mutiarsih Jumhur (ICT Policy Expert Telkom University).

According to the information above, it can be concluded that the establishment of the second amendment to the EIT Law has fulfilled Article 96 paragraph (6) of Law No. 13/2022 on the Second Amendment to Law No. 12/2011 on the Establishment of Legislation (Legislation Law) to conduct public consultation activities in the form of public hearings. But, it did not fulfill Article 96 paragraph (5)

and the principle of openness in Article 5 of Legislation Law because it did not inform the public about the Establishment of Legislation. This is because there is no information on the draft law shown in the track record on the DPR's official website, where the public can access DPR activities. As of the date of this article, there has been no update to the DPR's track record page (dpr.go.id, 17/12/2019).

The Comparison of the Old and New EIT Law

Regarding the articles relating to freedom of expression in the EIT Law, the following are the changes and their significance. *First*, Article 26 paragraph (3) does not receive any changes. The unchanged Article 26 paragraph (3) causes problems that have existed since the previous EIT Law, which lie in the phrases “irrelevant information” and “based on a court decision”. Furthermore, the phrase “based on a court order” is very one-sided because only one party can request and determine it. The phrase “irrelevant information” does not have clear parameters in what context, and how it is classified as irrelevant (Wahyudin, Policy Paper Launch, YouTube AJI, 29/4/2021). The Explanation of Article 26 paragraph (3) of the old and new EIT Law only states “clear”, which further proves the absence of parameters for the phrase “irrelevant information” in this article. Therefore, the same wording of Article 26 paragraph (3) in the second amendment to the EIT Law does not answer the problems posed in its old formulation.

Second, Article 27 changed the second amendment to the EIT Law from previously having 4 (four) paragraphs to 2 (two) paragraphs. The two omitted paragraphs were expanded into Articles 27A and 27B. In Article 27 paragraph (1), the methods of distributing, transmitting, and making accessible are elaborated by adding the methods of broadcasting and performing and the target; namely, public knowledge. Meanwhile, in paragraph (2), the word “and/or” is omitted, which supports the drafting of sentences with better conjunctions.

In the previous EIT Law, Article 27 paragraphs (1) to (4) were often used to criminalize civilians (KontraS.org, 5/1/2024). Article 27 paragraph (1) in the formulation of the previous EIT Law has a vulnerability to punish victims of online gender-based violence (GBV) (Dunan & Mudjiyanto, 2022), which in general, the indecent content that is sued contains the victim's person or can even use the victim's persona to share indecent content, as informed by SAFEnet in its guidelines (2020). Article 27 paragraph (1) of the second amendment to the EIT Law adds the definition of “violating

decency” and its interpretation based on contemporary community standards, as well as the definition of “known to the public”, which means “a large group of people, some of whom do not know each other”.

Changes in the wording and explanation of Article 27 paragraph (1) of the second amendment to the EIT Law are good to explain what is meant by decency so that case reporting is not too broad in interpreting “decency”. Looking at the criminal sanctions article in Article 45 paragraph (2) of the second amendment to the EIT Law, criminalization of the dissemination of immoral content is not carried out if it is in the public interest, self-defense, or is a work of art, culture, sports, health, and/or science. The point of self-defense addresses one of the concerns of KBGO victims in trying to defend themselves. However, other concerns such as the sharing of immoral content due to coercion, persuasion, deception, and others, have not been answered. Therefore, Article 27 paragraph (1) and Article 45 paragraph (2) are sufficient to answer the general scope of the distribution of indecent content and self-defense.

Third, Article 27A in the second amendment to the EIT Law. This article is an expansion of Article 27 paragraph (3) of the old EIT Law. Previously, Article 27 paragraph (3) of the old EIT Law was the most widely used article as the basis for prosecution in 2022 (SAFE-net, 2023). Article 27 paragraph (3) of the EIT Law regulates insults and/or defamation. The regulation of insult and/or defamation in the old EIT Law refers to Article 310 of the Criminal Code (Akbar, 2021), which lacks parameters and clarity in the content of insult and/or defamation (Liju, 2020; Cahyo, 2023). Article 27 paragraph (3) of the old EIT Law was often misused to repress criticism of state institutions or other people in the name of insults and/or defamation (Dunan & Mudjiyanto, 2022) and tended to be used to report each other (Basari, 2021).

In Article 27A of the second amendment to the EIT Law, the significant change lies in changing the phrase “insult and/or defamation” to “attacking honor or good name”. According to the Explanation of Article 27A, the definition of “attacking honor or good name” is “an act that degrades or damages the good name or dignity of another person to the detriment of that person, including defamation and/or slander”. If you pay close attention, the understanding of this explanation is still the same as the provisions in the Criminal Code, which is the reference of the old EIT Law, accompanied by the addition of the point “self-esteem” which both have no parameters.

However, in the regulation of criminal sanctions for Article 27A in Article 45 paragraphs (4) and (7), the act of intentionally attacking the honor or good name of another person under Article 27A is not punishable if it is done in the public interest, and if it is forced to defend itself. The Explanation of Article 45 paragraph (7) of the second amendment to the EIT Law emphasizes that public interest is defined as the interests of the society expressed by the right to expression and democracy. In the same point of explanation, it is also explained that “... criticism is important as part of freedom of expression that is as constructive as possible, even if it contains disapproval of the deeds or actions of others.” In this Explanation, criticism is interpreted as a form of supervision, correction, and suggestion on matters relating to the interests of society.”

According to Article 45 paragraph (7) and its Explanation, it can be interpreted that constructive criticism in the public interest and self-defense is not punishable. However, it should be noted that the criticism in question, which is not punishable, is “constructive” criticism. In fact, criticism can not only be conveyed in the form of “constructive” as referred to in the Explanation of Article 45 paragraph (7). Criticism, especially social criticism, according to Akhmad Zaini Abar (1997) can be conveyed in the form of expressions of satire, social and artistic performances in communications and literary art. These forms are generally not standardized to have all the points of supervision, correction, and suggestion as translated in the Explanation of Article 45 paragraph (7) but are still forms of criticism that individuals can give.

Therefore, the creation of the new Article 27A has provided a step forward in terms of protection against criminalizing criticism for public interest and self-defense. However, this does not yet extend to all types of criticism that are part of freedom of speech. In addition, using the term “public interest” is still prone to misinterpretation.

Fourth, Article 28 of the second amendment to the EIT Law. Article 28 in the old EIT Law is considered problematic because of its use in unequal cases between the reporter and the reported (Muldani, 2022). In addition, this article can repress certain religions and criticism from civil society (Henryanto & Gun, 2021). Similar to Article 27 paragraph (3) of the old EIT Law, Article 28 of the old EIT Law is multi-interpretive, can criminalize anyone, and is misused to report each other (Dunan & Mudjiyanto, 2020).

In the formulation of Article 28 of the second amendment to the EIT Law, the method of sharing content is elaborated again; namely, by distributing and/or transmitting in paragraph (1). Article 28 paragraph (2) clarifies the actions that cause hatred such as inciting, inviting, or influencing others. Finally, paragraph (3) is added, which

disseminates information and/or electronic documents containing falsehoods that can cause unrest in the community. This article is problematic because fake news still does not have clear parameters as before, and the addition of false news that causes riots in the community adds to the problems of this article.

Article 28 paragraph (3) of the second amendment to the EIT Law has the potential to violate the right to assemble to express opinions because unrest in the society is only interpreted as conditions that disturb public order in physical space in its explanation. If misused, then demonstrations, which are part of democracy, can be criminalized with this new Article 28 paragraph (3). Thus, Article 28 of the second amendment to the EIT Law does not solve the old problem but rather exacerbates it.

Fifth, Article 40 of the EIT Law is retained and paragraphs (2c), (2d), (3), (4), and (5) are added. Article 40 paragraphs (2a) and (2b) related to the disconnection of access by the Government are retained in the second amendment to the EIT Law. These paragraphs are problematic because they are prone to the Government disconnecting the internet network with the consideration of preventing the expansion of hoaxes or information that is considered disturbing the public order. This shows that access termination by the government is more important than court decisions (Heryanto and Gun, 2021; Kontras.org, 5/1/2024).

The formulation of Article 40 paragraph (2c) of the second amendment to the EIT Law explains what content can be removed; namely, those with pornographic content, gambling, or other content as referred to in the provisions of laws and regulations. These provisions provide some clarity, but the point about other content as stipulated in laws and regulations still opens up the potential for broad and unilateral interpretations by the government. Paragraph (2d) also adds that content harmful to the safety of life or health of individuals or the public can also be blocked by the government. Safety of life and health is actually regulated in the Siracusa Principles related to restrictions on civil rights; namely, to protect public health and public safety (ICCPR General Commentary No. 29, 2001).

According to this principle, the restrictions on the right to freedom of expression can only be made to protect public health and safety, not individuals. Furthermore, restrictions imposed by the state can only be imposed as a last resort when nothing else can be done to preserve public health, safety, and order (Standard Norms and Regulations No. 5 on the Right to Freedom of Opinion and

Expression, 2021). Therefore, although this article has attempted to define the types of content that the government can block access to, there are still provisions that can allow the government to block access without regard to the right to freedom of expression, so this article has not solved the previous problem.

Sixth, Article 40A of the second amendment to the EIT Law. This article only appears in the second amendment. To summarize, this article regulates that the Government has the authority to order Electronic System Operators (ESO) to adjust the Electronic System and / or take certain actions. If ESO violates, it will be subject to administrative sanctions. According to Article 40A, restrictions are carried out to create a digital ecosystem that is fair, accountable, safe, and innovative. Similar to the previous explanation, restrictions can only be done as a last resort. Article 40A has the potential for unilateral blocking by the government without the urgency of restrictions based on the Siracusa Principles. Thus, the addition of this article does not provide significance if it is not accompanied by adjustments to restrictions on rights in accordance with applicable human rights instruments.

Recommendations

According to the analysis above, it can be concluded that officially, the drafting of the second amendment to the EIT Law has not been in accordance with what is regulated in the Legislation Law, especially the principles of openness and meaningful participation in accordance with Article 5 and Article 96 paragraph (5) of the P3 Law. This paper has discussed the changes in the EIT Law related to freedom of expression and critical notes, as well as the problems that still exist related to the second amendment of the EIT Law, in Article 26 paragraph (3), Article 27 paragraph (1) jo. Article 45 paragraph (1) and paragraph (2), Article 27A jo. Article 45 paragraph (4) and paragraph (7), Article 28, Article 40, and Article 40A.

The following are recommendations related to these problems:

- a. Abolishing Article 26 of the second amendment to the EIT Law, establishing regulation of information and electronic documents that violate decency in favor of victims of GBV, and eliminating the policy of blocking access by the Government and the classification of information and electronic documents that can cause public unrest that can be misused to silence the right to freedom of expression;
- b. All levels of society, all policymakers, and all law enforcement

actors must then implement the EIT Law by always respecting the right to freedom of expression as protected in the 1945 Constitution, ICCPR, Human Rights Law, and other instruments that regulate it;

- c. The need for all levels of society, all policymakers, and all law enforcement actors to be able to distinguish criticism, injury to honor and good name, and hate speech by studying Standard Norms and Regulations Number 5 on the Right to Freedom of Opinion and Expression published by the National Human Rights Commission and other pieces of literature as references; and
- d. Police and courts need to recognize reports and prosecutions that are intimidating and repressive of free speech or strategic lawsuits against public participation (SLAPP).

The implementations of the EIT Law must always respect the right to freedom of speech.

- Christina Clarissa Intania -

Analysis of the Impact of AI and Democracy Decline on the Indonesian Economy in 2024

The world has just entered 2024, which is predicted to face numerous challenges, such as the rapid development of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology with its disruptive nature, which will have a significant impact on the Indonesian economy.

Moreover, 2024 is the year of the biggest general elections in history, and it is estimated that more than 60 countries will hold elections, including Indonesia (POLITICO, January 1, 2024; Forbes, January 3, 2024). However, 44% of the world is now ruled by electoral autocracy (V-Dem Institute in International Foundation for Electoral Systems, January 4, 2024).

In other words, the second challenge that will be faced is maintaining democratic resilience. Democracy has a positive impact on a country's economy, where countries that transition from a non-democratic government system to a democratic government system will achieve a Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita that is 20% higher after 25 years compared to countries that continue to adhere to a non-democratic system (Acemoglu, Naidu, Restrepo, Robinson, 2019).

This piece of writing analyzes the positive and negative impacts of the rapid development of AI and the impact of global democracy's decline on the Indonesian economy.

The Challenge of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its Impact on the Indonesian Economy

The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rapidly growing. Almost all businesses, from the automotive and health sector to the financial services sector, use AI in their business processes. Globally, as many as 35% of companies use AI (explodingtopics.com, July 24, 2023). In addition, according to the same source, the global market of AI is also projected to be worth US\$1.85 trillion in 2030.

One AI technology that will continue to grow in 2024 is generative AI. According to the Guardian (January 2, 2024), generative AI is a technology that can produce text, video, and other forms of content almost instantly. ChatGPT is one form of such generative AI. According to “The State of AI 2024: Challenges to adoption and key strategies for organizational success” (2023) by Dynatrace, leaders in the technology sector have identified their top priorities for investing in generative AI; namely, improving customer experience and customer support (34%), accelerating the speed of software development (26%), drive the efficiency of technology and information operations (22%), and improving applications security (18%).

However, according to that report, nearly 100% of leaders in the technology sector are concerned that generative AI could be susceptible to unintentional bias and misinformation. As many as 95% of leaders in the technology sector are also concerned about data leaks and illegal use of intellectual property due to code generation by generative AI. This was also shown by a Forbes survey, which found that as many as 75% of respondents were worried about misinformation from AI (Forbes, April 25, 2023).

Misinformation and disinformation by AI are also challenges and are the number two risks that might lead to a crisis in 2024. This risk was chosen by 53% of respondents from across the fields, such as academia, business, government, as well as the international community and civil society in the “The Global Risks Report 2024” by the World Economic Forum (WEF). It is feared that the risk of misinformation and disinformation by AI will increase in 2024, which is the biggest election year in the world. If AI is used to spread false information or information that causes hatred for certain potential leaders, it is feared that AI will cause riots and even confrontations due to the unwillingness of the supporters of the potential leader to accept the false information being spread. The principle of checks and balances will become increasingly difficult to assess.

Apart from misinformation and disinformation, the implementations of AI also affect the labor market. The International Monetary Fund (January 14, 2024) said that labor markets in the developed country would be more disrupted by AI than labor markets in developing countries. About 60% of jobs in developed countries are impacted by AI. Half of the jobs affected by AI will benefit from it, and the other half will replace human tasks, thereby reducing demand for labor, which in extreme cases will lead to the disappear-

ance of these types of jobs (International Monetary Fund, January 14, 2024). In Indonesia, 50%-60% of jobs will be affected by AI (Infobanknews.com, August 7, 2023). As many as 62% of Indonesians also expressed concerns about the potential for AI to replace their current jobs (Ipsos, July 20, 2023).

Despite these challenges, AI has a positive side for the Indonesian economy. Access Partnership (2023) states that US\$243.5 billion, or, equivalent to 18% of Indonesia's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2022, will be obtained from the utilization of generative AI in economic activities. In detail: US\$81.9 billion from the manufacturing industry, US\$39 billion from the construction industry, US\$28.1 billion from the wholesale and retail trade industry, US\$18.2 billion from the transportation services industry, US\$13.4 billion from the agricultural industry, hunting, forestry, and fisheries, and US\$62.9 billion from other industries.

In line with the Access Partnership, the optimization of AI will contribute US\$366 billion, or IDR 5,819 trillion, to Indonesia's GDP in 2030, according to a report by Kearney in 2023 (cnbcindonesia.com, October 31, 2023). Moreover, the Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy in a report entitled "Indonesian Tourism and Creative Economy Outlook 2023/2024", also said that the development of AI would support changes in the creative economy sector, especially encouraging and increasing innovation. AI will also make Indonesia's creative economy more inclusive, because AI provides opportunities for all societies to create creative, innovative, artistic, and high-value products (Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy, October 17, 2023).

The Challenges of the World Democracy Decline and Its Impact on the Indonesian Economy

There are more than 60 countries that will hold elections, both legislative elections and presidential elections, involving more than 4 billion people in 2024. However, the implementations of these elections will also followed by a decline in democracy in the global landscape. It is feared that the decline of democracy will have a negative impact on the world economy, including the economies of developing countries such as Indonesia.

In general, the democratic system has an indirect positive impact on the economy. According to Daron Acemoglu, Professor of Economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), countries with democratic systems spend money to improve the quality

of health and education services for their people. When the unfortunate communities have access to health and education, these communities can reach their potential and contribute to the local economy (ShareAmerica, March 9, 2023).

Moreover, a democratic system is also good for the business development in a country. According to the data from Freedom House (August 3, 2015), stable and transparent governments that are built on respect for human rights and the rule of law tend to create a conducive environment for businesses to thrive.

According to the explanations above, if Indonesia is able to maintain a democratic system that respects human rights and democratic institutions such as the rule of law, a conducive business environment will be created. This conducive environment can attract the interest of business leaders to invest capital in Indonesia, such as building factories that will absorb labor, which will ultimately elevate the regional economy.

Apart from that, these business people also have the opportunity to invest their capital in developing human resource capabilities. In other words, the decline of democracy will have the potential to reduce respect for human rights and democratic institutions, which will have an indirect impact on the economy.

Recommendations

In mitigating the risks of data leaks and the potential for misinformation and disinformation by AI, as well as maintaining the order of the democratic system in Indonesia, there are several recommendations that can be made.

First, the Government through the Ministry of Communication and Information needs to increase collaboration with the House of Representatives (DPR) in strengthening the implementations of Law Number 27/2022 concerning Personal Data Protection (UU PDP). Apart from that, the Ministry of Communication and Information can also strengthen and monitor more closely the ethics of using and utilizing AI. A circular letter has been issued through the Circular Letter of the Minister of Communication and Information Number 9/2023 concerning the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence, which was just signed on December 19 2023.

Second, in the current 2024 election campaign, the Government, through the General Election Commission (KPU) and the General Election Supervisory Agency (Bawaslu), can collaborate with busi-

ness entities in the technology sector in implementing checks and balances regarding circulating information and providing massive outreach to the public, such as the characteristics of misinformation and disinformation. KPU, Bawaslu and Polri can also provide facilities related to reporting misinformation and disinformation by the public. Collaboration with other relevant stakeholders is also important to carry out effective and impactful supervision and outreach.

Third, all elements of Ministries/Institutions, including the Coordinating Ministry for Political, Legal and Security Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Defense, academics, civil society alliances, TNI/Polri, and others must work together to maintain democratic stability so that it remains in line with existing corridors. This is important to maintain the stability of political conditions, which in fact have a correlation with economic growth.

- Putu Rusta Adijaya -

The world is facing the challenges of AI technology and the decline of democracy. This also affects the economy in Indonesia. The Government must strengthen the implementations of the Personal Data Protection Law; carry out checks and balances regarding circulating information; provide massive outreach to tackle misinformation and disinformation, as well as working together to maintain the stability of democracy in order to maintain the stability of political conditions, which incidentally have a correlation with economic growth.

Optimizing the Potential of the Blue Economy in Indonesia

Indonesia is the largest archipelagic country in the world with more than 18,000 islands, which are located between the mountainous island of Breueh in the west and Sibir Island in Humboldt Bay (Yos Sudarso Bay) in the east (Cribb and Ford, 2009). As an archipelagic country that has rich marine resources, Indonesia has also extraordinary blue economy potential if it is well-and-sustainably managed.

In the “Indonesia Blue Economy Roadmap” (2023) by the Ministry of National Development Planning/National Development Planning Agency (Bappenas), the meaning of the blue economy is stated in the Explanation of Article 14 Paragraph 1 of Law Number 32/2014 concerning Marine Affairs (UU 32/2014), which reads: “What is meant by “blue economy” is an approach to improving sustainable marine management, as well as conservation of marine and coastal resources and their ecosystems in order to realize economic growth with principles including community involvement, resource efficiency, minimizing waste, and double added value.”

The World Bank (2019) in the “Indonesia Blue Economy Roadmap” (2023) report estimates the value of Indonesia’s blue economy at US\$ 280 billion per year with maritime development and manufacturing being the two main sectors. The tourism value of coral reefs alone is worth US\$3 billion. Trade from captured fisheries production was worth a surplus of US\$4.12 billion in 2018 (Ministry of National Development Planning/National Development Planning Agency, 2023).

The development of the blue economy in Indonesia is also in line with the Indonesian Government’s commitment to achieving the mandate of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially for Marine Ecosystems (14th SDG), which is linked to other SDGs, such as Zero Poverty (1st SDG), Zero Hunger (2nd SDG), Quality Education (4th SDG), Clean and Affordable Energy (7th SDG), Decent Work and Economic Growth (8th SDG), Industry,

Innovation and Infrastructure (9th SDG), Reducing Inequality (10th SDG), Responsible Consumption and Production (12th SDG), Climate Change (13th SDG), etc. (Ministry of National Development Planning/National Development Planning Agency, 2023).

The Challenges of the Blue Economy in Indonesia

Blue economy transformation is included in eight agendas in the 2025-2045 National Long Term Development Plan (RPJPN). The contribution of the blue economy is expected to reach 12.45% of GDP in 2045 in accordance with the vision of a Golden Indonesia 2045 (Ministry of National Development Planning/National Development Planning Agency, 2023).

However, currently the potential of the blue economy in Indonesia has not been fully optimized. This can be seen from the contribution of the blue economy, which is still very low. Rian Prasetia, Senior Manager of Blue Halo S, Indonesian Conservation, said that the average contribution of the blue economy to Indonesia's GDP was only 3.6% (Coordinating Ministry for Maritime Affairs and Investment, September 29, 2023).

There are at least two challenges that hinder the development of the blue economy in Indonesia. First, marine waste that has not been managed properly. The World Bank (2021) says that marine waste has the potential to cost Indonesia more than US\$450 million per year, one of which is caused by poor governance. The World Bank (2021) noted that as many as 4.9 million tons of plastic waste in Indonesia fall into the mismanagement category out of the 7.8 million tons of plastic waste produced per year. Marine waste, which is dominated by plastic, poses a threat to regions that rely on marine tourism as an economic driver. Bali, a province known as the Island of the Gods, declared a "garbage emergency" as a result of the large amount of plastic waste on several tourist beaches. Bali itself 'contributes' to loss of income for the Indonesian tourism sector amounting to US\$55 million out of a total loss of income of US\$140 million per year in the Indonesian tourism sector due to plastic bag pollution according to estimates by the Making Oceans Plastic Free Initiative in 2017 (in World Bank, 2021).

Plastic waste in the ocean also increases the risk of microplastic contamination of seafood. These microplastics increase health risks for coastal communities who consume food directly caught from the sea and non-coastal communities who buy seafood supplied from coastal areas.

Dr. rer. Nat. Mufti Petala Patria, M.Sc. from the University of Indonesia said that marine animals contaminated with microplastics, both primary microplastics (microplastics that are deliberately made, for example for toothpaste products) and secondary microplastics (microplastics resulting from plastic waste fragments), affected chromosomes which could cause infertility, obesity, cancer and causes an abnormal immune system, which might also occur in humans (FMIPA University of Indonesia, June 14, 2022).

The risks of seafood contamination can reduce public demand for seafood from coastal areas. As a result, the economy of coastal communities that rely on marine products for their living will be affected, which will further increase the level of poverty in coastal areas. Reporting from [Republika.co.id](https://republika.co.id) (December 18, 2023), the poverty rate in coastal areas is 11.02% compared to the poverty rate in non-coastal areas which is 8.67%.

The second challenge for developing Indonesia's blue economy is funding. The blue economy contribution target of 15% in 2045 requires an investment of IDR 3.64 trillion to IDR 1,392.22 trillion per year (Ministry of National Development Planning/National Development Planning Agency, 2023). Blue economy funding from the State Revenue and Expenditure Budget (APBN) itself is no longer possible due to the limited fiscal space in the APBN. According to the Government Cooperation with Business Entities of the Ministry of Finance (August 22, 2023), other sources of sustainable development financing are needed, including Blue Finance, to cover 75%-80% of the sustainable development financing gap.

Regarding Blue Finance, the Government of President Joko Widodo (Jokowi) has succeeded in issuing the first Blue Bond in May 2023 with a tenor of 7 years and 10 years and raised 20.7 billion yen (equivalent to US\$150 million) as a form of Indonesia's commitment to developing blue economy. The coupons for each tenor are 1.2% and 1.43% (UNDP Indonesia, June 26, 2023).

In other words, President Jokowi's government can be said to have provided the foundation for the next government, which will soon be elected democratically by the people in the General Election (2024 Election) on 14 February 2024 in developing the potential of Indonesia's blue economy. However, there is still some homework that needs to be done to increase contributions and optimize the potential of the country's blue economy.

Recommendations for Optimizing Indonesia's Blue Economy

First, the Government through the Coordinating Ministry for Maritime Affairs and Investment must strengthen collaboration and cooperation with various other Ministries/Institutions, such as the Ministry of National Development Planning/National Development Planning Agency (Bappenas), the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, and the Ministry of Investment/Agency Investment Coordination in increasing the interest of domestic and foreign investors to fund blue economy projects in Indonesia, such as marine waste management infrastructure, marine ecosystem restoration and conservation efforts, marine ecotourism, and marine technology infrastructure.

This is important considering that sustainable projects such as the blue economy require large initial investments. Apart from that, the Coordinating Ministry for Maritime Affairs and Investment and the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries also need to strengthen regulations, reform regulations and mitigate risks related to blue economy projects in order to maintain investor risk levels. This is important considering that the investors' risk levels greatly influence the investors' desires to invest capital in a project.

Second, the Financial Services Authority can provide incentives for the banking sector that is willing to channel its funds to finance sustainable projects, such as the blue economy and improving the MSME sector in coastal areas. This is because the blue economy is not only related to marine waste management, but is also related to renewable energy sources from the sea and biotechnology.

Third, the Coordinating Ministry for Maritime Affairs and Investment, the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, and the Ministry of Manpower need to provide training and increase the literacy of communities and MSMEs in accordance with the four blue agendas they want to achieve; namely, Blue Health (including coastal spatial planning); Blue Food (including market expansion and supply chain access); Blue Innovation (including human resource capacity development and employment), and Blue Finance (including start-up incubation and development).

- Putu Rusta Adijaya -

There is still some homework that needs to be done to develop the potential of the blue economy in Indonesia. First, the Government must increase investor interest in funding blue economy projects and maintain investor risk levels. Second, the Government needs to provide incentives for the banking sector, which is willing to channel its funds to finance blue economy projects and improve the MSME sector in coastal areas. "Third, the Government needs to provide training and increase the literacy of the community and MSMEs in accordance with the four blue agendas they want to achieve, namely Blue Health, Blue Food, Blue Innovation and Blue Finance.

The Observation on the 2024 Elections for Organizers and Participants

Since the 2024 election campaign officially started on November 27 2024, until today, the campaign has been running for approximately 44 days. During that time, there were several important points to be used as the material for joint evaluation for the upcoming elections. This article will outline several points for election organizers and participants. Points for organizers will include three main points; namely, the election outreach program before the campaign, the length of the campaign period, and women's issues in the elections. Meanwhile, points for election participants will cover the party system, public education and campaign ethics.

The Points for Election Organizers

Referring to General Election Commission Regulation (PKPU) no. 15/2023 concerning Campaigns, there are provisions regarding information dissemination and political education in chapter X Article 79 (2). In this regulation, it is explained that during information dissemination and political education period, election participants can do things, such as placing political party flags and holding limited meetings for internal parties.

However, the general provisions of these regulations do not clearly define the period of information dissemination and political education. The General Election Commission (KPU) also does not provide clear limits regarding the time span for implementing information dissemination. This caused the implementations of election outreach to be unclear, which made the definition and forms of activities blurry and indistinguishable from those in the election campaign.

Many election participants during the "information dissemination" period carried out activities that were actually included in the campaign category, such as putting up billboards with their photos. Reporting from Kompas (2/1/2023), hundreds of political party flags

were installed on the side of the roads in the Karangrejo area, Deman Regency, Central Java. This phenomenon also occurred in many other regions, such as in the capital city of Jakarta. In fact, the 2024 election campaign period would only be held from 28 November 2023 to 10 February 2024.

However, since December 14 2022, KPU has determined the serial numbers of political parties so that they can directly use the numbers to “campaign” during the information dissemination period. What is worse is that Banwaslu cannot take any firm action against this phenomenon, because in the PKPU campaign there is no specific article that regulates this matter.

Apart from the information dissemination period, which had unclear rules, when entering the campaign period, many parties regretted why the campaign was only carried out for 75 days. This is closely related to the principle of election fairness, because campaigns with a short time span can only be carried out by election participants with sufficient logistics and financial capital by forming campaign teams. Meanwhile, election participants for legislative candidates with limited logistical capital can only carry out limited campaigns. It is more difficult for legislative candidates who have quite large and numerous electoral regions (dapil).

The Association for Elections and Democracy (*Peludem*), in their report (27/01/2023) stated that the short campaign period for the 2024 election could make it difficult to realize political ideas. Still related to this, starting from the campaign period (starting from 28 November 2023 until the day on which this article was written (14/01/2024), there have been many campaign phenomena on social media which are quite massive and tend to be directionless due to the lack of clear rules from the KPU. The culmination of this fairly haphazard social media campaign can be seen in how election participants used artificial intelligence (AI) to campaign, as has been done by the Golkar Party by bringing back the AI figure of President Soeharto to be campaigning (BBC Indonesia, 2024).

Apart from the issues above, it is important to discuss how women’s issues were raised during the preparation period for the 2024 General Elections. The first thing that is highlighted is how KPU actually limits women’s participation by rounding down the calculation of the percentage of women’s representation of 30%. Quoting from an interview with Titi Anggraeni (Peludem Advisory Council) on the CNN Indonesia YouTube channel (10/5/2023), she said that

the principle of the affirmative policy for women's quota must be at least 30%. This means that through this policy, the representation may be more than 30%, but not less than that. What actually happens is that KPU treats women's quota calculations like mathematical calculations so that if there is a calculation result that produces a number below zero point five, it will be rounded down. As a result, the number of representatives in the Parliament has the potential to be further degraded and reduced in numbers.

Apart from that, KPU's commitment to women's issues also seemed to weaken when they released the theme of the 2024 presidential and vice presidential candidate debates. Referring to the CNBC Indonesia news page (25/12/2023), of the total of five debates held by KPU, there were none of the debates specifically raised women's issues even though women's issues were central issues in the country's development. If we talk about economics; for example, 60% of MSMEs in Indonesia are run by women. This means that economic success and how MSMEs can impact state income are also influenced by government policies that empower women.

Furthermore, it is also important to note that the General Election Commission (KPU) also plays a role in the chaos of the political system and space in Indonesia. KPU uses two online-based systems; namely, SIPOL (Political Party Information System) and SILON (Candidate Information System), to provide information on political parties and the nomination of legislative candidates. SIPOL is a web platform used to enter information on political party profiles and membership from central to district/city levels. On the other hand, SILON is a data collection system for legislative candidates.

With systematic data collection via a web platform, KPU should be able to easily track legislative candidates who have dual memberships in two parties. This became a hot topic of conversation when a famous celebrity named Aldi Taher registered with KPU through two political parties at once. Ironically, these systems do not appear to provide significant changes to KPU. Supposedly, with the help of the system, dual membership can be detected earlier when political party members or legislative candidates enter their data into the KPU system.

Logically, by using an integrated system, prospective legislative candidates who have dual membership should not pass the file verification stage, because from the start they do not fulfill the administrative requirements regulated in the PKPU; namely; being members of one political party.

Points for Election Participants

Around the middle of 2023, the Indonesian cyberspace was shocked by the candidacy of Aldi Taher in the 2024 elections who was running through the Perindo Party and the Crescent Star Party (PBB). Apart from all his gimmicks and funny image as a comedian, this is quite a fatal phenomenon. This fatality stemmed from the party's own internal regulations being violated. An example of a similar provision can be found in the Crescent Star Party (PBB) Articles of Association/Bylaws (AD/ART). Article 43 paragraph (4) of Perindo's AD/ART; for example, emphasizes the obligations of its members by prohibiting them from becoming members of other political parties. The UN also regulates similar things in its AD/ART, especially in Chapter I Article 1, which discusses membership.

On this basis, from a legal logic perspective, Aldi cannot nominate himself as a legislator by joining more than one party. This creates confusion regarding how one individual can be proposed as a legislative candidate by two different parties. Interestingly, the registration process for political parties, including Perindo and PBB in this context, has been integrated online via websites and applications. In fact, the party registration process requires prospective members to input their Population Identification Number (NIK). Supposedly, if a person's NIK has been registered in one political party system, he cannot automatically be registered in another political party system.

Apart from that, the issue of political education, which is one of the functions of political parties, also deserves to be highlighted. The situation that emerged then was that many parties adopted a strategy that focused more on candidates rather than promoting the vision, mission and goals of the party itself. This approach tends to be candidate-centric, where political parties highlight and focus on certain figures who have high popularity to increase their electability. This phenomenon is clearly manifested through the presence of artists who participate as members of political parties.

Some examples include Verrel Bramasta who became a PAN cadre, Ahmad Dhani and his family who joined Gerindra, Tina Toon who joined PDIP, Giring Nidji who joined PSI, and Aldi Taher who became part of Perindo and PBB. Even though in terms of basic and constitutional rights, there is nothing wrong with an artist's decision to get involved in politics, the question that arises is, how do political parties carry out recruitment and cadre formation, as well as nominating candidates in political contestations.

So, what do these artists actually offer in the political arena? Or, does this phenomenon prove how political parties only take pragmatic steps for electoral victory and power alone, without considering the impact of this kind of nomination model on their party institutions? Is it purely transactional?

Recommendations

According to the explanations above, here are several recommendations that can be implemented and used as material for major improvements in the preparations for the 2024 Regional Elections:

1. KPU as the organizer of the General Election/Pilkada needs to create clear and detailed legal products, starting from the definition of each activity, details of the form of the activity and how long the series of General Election/Pilkada activities can be carried out, as well as the strict sanctions that are applied.
2. KPU needs to pay attention to specific rules regarding the use of social media, AI and campaign props for campaign purposes. Campaign settings on social media must be made more specific and proportional to be effective in their implementations and take into account the social media landscape.
3. Bawaslu must be more assertive in creating legal products and reporting procedures up to the imposition of sanctions.
4. Political parties must maintain a strong commitment to providing political education to both cadres and the public, as well as complying with regulations related to elections and regional elections.
5. Encouraging multi-party collaboration between election organizers, civil society and other relevant stakeholders, to achieve elections with integrity, as well as informative and educational election campaigns.

Many election participants during the “information dissemination” period carried out activities that were actually included in the campaign category. Apart from that, election participants also carelessly did not carry out cadre formation and political education properly and correctly. “Election organizers and participants should be able to learn and correct mistakes and shortcomings to improve the next contest.

- Felia Primaresti -

The Implications of the Multiparty System in Indonesia

According to the explanations of political scientists Yves Meny and Andrew Knapp (1998), there are two general approaches to classifying political parties. The first is an ideological approach by looking at the ideology held by each party. The second is a numerical approach by looking at the number of political parties that exist in a state system.

A numerical approach that views political parties as unified entities, forming a single entity, provides a solid basis for understanding the dynamics of party systems in the political context of a country. In this framework, Indonesia can be categorized as a country that adopts a multiparty system. This means that in having a state and running a political system, there are many political parties involved in it and then forming coalitions.

Of course, the choice to adopt this system has various impacts and implications, and tends to be complicated. The diversity of political parties reflects the diversity of opinions and aspirations in the society. This creates challenges in forming coalitions and making effective political decisions. Moreover, as one of the implications of this choice, Indonesia must implement a *parliamentary threshold*. In other words, not all parties can enter the Parliament, especially those who cannot get votes according to the threshold provisions.

The concept of *parliamentary threshold* has emerged with the belief that this system can reduce the number of parties in the Parliament, which in turn will increase the efficiency of dynamics and the interest negotiation process (Prihatmoko, 2008). This further aims to influence the effectiveness of the policy-making process, which has a direct impact on the Government's performance.

The assumption is that the fewer political parties in the Parliament, the faster and more efficient decision making will be, which will ultimately increase the Government's capacity. However, this ideal has never been realized. In this context, dynamic interactions be-

tween parties are crucial because they determine political stability, the Government's sustainability and policy implementations.

However, in the first general elections (Pemilu) in 1955, which had become an important milestone in post-independence political life to date, five major parties rose to prominence; namely, the Indonesian National Party (PNI), the Indonesian Muslim Syuro Council (Masyumi), Nahdlatul Ulama. (NU), the Indonesian Communist Party (PKI), and the Indonesian Socialist Party (PSI). The number of political parties participating in the elections at that time reached more than 29 parties, including independent parties. Legislative members were distributed evenly between Java Island and outside Java Island through a proportional general election system. In the 1950s to 1960s, a multiparty system was implemented without a majority winner, but high competition occurred in the era of parliamentary democracy.

Nine political parties survived since the 1955 elections, and Golkar participated in the 1971 elections. This election recorded an interesting phenomenon with Golkar's spectacular victory which exceeded the expectations of many parties. Even though the military (Army of the Republic of Indonesia/ABRI) did not take part in the election, and Golkar was inexperienced, after the election took place, Golkar won more than 63%, marking the start of a new era for Indonesia; namely, the New Order Era.

Although the term "simple multiparty system" was still used during the New Order, there was very little competition between parties. This was caused by the dominance of the hegemonic party at that time. This phenomenon gave rise to the view that the party system actually tends to lead to a single *-entry party system*. Golkar more focuses on maintaining the *status quo* rather than competing significantly with other parties.

During the Reform period, Indonesia has again adopted a multiparty system, meaning that this system is still applied to this day. This phenomenon can be explained by the fact that for several decades before the Reform era, freedom of expression, organization and assembly were still limited. Therefore, politicians' desires to form political parties can be realized when reforms open up space for freedom.

In the context of the 2024 election itself, there are 17 political parties competing. Of the 17 parties, the political dynamics feel very dynamic and fluid. For example, this can be seen from how the In-

Indonesian Solidarity Party (PSI), which in the 2019 elections strongly opposed Prabowo Subianto's policies, is now actually turning around and supporting him outright. This phenomenon can also be seen from the Prosperous Justice Party (PKS), which in 2019 supported Prabowo Subianto, but has now joined Anies Baswedan's coalition.

With these fast and fluid dynamics, Indonesia is experiencing challenges in upholding democracy. For example, this can be seen from certain *branding phenomena* created by the presidential candidates' campaign teams. For example, Anies Baswedan with the "abah" branding, which means a nurturing father figure; Prabowo Subianto with the "gemoy" branding, which is a politician who is funny and cheerful; and Ganjar Pranowo with the "sporty" branding, which shows that he is a father figure who likes *jogging* while greeting people at the grassroots. The things mentioned above are not wrong, but if the dose is too much, it will actually degrade democracy, which is more substantive in nature.

As a learning process, the increase in the number of political parties should be seen as a natural occurrence in a society that has high political enthusiasm. However, this actually gives rise to many implications, such as the emergence of diverse ideologies, fluid coalition changes (flexibility), the domination of elections by certain large parties, and the existence of a proportional electoral system.

The diversity of political party ideologies in Indonesia, often even displaying ambiguity, has resulted in a new phenomenon. According to the Kumoro report (2013), the ideology of political parties in Indonesia tends to be unclear, which is the main factor in the lack of strong ties with the base community. The Saiful Mujani Research Center (SMRC) survey in December 2017 indicated that the level of involvement of Indonesian people with political parties was only around 11.7%.

As a result, there were rapid and unstable fluctuations in political coalitions in Indonesia. This is caused by the conformity of a single political party's ideology which must refer to Pancasila, which ultimately makes political parties lose direction in policy formulation. In many cases, political parties are trapped in political transactions that only aim for electoral interests, harming public aspirations and causing inconsistencies in public policy.

A concrete example can be seen in the Joko Widodo (Jokowi) government, where policies related to mining business permits have shown significant improvement. For example, during the 2014-2022 period, 5.4 million hectares of mining business permits were issued, a higher number compared to the previous government. This fact is related to the existence of individuals within the government who have affiliations with mining companies. Changes in political coalitions are also reflected in the appointment of strategic positions within the companies by government figures.

In other words, the composition of political coalitions plays a crucial role in decision making and policy formation. It not only has an impact on the mining industry but also on various other sectors such as decentralization, farmer support, investment policies and imports. This condition, which reflects varied political party coalitions, has led to uncertainty and inconsistency in government regarding public policy.

Furthermore, during the 10 year period of Jokowi's government, there have been significant changes in political dynamics, including coalition changes and the appointment of strategic positions to individuals who were initially in the opposition camp. This indicates a marked shift in political dynamics in Indonesia, which could lead to policy instability and waste of resources. Case examples include changes in the direction of infrastructure development between the Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono (SBY) and Joko Widodo (Jokowi) governments, which can create uncertainty and halt previously started projects.

Recommendations

According to the explanations above, here are several recommendations that can be made to maintain the Government's stability and citizens' sovereignty as a form of the implications of the multi-party system in Indonesia:

1. A system of laws and regulations that ensures a balance of power. In this case, DPR RI must provide a system and regulations that enable all votes to enter the Parliament proportionally. This is important considering that with the parliamentary threshold system, many votes that do not meet the threshold will simply be wasted.
2. There should be support in the form of incentives for small parties. This can be realized; for example, by budgeting in the APBN for small parties so that they can compete with other large parties.

3. Encouraging a multiparty system that opens up opportunities for various parties to compete for public office positions using a merit system, as well as accommodating the context of diversity in Indonesia. For this reason, the DPR needs to be encouraged to revise laws including those related to elections and political parties.

- **Felia Primaresti** -

The diversity of political parties reflects the diversity of people's opinions and aspirations. This creates challenges in forming coalitions and making effective political decisions. Moreover, as one of the implications of this choice, Indonesia must implement a "parliamentary threshold". In other words, not all parties can enter the Parliament. "This situation has also made coalitions fluid and transactional politics vulnerable in Indonesia.

Anticipating Data Leaks for the 2024 Election

At the end of November 2023, the official website of the General Election Commission (KPU) was reportedly hacked, and reportedly 204 million final voter list (DPT) data was leaked. According to a report from the Communication and Information System Security Research Center (CISSReC), a hacker named Jimbo obtained the data and sold it for US\$74 thousand, or Rp. 1.2 billion (cnbcindonesia.com, 11/29/2023).

The number of data obtained amounted to 253 millions. However, after filtering, 204 millions were actually obtained, which is the same as the number of the KPU's Permanent DPT. Pratama Persadha, the Chair of the CISSReC Cyber Security Research Institute, in his statement said that Jimbo carried out filtering on 204,807,203 unique data. This number is almost the same as the number of voters in the KPU's Permanent DPT, which is 204,807,222 voters from 514 districts/cities in Indonesia, as well as 128 representative countries (cnbcindonesia.com, 11/29/2023).

Still in the CISSReC report, Jimbo also shared 500 sample data obtained. The leaked data was uploaded on the darkweb site Breach-Forums. The personal data that Jimbo obtained start from the Population Identification Number (NIK), Family Card (KK) number, Population Identity Card (KTP) number (contains passport number for voters who are abroad), full name, gender, date birth, place of birth, marital status, complete address, Neighborhood Unit (RT), Citizen Association (RW), sub-district, sub-district and district codification as well as Voting Place (TPS) coding. This hacking incident is not the first time that this has happened. In 2022, 105 million data from the KPU were reportedly leaked by hacker Bjorka (cnbcindonesia.com, 11/29/2023).

The data and facts about this incident should be an alarm for organizers, especially the KPU, in protecting ongoing election data. Data protection is very important not only to prevent the leaking of

personal data but also to prevent the emergence of public distrust in the results of the 2024 elections.

Data Leaks in Indonesia

It is important to secure personal data from all forms of misuse, especially personal data entered on the internet network. However, in its development, based on research from the Indonesian Internet Service Providers Association (APJII), it shows that 92% of respondents stated that they easily entered personal data in the form of names into applications on the internet, then 79% provided information about their place and date of birth, even 65 % provide personal addresses (Faiz, 2020). In fact, the inclusion of personal data is vulnerable to data leakage.

Data leaks are not something new in Indonesia. According to Surfshark data, Indonesia is the country with the 13th highest data leaks in the world. This can be seen from the email address data leak that occurred since 2004, with 143.7 million accounts involved in Indonesia. This number has also increased by 85% in the last two quarters (katadata.co.id, 22/12/2023). Historically, there have been three largest data leak incidents observed by Surfshark; namely, Tokopedia in April 2020, with a total data leak of 15 million accounts, followed by Wattpad in June 2020 with 22.9 million leaked accounts. Then in August 2022, there were 12.6 million Indihome accounts that experienced data leaks (katadata.co.id, 22/12/2023).

In fact, the Ministry of Communication and Information (Kominfo) noted that there were 35 cases of data leaks in Indonesia from January to June 2023. This number exceeded the number of data leak cases that occurred every year from 2019 to 2021 (dataindonesia.id, 6/7/2023) . Leaks of personal data can cause several problems such as: first, leaked personal data can be used to threaten or blackmail individuals, such as threatening to share personal information or to reveal secrets. Second, leaked personal data can be used to commit fraud, such as credit card fraud, identity fraud, and online fraud.

Third, leaked personal data can be used to steal individual identities, which can be used to commit other crimes, such as financial crimes by breaking into bank accounts using that data. Therefore, it is very important to protect personal data.

Legally, Indonesia has regulations for the protection of personal data through Law Number 27 of 2022 concerning Personal Data Protection (UU PDP). However, the PDP Law has not been able to

be implemented properly because there are several problems, such as the need for more specific technical regulations, as implementing regulations for the PDP Law.

Next, there is no special institution that provides personal data protection. Articles 58 to 60 of the PDP Law regulate the establishment of a personal data protection agency, but to date, there is no special agency that has the authority to protect personal data.

Regarding the issue of leaking KPU data, the Executive Director of the Institute for Community Studies and Advocacy (ELSAM), Wahyudi Djafar, said that the KPU should explain the extent of data system security in the 2024 Election transparently and clearly, because this will have a very significant impact on the integrity of the election. Another thing that Wahyudi is worried about is the public's questions about the security assessment or audit system regarding the reliability of the KPU's data information system. Considering that the data is very sensitive because it contains the NIKs and the voters' residential addresses (Antara, 3/1/2024).

Responding to the data leak incident, the KPU in its press statement said that the KPU had become aware of information regarding a party selling data that allegedly belonged to the KPU since Monday, November 27 2023 at around 15.00 WIB. After receiving this information, the KPU immediately informed BSSN, Bareskrim and other related agencies. The KPU then checked the information system submitted by the Threat Actor; namely, the Voter Data Information System (Sidalih) and deactivated Sidalih user accounts as an effort to further handle the hack (www.kpu.go.id, 11/29/2023) .

The KPU stated that it always coordinates with BSSN, Bareskrim, Developers and other related agencies to obtain data and digital evidence related to the data breach information. The KPU also provides the widest possible access to the incident response team to jointly protect and prevent the spread of voter data (www.kpu.go.id, 11/29/2023). Responding to this, of course the KPU is the party responsible for this leak. It is important for the KPU to provide an explanation, and the KPU's commitment is very important to improve its data security system.

This is because public perception regarding the security of personal data protection is still very low. According to the results of the Kurious-Katadata Insight Center (KIC) survey in July 2023, the major-

ity or 62.6% of respondents said they were not confident about the cyber security of the Indonesian government's data storage center. In detail, 19.1% of respondents answered that they were very unsure and 43.4% answered that they were not sure (katadata.co.id, 10/08/2023).

On the other hand, 30% of respondents said they were confident with the level of cyber security in Indonesia. Of this percentage, there were 22% of respondents who were sure and 8.1% of respondents who were very sure. The other 7.4% of respondents answered they didn't know (katadata.co.id, 10/08/2023). In the midst of current conditions,, it is appropriate for the KPU to explain and provide guarantees regarding the security of election data. KPU should not let the public distrust the election results or the election organizers.

Therefore, transparency is the main requirement for elections that are free from fraud and democratic. This will be the basis for public trust in the election process. It is important to open up election data with the aim of increasing election integrity and accountability through more transparent elections. However, the implementations of open election data also need to be followed by strengthening security to protect data from election data leaks.

Recommendations

The KPU needs to take several steps to anticipate the recurrence of election data leaks. First, the KPU must explain openly to the public the issue of hacking that occurs repeatedly so that this becomes transparent and accountable.

Second, KPU openly involves many parties to secure data related to the 2024 elections not only government agencies but also the private sector, civil society groups and mass media. It is hoped that this multi-party collaboration can repair gaps in data leaks that have escaped the KPU's supervision; for example, regarding weaknesses in security infrastructure and human resources.

Third, to encourage the Election Supervisory Body (Bawaslu) to collaborate with civil society groups and mass media to monitor and criticize the information system services that have been created by the KPU. This is important to encourage the KPU to show its seriousness in improving the implementation of elections.

Furthermore, it is important to encourage increased participation by the public and other relevant stakeholders, including in monitor-

ing and reporting any election violations, as well as monitoring the integrity of the 2024 Elections and encouraging the election to be carried out with the commitment of election organizers regarding open election data.

- Arfianto Purbolaksono -

KPU must be able to provide guarantees regarding the security of election data. "KPU any more election leaks occur, which will then result in a decline in public confidence in the election results.

Highlighting the Welfare of Key Population Groups in Indonesia

HIV/AIDS (Human Immunodeficiency Virus/ Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome) control interventions have focused more on key population groups. This has made interventions for other groups; especially women and children, not optimal. Women and children have a high vulnerability in HIV transmission. Hartini, the Chairperson of the Prevention of Mother-to-Child HIV Transmission Division of the Indonesian Positive Women's Association (IPPI), said that key population groups were still the main focus of HIV/AIDS prevention and control efforts in Indonesia. This is because the trend of HIV transmission is still centred on these groups for a long time. However, the conditions have made other community groups receive less attention, especially women and children (Kompas, 23/11/2023).

Key population groups have been considered to be the main focus of the Government in controlling the spread of HIV/AIDS. In fact, the spread of the disease can occur through several specific practices, such as the use of non-sterile and alternating needles, unnoticed blood transfusions, pregnancy in mothers with HIV to their babies, including unprotected risky sexual behaviour. On the other hand, although this is the target of controlling and preventing the spread of HIV/AIDS, in efforts to fulfil their needs as a group of discriminated survivors, this group tends to be ignored. This shows that the state is not serious enough to organise equal welfare for the entire community.

Key Population Groups and Social Reality

Key population is a term attached to a group of individuals/people who have risky behaviour to contract infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS. This group of individuals can not only be infected due to risky sexual behaviour such as changing partners (both heterosexual and homosexual) without using protection but also due to injecting drugs using alternating needles.

Prostitution activities in localised areas that blend in around residential areas are generally considered to be unsettling and have a negative impact on local residents. Therefore, several localisation areas in Indonesia were closed down, such as Gang Dolly (Surabaya) and Kalijodo (West Jakarta). The closure of prostitution activities in Gang Dolly by the Surabaya City Government in 2014 was considered an appropriate action. There are at least three reasons why the Surabaya City Government closed the prostitution activities in the alley. First, the location of the localisation that blended in with public settlements. Second, local regulations that prohibited human trafficking. Third, the social impact for children living around the localisation was very bad (Sindonews, 8/5/2014). The most important thing was that the closure of these localisations was also supported by the ulama in East Java. This was also the case with the closure of Kalijodo. The prostitution practice area was suspected to have involved children in human trafficking transactions.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Social Affairs, through the Director of Social Rehabilitation of Prostitutes and Victims of Human Trafficking, Waskito Budi Kusumo, said that it had closed 160 localisations during the 2016-2019 period. Waskito explained that the closure of prostitution areas was carried out because Indonesia was determined to be free of prostitution areas in 2019 (Cnnindonesia.com, 4/10/2019). The declaration of a localisation-free Indonesia in 2019 was a missed momentum, as the eradication of prostitution practice areas is still ongoing.

Since the declaration of Indonesia to be free of prostitution areas in 2019 was echoed, the program is considered insufficient to stop prostitution. This is considering that the practice of prostitution is believed to have been present since thousands of years ago. It is said to be as old as human civilisation. Prostitution is not only a way for the perpetrators to fulfil their needs. In prostitution, there are other crimes that are vulnerable, such as infidelity, adultery, gambling, drug trafficking, and the use of alcohol (liquor).

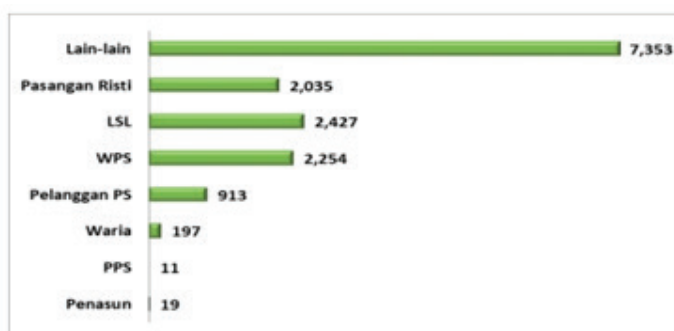
In its development, prostitution has transformed into a more practical form, especially in the use of technology. The development of technology through online prostitution has had a very significant impact on this community disease. This can be observed from the increase in online prostitution that infiltrates various digital platforms (such as websites, forums, applications including social media). According to SimilarWeb data, instant messaging application site MiChat received 114.3 thousand visits from all over the world in October 2022. Of the total number of visits, 83.73% came from

Indonesia. Indonesia also became the largest MiChat user country globally in October 2022. MiChat app in Indonesia is considered to have a negative image as it is often used for prostitution transactions. In a recent case, a policeman in charge of security for the G20 event in Bali was reportedly murdered after cancelling a prostitution transaction and asking for money back via MiChat (databoks.katadata.co.id, 21/11/2022).

Furthermore, in the context of online prostitution (especially users), it is generally done personally (also through pimp intermediaries), and the access tends to be quite easy to track. The perpetrators of online prostitution conduct their transactions in a predetermined place. It is not uncommon for prostitution service providers to offer users underage children. Most of these children live in poverty and far from home. As such, prostitution is generally vulnerable to human trafficking activities.

The Vulnerability of Key Population Groups and Low Welfare Levels

According to an executive report released by the Ministry of Health (MoH) in 2022, the number of people living with HIV from January to March was 10,525 out of 941,973 people tested for HIV. In addition, in the case of Sexually Transmitted Infectious Disease (STID) prevention, the Ministry of Health found a number of vulnerabilities transmission of these infectious diseases in key population groups as shown in the graph below.



Source: Ministry of Health HIV/AIDS Information System (SIHA) STID report (January - March 2022).

The graph above shows the largest number of PIMS cases by risk groups: High risk couples (Risti), (2,035), Male sex workers (MSM) (2,427), Female sex workers (FSW) (2,254), Customers of sex workers (PS) (913), Male women (Waria) (197), Male sex workers (PPS) (11), and Injecting drug users (Penasun) (19).

According to the vulnerability of disease spread, key population groups are the most potential groups to contract sexually transmitted diseases including HIV. With this vulnerability to disease, these key population groups are closely associated with the negative stigma in the society. In fact, every individual has the same potential to contract the disease if they engage in various risky behaviours. Therefore, the Government and the community should no longer view key population groups as the only intervention groups for controlling this infectious disease.

Furthermore, the stigma attached to people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA/ODHIV) also affects the economic, social, and psychological aspects. Economically, people with HIV/AIDS will experience a decrease in productivity. The decrease in productivity will certainly reduce the value of income/income, which is certainly the basis for fulfilling the needs of life including obtaining access to health services.

On the other hand, the health insurance scheme as a social health insurance that keeps the population from falling into poverty due to illness due to the inability to pay for medical expenses (catastrophic payment) has been launched since 1997. However, the Indonesia AIDS Coalition (IAC) study report in 2019 stated that the contribution of JKN to the overall expenditure of the AIDS response programme was still relatively low; that is, at only around 5% of the total available expenditure.

A rapid assessment conducted by the International Labour Organization (ILO) in 2021 in four cities, namely Jakarta, Denpasar, Surabaya and Malang found that around 70 percent of PLHIV as JKN participants who were formally employed can access various forms of social security. However, only half of the respondents working in the informal sector were able to access health insurance programmes.

Key population groups working in the formal sector were more likely to be able to access such health services even under a fee-for-service scheme than those working in the informal sector (ILO.org, 26/5/2021).

In addition, there are few participants who are able to access other social security, such as social assistance programmes. Moreover, key population groups such as informal workers who are above the poverty line have little or no access to social security. The rapid as-

assessment concluded that social security remains underutilised by respondents due to complexities around administrative processes, bureaucracy, as well as discrimination and lack of knowledge (ILO.org, 26/5/2021). Therefore, it can be concluded that poverty has made some of these key population groups unable to gain access to welfare such as health services and social assistance.

The Importance of Involving All Parties

The efforts to control the spread of HIV/AIDS among key population groups need to be carried out effectively and comprehensively and involve all parties. Institut Penerima Wajib Lapar (IPWL) as a rehabilitation institution appointed by the Government, together with the regional health office, has been present to reach out to abusers to break away from dependence and to provide access to health care assistance to key population groups as the main groups of HIV/AIDS spread.

Although rehabilitation services can be carried out by various institutions that apply to the Government, to break the chain of the spread of HIV/AIDS, first, in the context of national policy, the Government as a state organiser mandated in organising public welfare to the grassroots needs to build a comprehensive poverty alleviation system through three important approaches; namely, the economy, education and health. In the economic sector, the Government needs to equalize development and open up business opportunities in various sectors. Empowerment activities can be an alternative economic approach in increasing the inclusive community labour participation rate.

In addition, in the education sector, the Government needs to increase the number of students by providing facilities and infrastructure, including improving and enhancing the quality of educational institutions. Although the poor in the National Health Insurance (JKN) membership scheme are classified as contributory assistance recipients (PBI), the Government needs to ensure the economic status of the membership by always updating the community membership data. With the latest data status, there will be no more people who do not have access to national health insurance.

Secondly, local Governments through local regulations together with local officials (traditional leaders, community and religious leaders) need to raise awareness about the dangers of prostitution as a community disease. Therefore, prevention such behaviour can start from the family (including drug abuse). Local Governments

through local regulations can issue regulations to prevent illegal prostitution activities around residential areas by relocating these activities to special areas that are far from residential access including the reach of children.

- **Dewi Rahmawati Nur Aulia** -

The National Health Insurance Scheme (Jaminan Kesehatan Nasional, JKN), a social health insurance scheme that prevents people from falling into poverty due to illness or inability to pay medical expenses, has been launched since 1997. However, the 2019 Indonesia AIDS Coalition (IAC) study report states that JKN's contribution to the overall AIDS programme expenditure is still relatively low, at only around 5 per cent of the total available expenditure. It is important to engage various stakeholders for the welfare of key population groups in Indonesia.

The Reflection on the PKH Program as a Form of Social Protection Program in 2023

Law Number 11/2009 concerning Social Welfare states that welfare is the conditions for the fulfilment of the material, spiritual and social needs of citizens in order to live properly and be able to develop themselves so that they can carry out their social functions. In addition, to interpret the meaning of welfare, it can be seen from the formulation of Law Number 6/1974 concerning Basic Provisions for Social Welfare Article 2 Paragraph 1 which reads:

“Social Welfare is a material and spiritual social life and livelihood system that is covered by a sense of safety, decency and inner and outer peace, which makes it possible for every citizen to make efforts to fulfil the physical, spiritual, social needs that are best for themselves, their families and the society by upholding human rights and obligations in accordance with Pancasila.”

Understanding the Implementations of Social Services through PKH: Before and After the Pandemic

Social services are forms of social work practice that are accommodated in social service agencies. These social service agencies are where social workers can pursue a professional career. At the beginning of its growth, social work, where the philosophy of charity/philanthropy is the foundation, became synonymous with social services organised in the forms of social assistance (charity) (Wibhawa et al., 2010).

The implementations of social services in general are not merely activities to help humans as beneficiaries of limitations, such as economics, education, legal information, access to services and others. However, social service activities have a mission to foster independence and reduce community dependence on government social institutional assistance. Therefore, the implementations of social services should empower beneficiaries; for example, in the implementations of the Family Hope Program (PKH).

Although PKH is not an empowerment activity program held by the Government, it can be an example of learning that to release dependence on social assistance. The government needs to provide stimulus to the community so that they can take advantage of potential resources as an opportunity for them to develop a community-based economy.

The Family Hope Program (PKH), inaugurated in 2007, is a program created to accelerate poverty reduction. Through PKH, the poor (especially pregnant women) can gain access to social security, such as health and education. The utilisation of PKH has also targeted persons with disabilities and the elderly as beneficiaries who aim to maintain their social welfare level in accordance with the mandate of the Constitution and the Nawacita of the President of the Republic of Indonesia (Kemensos.go.id, 9/8/2019).

In the context of the Covid-19 pandemic, PKH is one of the forms of social protection programs provided in addition to the basic food programs, pre-employment cards, wage subsidy assistance (BSU), direct cash assistance (BLT), BLT village funds, and discounted electricity bills for certain groups of electricity customers (TNPK.go.id, 21/12/2022).

PKH Policy Implementations and the Extreme Poverty Alleviation in Indonesia

In the overall poverty alleviation program that has been mentioned, the Government has a focus on reducing extreme poverty to 0% by 2024 through the issuance of Presidential Instruction Number 4/2022 on the Acceleration of the Elimination of Extreme Poverty.

Extreme poverty is defined as the conditions of inability to fulfil basic needs, such as food, drink, clean water, proper sanitation, health, shelter, education, and access to information, which is not only limited to income, but also access to social services. The indicator of extreme poverty is a population group that has an income below \$1.91 per capita per day or the equivalent of IDR 30,000 per day with a reference exchange rate of IDR 15,600 per \$1. Until 2021, the extreme poverty rate in Indonesia reached a level of 4 %, or around 10.8 million people (TNPK.go.id, 21/12/2022).

In connection with the extreme poverty program, the Government has developed a roadmap for reducing extreme poverty in Indonesia. In the first phase (October-December, 2021), there were 35 districts in seven provinces that were targeted by the extreme poverty alleviation program. At this stage, the distribution of the budget

for social protection through BLT was the flagship programme. In the second phase (2022), economic empowerment and social protection programmes continued to be promoted. In the third phase (2023-2024), the national poverty rate was expected to fall to 8.5-9%, and the extreme poverty rate should fall to 2.5-3%. At the end of the programme, in 2024, the national poverty rate is expected to fall to 6-7%, and the extreme poverty rate to 0 or less than 1% (TNPk.go.id, 21/12/2021).

On the other hand, the implementations of the distribution of various social protection programmes in Indonesia have been using the Integrated Social Welfare Data (DTKS) from the Ministry of Social Affairs. However, this data is often not updated. There are many factors and causes why DTKS is often inaccurate. Therefore, in this program, the Coordinating Ministry for Human Development and Culture, together with the National Team for the Acceleration of Poverty Reduction (TNP2K), used data owned by the National Population and Family Planning Agency (BKKBN) to compile the data for Targeting the Acceleration of the Elimination of Extreme Poverty (P2KE). The data contains various socioeconomic variables that can be used to compile family welfare levels (TNPk.go.id, 21/12/2021).

Furthermore, in relation to PKH, which has been running until 2023, this programme has had a significant impact in reducing poverty. Data from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS) show that the poverty rate continued its downward trend to 9.36 per cent as of March 2023, from 9.57 per cent in September 2022.

Head of the Fiscal Policy Agency (BKF) of the Ministry of Finance Febrio Kacaribu said that this figure was lower than the pre-pandemic figure as of March 2019 of 9.41 per cent, although it was still slightly above the pre-pandemic low point as of September 2019 of 9.22 per cent. The number of poor people in March 2023 was 25.90 million, a decrease of 0.46 million people from September 2022. Accumulatively, from March 2021 to March 2023, there were 1.6 million people who managed to move out of the poverty line.

Spatially, the poverty rate as of March 2023 decreased in both urban and rural areas. In addition, the distribution of social assistance in the first quarter of 2023 was also effective with the realisation of the Family Hope Programme (PKH) reaching 89.3 per cent, while the Basic Food Card reached 86.5 per cent. In March 2023, the

Government also rolled out additional rice food assistance in order to maintain food access for poor and vulnerable households and maintain food price stability (Ministry of Finance.go.id, 18/7/2023). In this case, the PKH policy was considered quite effective, but it did not alleviate the problem of poverty comprehensively, especially in encouraging people to build economic independence.

PKH is effective in overcoming poverty, especially in connecting people to access health and education services. It also includes the provision of non-cash money sent through each participant's account. However, the assistance obtained is only temporary. This means that the assistance programme to beneficiaries may be discontinued as beneficiaries are deemed to be economically self-sufficient, as indicated by the increased levels of household consumption; for example, when they have a type of housing form that changes from those made from wood to permanent buildings. Or, when they experience an increase in the number of vehicles during the delivery of assistance program. Therefore, it is important for the role of PKH facilitators to monitor every development and quality of life of beneficiaries both before and after receiving government assistance such as PKH.

The Importance of Cooperation and Collaboration in Efforts to Improve the Quality of Human Life

The implementations of social services are keys in fulfilling the needs of the community as mandated by the law. To realise a prosperous country and a better quality of human life requires the participation and collaboration of various parties. In the implementations of the PKH policy, although empowerment activities are determined by the planning of PKH assistants, the Ministry of Social Affairs should design a planned graduation scheme so that beneficiaries not only voluntarily relinquish their status, but also they become empowered and can develop businesses obtained through the training and development process. This can be done through group meetings conducted by PKH Facilitators, which will be filled with labour-intensive activities.

In the 20 vocational training packages prepared by the Bantul district government; for example, the Office of Manpower and Transmigration of Bantul Regency, Special Region of Yogyakarta (DIY) in the 2023 fiscal year had prepared around 20 job training packages for the community at the Regional Technical Service Unit of the local government's Work Training Centre (UPTD BLK). The Head of

Bantul's Manpower and Transmigration Office, Istiril Widiastuti, said that each vocational training package at the UPTD BLK Bantul was provided with a quota of 16 people so that people or the workforce who wanted to improve their work skills could register with the institution (Antara, 4/2/2023). The training quota package can actually be more useful if it is given to the PKH beneficiary group as a community group that is given attention by the Government through program collaboration between related agencies and agencies.

The implementations of social services is keys in fulfilling the needs of the community as mandated by the law. They require the participation and collaboration of various parties to realise a prosperous country and quality of human life.

In closing, the efforts to provide social services and alleviate extreme poverty, including through PKH, require a collaborative, strategic, and inclusive approach by the Government by involving many parties. The following are some points and recommendations related to this:

Firstly, improving infrastructure equity across Indonesia. The occurrence of extreme poverty in remote communities in Indonesian regions is partly due to the difficulty of access to mobility to reach these poor communities. The importance of infrastructure through development can be a capital in running the wheels of Government, including running health services such as hospitals.

In addition, equitable development through infrastructure can also stimulate the spread of economic growth. Therefore, both the central Government and the relevant local Governments, and especially the Ministry of Investment/Investment Coordinating Board (BKPM) need to be encouraged to create a more conducive investment climate to increase the attractiveness of the private sector and business actors in developing their businesses.

Second, the local Governments through the Investment and One-Stop Integrated Service Office (DPMPTSP), need to open opportunities for the community to utilise its resources by facilitating all needs, such as easy access to capital and licensing obtained through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) or the Government.

Third, improving the quality of human resources (HR) through education and skills training. This is important to do by increasing the number of educational institutions and improving the quality of competitive educators (including training institutions). Improving the quality of human resources through education and training will be an asset in nation-building.

- Dewi Rahmawati Nur Aulia -

**THE** **INDONESIAN INSTITUTE**
C E N T E R F O R P U B L I C P O L I C Y R E S E A R C H

The Indonesian Institute (TII) is a Center for Public Policy Research that was established on 21 October 2004 by a group of young, dynamic activists and intellectuals. TII is an independent, non-partisan, non-profit institution, whose main funding stems from grants and contributions from foundations, companies, and individuals.

TII has the aim of becoming a main research center in Indonesia for public policy matters and has committed to giving contribution to the debates over public policies and to improving the quality of the planning and results of public policy by promoting good governance principles and public participation in the policy processes in Indonesia.

TII's visions are public policies in Indonesia which highly uphold human rights and rule of law, as well as involve participation of various stakeholders and practice democratic good governance principles.

TII's missions are to conduct reliable research that is independent and non-partisan and to channel the research to the policy-makers, the private sector, and academia in order to improve the quality of Indonesian policy-makers.

TII also assumes the role of disseminating ideas to the society so that they are well informed about the policies that will have a good impact on the people's lives. In other words, TII has a position to support the democratization process and the public policy reform, as it will be involved in the process.

The scope of the research and review on public policies undertaken by TII includes economic, social, political, and legal affairs. The main activities which have been conducted by **TII** in order to achieve our vision and mission, are: research, surveys, facilitation and advocacy through training and working groups, public discussions, public education, weekly editorial articles ("Wacana" or Discourses), Instagram Live Series and Space Twitter (Policy Talks and Initiative!), monthly analysis ("Update Indonesia" in Indonesian and "The

Indonesian Update” in English), mid-year policy analysis (“Policy Assessment”), annual policy analysis (“Indonesian Report”), and monthly discussion forum on policy issues (“The Indonesian Forum”).

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RESEARCH ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

The economy tends to be used as an indicator of the success of the government as a policy-maker. Economy plays an important role as one of the fundamentals of national development. Limited resources have often caused the government to face obstacles in implementing economic policies that will optimally benefit the people. The increase in the quality of the people's critical thinking has forced the government to conduct comprehensive studies in every decision-making process. In fact, the studies will not be stopped when the policy is already in place. Studies will be continued until the policy evaluation process.

TII focus on economic issues, such as monetary policy and fiscal policy, as well as issues on sustainable development by using analysis which refer to economic freedom principles. Monetary issues will focus on the Indonesian Central Bank to maintain economic stability, both regarding inflation and exchange rate. Meanwhile, fiscal policy will focus on the discussions over the National Budget and infrastructure development both in the regions and in the cities. In relation to sustainable development, TII research is focusing on productivity, competitiveness, infrastructure development, and development gap. In addition, TII also upholds economic freedom principles in highlighting the importance of individual freedom and involvement of private sectors in increasing development and improving welfare in Indonesia.

The TII Economic Research Division is present for those who are interested in the conditions of the economy. The results of the research are intended to assist policy-makers, regulators, and donor agencies in making decisions. The research that TII offers: **(1) Economic Policy Analysis; (2) Regional and Sectoral Prospects; and (3) Program Evaluation.**

RESEARCH ON LEGAL AFFAIRS

According to stipulations in Law No. 12 Year 2011 on the Formulation of Laws and Regulations, every bill which will be discussed by the legislative and the executive must be complemented with academic paper. This stipulation is also confirmed in Law No. 15 Year 2019 on the Amendment of Law No. 12 Year 2011 regarding the Formulation of Laws and Regulations.

Therefore, comprehensive research is very important and needed in making a qualified academic paper. With qualified academic papers, the bills will have strong academic foundation both from academic and content aspects. Furthermore, academic paper also functions as an early tracking over possibilities of overlapping laws and regulations, so that revocation of local regulations or other related issues which can be caused by legal, economic, or political aspects in the future, can be minimized as soon as possible.

TII offers normative and legal research related to harmonization and synchronization of laws and regulations, especially in making academic papers, legal opinion on harmonization and synchronization of laws and regulations, and legislative drafting for the formulation of local regulations bill drafts or other laws and regulations. In addition, TII also offers openly research on other legal issues related to Constitutional Law and Public Administration, Human Rights, and Political Corruption.

RESEARCH ON THE POLITICAL AFFAIRS

The enactment of Law No. 23 Year 2014 on the latest regulation on the Local Government, has created different relations between the Central Government and the Local Government. Entering the era of Bureaucracy Reform, specification of division of affairs of the Central Government and the Local Government has increasingly demanded the implementation of good governance principles. The government is demanded to be adaptive and responsive towards public aspiration and services. Therefore, public policy research become more important for both the Central Government and the Local Government to analyse context and current issues in the regions. The government must also consider various actors whether political actors or bureaucrats, as well as public's aspiration and other non-state actor in policy processes.

In order to respond those needs, TII research in political affairs offer policy assessment on various policies which were already applied or will be implemented. TII will look at socio-cultural, economy, legal, and political aspects in assessing public policies. Our research will be useful to assist government in formulating policies which are in line with context, priorities, and people's aspiration. TII also offers various breakthrough of transformative policies according to existing contexts in particular and Open Government principles' implementation in general, in order to increase public participation in policy processes, particularly in the era of the openness of public information.

Political Research Division of TII provide analysis and policy recommendations in order to generate strategic policy in the strengthening of democracy and the establishment of good governance both at the national and local levels. Political research forms are offered by TII **(1) Public Policy Analysis, (2) Media Monitoring, (3) Mapping & Positioning Research, (4) Need Assessment Research, (5) Survey Indicator.**

RESEARCH ON THE SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Social development needs policy foundations that come from independent and accurate research. Social analysis is a need for the government, the businesspeople, academia, professionals, NGOs, and civil society to improve social development. Social analysis is important to identify strategic issues which are developing and to make the right stakeholders' mapping to promote significant change in the context of development, public policy, and democracy in Indonesia.

The Social Research Division is present to offer strong and valid recommendations to produce strategic, relevant, efficient and effective, and impactful policies, in addressing to existing various issues. For example, issues related to education, health, population, environment, women, children, and elderly. Social research that TII offers: **(1) Social Policy Analysis; (2) Explorative Research; (3) Mapping & Positioning Research; (4) Need Assessment Research; (5) Program Evaluation Research; and (5) Indicator Survey.**

PRE-ELECTION AND REGIONAL HEAD ELECTION

One of the activities carried out and offered by TII is a pre-election survey as well as a pre-election and regional head election. The reasons underlying the implementation of pre-election and regional head election surveys, namely: (1) A good election is a democratic process that can be arranged, calculated, and predicted in the resulting process; (2) Survey is one of the important and common discussions to measure, calculate, and predict how the process and results of the General Election and the Regional Head Election will take place, in accordance to the expectations of the candidates; (3) It is very important to win in the General Election and the Regional Head Election based on empirical, scientific, measurable and supportable data.

As one of the important aspects of a strategic candidate's election, the survey is useful for monitoring political power. In this case, the success team needs to conduct a survey for: **(1) mapping the candidate's position in public perception; (2) mapping voters' desires; (3) publishing the most effective political machinery used as voters; and (4) Looking for the most effective medium for the campaign.**

EVALUATION OF A PROJECT OR A PROGRAM

One of the activities that have been performed and experienced offered by TII is a qualitative evaluation of the projects and programs of non-governmental organizations and government. Evaluation activities are offered TII stages of mid-term evaluation of the project/program (mid-term evaluation) and also the final evaluation at the end of the project/program (final evaluation).

As we know, the evaluation is an important step in the implementation of a project or program. Mid-Term Evaluation of the project or program is intended to look at and analyze the challenges, the overall learning takes place during the project or program, and make recommendations for the continuity of the project or program. Meanwhile, the final evaluation allows us to view and analyze the outcomes and the lessons learned to ensure the achievement of all the objectives of the project or program at the end of the project or program.

THE INDONESIAN FORUM

The Indonesian Forum is a monthly discussion activity on actual issues in the political, economic, social, legal, cultural, defense, and environmental fields. TII organizes these forums as media for competent resource persons, stakeholders, policymakers, civil society activists, academicians, and the media to meet and have discussion.

Themes that have been raised were the ones that have caught public attention, such as migrant workers, social conflicts, domestic politics, and local direct elections. The main consideration in picking a theme is sociological and political reality and the context of the relevant public policy at the time that the Indonesian Forum is delivered.

It is expected that the public can get the big picture of a particular event as the Indonesian Forum also presents relevant resource persons.

Since its inception, the Indonesian Institute is very aware of the passion of the public to get discussions that are not only rich in substance but also well formatted, which support balanced ideas exchanges ideas and the equal involvement of the different elements of the society.

The discussions, which are designed to only invite a limited number of participants, do not only feature idea exchanges but also regularly offer policy briefs (policy recommendations) to relevant policymakers and also summaries to the participants, especially the media people and the resource persons at the end of each discussion. Therefore, the discussions will not end without solutions.

LOCAL COUNCIL TRAINING

The roles and functions of local councils in monitoring local governments are very important. They need to ensure that participative and democratic policies will be espoused. Members of provincial and regent local councils are required to have strong capacity to understand democratization matters, regional autonomy, legislative techniques, budgeting, local Politics, and political marketing. Thus, it is important to empower members of local councils.

In order for local councils to be able to response every problem that will come out as a result of any policy implemented by the central government or local governments, the Indonesian Institute invites the leaderships and members of local councils to undergo training to improve their capacity.

WORKING GROUP

The Indonesian Institute believes that a good public policy process can be held with some engagement and empowerment of the stakeholders. The Indonesian Institute takes a role as one of mediator agencies to facilitate some forums in which the Government, Council Members, Private Sectors, NGOs and Academicians can meet in interactive forums. The Indonesian Institute provides facilitation on working groups and public advocacy.

The Indonesian Institute takes the role of mediator and facilitator in order to encourage the synergy of public policy work between the stakeholders and policy makers and also to have a synergy with funding agencies (donors).

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