

The Indonesian Update

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



Main Report:
Indonesia's Civil Liberties, Democracy and the Law in 2023 and 2024: The Next Stage

The economics

- Bolstering Indonesia's International Trade amidst The Global Uncertainty ■
- Improving Indonesia's Economic Potential Through Cultural Heritage Development ■

Politics

- Examining the Effectiveness of the Prabowo-Gibran Cabinet ■
- Stagnation of Law Enforcement and the Potential Closure of Electoral Democracy ■
- Looking at the Preparations of the Voter List for the 2024 Simultaneous Regional Elections ■

Politics

- Examining Population Policy through Indonesian Family Development Index ■
- Saving Indonesia's Generations from the Dangers of Pornography ■

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FOREWORD

The May 2024 edition of the Indonesian Update features a main report regarding Freedom House's assessment of civil liberties, democracy and Indonesian law in 2023 and 2024. The situation of civil liberties in Indonesia is very dependent on the quality of its legal dynamics. Every effort needs to be made to achieve Indonesia's identity, which prioritizes the rule of law by fulfilling civil liberties to achieve a democratic country.

In the economic sector, the Indonesian Update addresses the conditions of Indonesia's international trade amidst global uncertainty. In the midst of current uncertainty, the Government must strive to strengthen international trade, such as through diversifying import-export markets, focusing on value-added products, and providing facilities and infrastructure to increase the capabilities of MSMEs.

Next, we also discuss Indonesia's economic potential through the development of cultural heritage. Indonesia is one of the countries with the greatest diversity of people, cultural heritage and beliefs in the world. The potential for cultural heritage in Indonesia is very large because it is sustainable with the creative economy.

In the political field, the Indonesian Update focuses on assessing the effectiveness of the cabinet, which will be led by the Prabowo-Gibran pair as elected President and Vice President. It is important to consider legal aspects regarding the number of ministries that Prabowo wants to avoid negative impacts on bureaucracy and the balance of power in government.

Next, we discuss the challenges of law enforcement in eradicating corruption, especially related to political corruption, which seems to still be the main focus in 2024. This refers to the 'boom' in 2024 with political activities such as the last election, and the regional elections which will be held in November coming. Referring to data from the Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK), 40% of the suspects processed by the KPK (2004-2023) came from political circles, both legislative members and regional heads.

Then, we also discussed the preparation of voter lists, which is an important stage in holding elections in Indonesia, including in the regional elections in November. It is important for election organizers, especially the KPU, to map

and prevent problems from arising in compiling the voter list for the 2024 Pilkada.

In the social sector, the Indonesian Update addresses population policy through the Indonesian Family Development Index. A comprehensive family resilience system requires the role and participation of all elements of the society. Next, we also discuss the dangers of pornography for the young generation in Indonesia.

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.

Indonesia's Civil Liberties, Democracy and the Law in 2023 and 2024: The Next Stage

Indonesia is a country that embraces the principle of democracy as the spirit of reform. Democracy and civil liberties are intertwined. According to Jonathan Isham, Daniel Kaufmann and Lant H. Pritchett (1997), to a certain extent, civil liberties are a prerequisite for the realization of democracy. Drawing further from earlier scholarly articles, Peter H. Russell (1969) states that democratic means are necessary to achieve civil liberties. Therefore, it can be concluded that democracy and civil liberties in either view will influence and reflect each other's situation.

Indonesia is a state based on law that upholds the concept of the rule of law, where the law has the highest position in state administration. The rule of law and democracy also influence each other. The rule of law is fundamental to advancing democracy. To strengthen *the rule of law*, it must use an approach that prioritizes the public interest, which can be created in a democratic state situation (Tommasoli, 2012). Thus, it can be concluded that democracy, civil liberties, and the rule of law are elements that influence each other.

In practice, the civil liberties of countries around the world are consistently evaluated by various institutions. Civil liberties assessments from year to year are given by institutions that conduct assessments, such as the Freedom House Index (Freedom in the World Report), Economist Intelligence Unit (Democracy Index), Bertelsmann Transformation Index (Civil Rights Score), and many more. Each institution and its report uses a range of numerical values with different parameters.

This paper analyzes the Freedom House's 2024 assessment of Indonesia's civil liberties, with a focus on the rule of law in Indonesia. Freedom House was chosen in this paper because of its simpler and more understandable civil liberties parameters, the analysis of each assessment that uses the rule of law as material for the assessment, and the publication of the report for 2024 so that it can be used to take the earliest possible momentum to evaluate and make changes. This paper also compares the 2024 findings with the 2023 findings

to evaluate and make changes. It is hoped that the way forward will improve the implementation of the rule of law to achieve people's civil liberties and reform goals.

Indonesia's Civil Liberties in 2023 and 2024

To briefly explain the index used, the Freedom House has been publishing civil liberties scores since 1973. The Freedom in the World Report divides its assessment into two chapters; namely, political rights and civil liberties. In this paper, the focus that will be analyzed is the civil liberties chapter.

According to the Freedom House's assessment of Indonesia's civil liberties in the Freedom in the World Report 2023 and 2024 (2023 Report and 2024 Report), the scores for each parameter are summarized in the table below:

Parameters	2023 Report	2024 Report
Freedom of opinion and belief		
The existence of free and independent media	3/4	3/4
Individual freedom of worship and expression of religion or belief in public and private	1/4	1/4
Academic freedom and an education system free of political indoctrination	2/4	2/4
Freedom of individuals to express personal or political views or other sensitive topics without fear of surveillance or retribution	3/4	3/4
Right to assembly and association		
Freedom of assembly	2/4	2/4
Freedom for non-governmental organizations, especially in human rights and governance-related areas	2/4	2/4
Freedom of trade, labor, or other professional unions	2/4	2/4

Rule of Law		
The existence of an independent judiciary	2/4	2/4
Enforcement of due process in criminal and civil cases	1/4	1/4
Protection from the use of violence and freedom from war and conflict	1/4	1/4
Equal treatment of all communities in law, policy, and practice	1/4	1/4
Individual Rights		
Individuals feel freedom of movement, including changing domicile, place of work, or education	2/4	2/4
Individuals are able to own property and form businesses without the intervention of the state or non-state institutions	2/4	2/4
Individuals experience personal social freedoms including freedom to choose a partner for marriage, family size, protection from domestic violence, and control over appearance.	2/4	2/4
Individuals feel equal opportunity and freedom from economic exploitation	2/4	2/4

Source: Freedom House, processed by the author, 2023 and 2024.

According to the respective assessments for 2023 and 2024, it can be seen that there is no change in terms of value. However, the explanations and basis for the assessment change along with the development of the situations in Indonesia, such as new legal products issued or new cases that occur. The following will discuss each explanation of the assessment parameters.

First, freedom of speech in 2023 was underlined by the criminalization of journalists who reported using Law Number 11/2008 on Electronic Information and Transactions (Old EIT Law). This is still an issue in the 2024 Report as the reports were formed

before the new EIT Law was passed (Freedom House, 2023 and 2024). But apart from that, the EIT Law that has been passed in 2024 is still problematic because it does not change and add articles that are considered problematic; namely, Article 27, Article 27A, Article 28, and Article 29. According to the data from Safenet shared in 2024, there were 29 cases against journalists under the EIT Law (Safenet, 2024). Not only journalism, in the 2023 and 2024 Reports, the freedom of opinion of the wider community to discuss sensitive topics was also affected by the EIT Law.

In addition, the context of freedom of worship did not change much in the 2023 and 2024. There were reports due to the regulation of the establishment of houses of worship, which requires a requirement of 90 users of houses of worship and 60 local community approvals. The prerequisites for the number of users and local communities have been problematic from year to year due to their discriminatory nature for religions with fewer adherents as they may not be able to reach the 90 and 60 thresholds. In addition, according to research by the Indonesian Institute (2024), the requirements for the establishment of houses of worship are also prone to politicization, which is why it is highly recommended to amend these provisions. Furthermore, the provision criminalizing blasphemy in the Criminal Code is also the same and even increased its legal basis in 2024; namely, blasphemy (Freedom House, 2023 and 2024).

Academic freedom in the 2023 and 2024 Reports had the same situation, with many discussions on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender+, interfaith, Papua, police violence, and the 1965-1966 communist massacres being shut down (Freedom House, 2023 and 2024). But in reality, other themes are also being dissolved or even criminalized. An example is the criminalization of the Youtube podcast of Haris Azhar and Fatia Maulidiyanti by Luhut Binsar Pandjaitan (Coordinating Minister for Maritime Affairs and Investment), whose podcast explained the results of field research related to mining practices in Papua (bbc.com, 13/11/2023). In addition to the legal basis that provides an opportunity to criminalize academic freedom, the concept of academic freedom has not been fully understood by the public (Freedom House, 2023 and 2024). The case of the criminalization of Haris Azhar and Fatia Maulidiyanti is also an assessment in the second point for the freedom of non-governmental organizations working in the field of human rights.

The second is the right to assembly and association. The 2023 and 2024 reports provide similar analytical results for freedom of assembly. For freedom of assembly online and discussing sensitive topics as described earlier, there is a lot of resistance and intimidation

from the police and from the community itself. Direct protests or demonstrations also generally lead to clashes with security and require the use of tear gas and other tools. One such incident occurred in Rempang over land development (Freedom House, 2023 and 2024).

In terms of the freedom of association for workers, Indonesia in 2023 and 2024 allowed workers to organize, negotiate, and strike. A challenge that occurred in the 2023 and 2024 Reports was the existence of Law Number 11/2020 on Job Creation (Job Creation Law) (Freedom House, 2023 and 2024). The Job Creation Law has the spirit of providing ease of doing business which has been one of the problems in Indonesia for a long time. However, the drafting of the Job Creation Law and its amendments are considered non-transparent and non-participatory. The Job Creation Law passed in 2020 has been declared contrary to the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia and has no conditional binding legal force and must be amended within two years. But in reality, the amendments were not carried out in a transparent and participatory manner, so there was no development from the establishment of the previous Job Creation Law.

The third is the rule of law. In the 2023 and 2024 Reports, it was noted that the independence of the courts of the Constitutional Court and the Supreme Court and the courts below them has been seen, but they are still involved in corruption cases and can be influenced by religion. One of the new issues in the 2024 Report is the serious violation of the code of ethics by former Chief Justice Anwar Usman in deciding the case of the vice-presidential candidate requirements in Law Number 7/2017 on General Elections. The partiality of the former Chief Justice's resolution of the 2014 killing of demonstrators at the Human Rights Court in Makassar in 2022, which acquitted the defendant, is also questionable (Freedom House, 2023 and 2024). Questions regarding the work of the Human Rights Court were further questioned after the emergence of the policy of Non-Judicial Resolution of Gross Human Rights Violations in 2023 (Suwartono, 2023).

Fair legal processes for criminal and civil cases also remain problems in the 2023 and 2024 Reports. The problem of the nomenclature of separatist or terrorist groups that keeps going back and forth is also a problem in the 2023 and 2024 Reports (Freedom House, 2023 and 2024). In its development, in April 2024, the Indonesian National Army (Tentara Nasional Indonesia/TNI) changed the name of the terrorist group in Papua from the Armed Criminal

Group (Kelompok Kriminal Bersenjata/KKB) to the Free Papua Organization (Organisasi Papua Merdeka/OPM) because it was the name used by the group itself or also called the West Papua National Liberation Army (Tentara Pembebasan Nasional Papua Barat/TPNPB) (cnnindonesia.com, 18/4/2024).

This change in designation has drawn criticism from several groups, including the civil society organization KontraS, which said that the change in nomenclature will increase gun fights between TNI-Polri officers and OPM or TPNPB and conflict management operations in Papua will become increasingly unclear in its direction and approach (kontras.org, 21/4/2024). On the other hand, the Institute for Security and Strategic Studies argues that changes in nomenclature in practice will not have any impact as long as government policies do not change as well (cnnindonesia.com, 18/4/2024). In the end, the approach and treatment to handling conflict is becoming increasingly blurry.

Violence and discrimination still occur in Indonesia and are considered in the 2023 and 2024 Reports, such as ongoing violence in Papua, overcrowded and corrupt prisons, and several other incidents are also considered (Freedom House, 2023 and 2024). The discrimination faced by Rohingya asylum seekers and immigrants has been massive. Many hateful gestures were made by the public on social media and in person (kumparan.com, 13/12/2023). This is a bad reflection on Indonesia's understanding of inclusion and tolerance regardless of the international legal policies adopted by Indonesia.

Finally, there are individual rights. Freedom of movement including change of residence, employment and education were noted in the 2023 and 2024 Reports. Extortion for population administration is still common. Furthermore, indigenous Papuans are reportedly not free to move, making the assessment even worse (Freedom House, 2023 and 2024). Similar to the assessment of property rights, indigenous peoples are unable to occupy a definite place of residence and obtain administrative records because their living areas have been displaced by development (Intania, 2023). Cases such as the displacement of local residents and indigenous peoples in Rempang, Capital City of the Archipelago, Gunung Batur, and many more are proof that property rights cannot be enjoyed by all levels of society due to the intervention of the state or other parties.

The issue of individual freedom to choose a life partner and family size and the protection from domestic violence in the 2023 and 2024 Reports remain issues. The passing of Law No. 12/2022 on

Criminal Acts of Sexual Violence (Sexual Violence Law) has been a steppingstone in addressing sexual violence (Freedom House, 2023 and 2024). However, in its development, the implementing regulations of the Sexual Violence Law are incomplete, so its implementations have not been maximized in the community (Rahmawati, 2023). In addition, synergies with other state institutions to prevent sexual violence in their respective sectors have not been fully seen, only in the labor and education sectors.

In addition to sexual violence, forced marriages still occur in Indonesia. In 2023, the National Commission on Violence Against Women noted a 300% increase in forced marriage cases in Indonesia (National Commission on Violence Against Women, 2023). The right to marry and choose a life partner is part of human rights and individual freedom. However, this phenomenon continues to increase, requiring state intervention to protect people's rights. This effort has been reflected in Article 10 of the Sexual Violence Law, where perpetrators of forced marriages can be punished. However, if in 2023, there was still a 300% increase, then this indicated that there was still a lack of implementations of a good legal basis and policies that need to be re-evaluated.

Regarding freedom from economic exploitation, the 2023 and 2024 Reports both noted inconsistencies in the application of work environment and compensation standards. Trafficking for labor also persisted for both women and men (Freedom House, 2023 and 2024). Recall the discovery of "cages" used to detain plantation workers in North Sumatra by local officials. The latest development is also the case of human trafficking that was connected to an internship program to Germany which victimized 1,047 students from 33 campuses (national.kompas.com, 3/4/2024).

Final Notes of Reflections

According to the 2023 and 2024 Reports, it is true that each incident on which the assessment is based cannot be mentioned one by one. However, this can be used as a benchmark for assessment coupled with the development of events and problems that are currently happening around us.

After reading the 2023 and 2024 Reports, we can summarize some of the legal issues that affect Indonesia's civil liberties assessment in the Freedom of the World Report:

- a. Legal products whose substance is problematic and restricts individual freedoms such as freedom of expression, worship and residence;

- b. The formation of legal products that are not transparent and lack public participation;
- c. Lack of a fair law enforcement process throughout Indonesia; and
- d. The implementations of the law with implementing regulations that are not yet comprehensive, so the implementations are not ready to be carried out consistently.

Legal products with problematic substance that actually limit civil liberties can occur partly due to a lack of public participation as well, so these two things are interconnected. If the public is not included in the formation of legislation, then it is more likely that the public cannot respect the results of the ratification of the legislation. As stipulated in Law No. 12/2011 on the Legislation Formation as amended by Law No. 13/2022, the public has the right to participate in every stage of the formation of legislation. Public participation needs to be welcomed to produce better quality legal products that reflect the public interest.

The occurrence of law enforcement practices that do not reflect due process due to corrupt or discriminatory actions contradicts the principle of all people being equal before the law. The term “law is sharp downwards and blunt upwards” is still widely and commonly spoken by the public. There is also the phenomenon that whichever issue goes “viral” will get justice. If there is more attention, the implementation of the legal process will become more accountable. However, ideally, this is not the situation that is desired. The law should be able to provide protection for all people who seek justice.

The implementation of a law product with implementing regulations under it is also a classic problem, where there are many possibilities such as: a) implementing regulations that have not been formed; b) implementing regulations that have not been updated to follow the provisions in the new law; and c) the implementations of implementing regulations that even contradict the law above. Good implementations of law depend not only on the substance of the law but also on comprehensive and enforceable implementing regulations. In addition, there are also policy implementers who can consistently implement and fully understand the applicable laws and regulations.

Thus, it appears that the state of civil liberties in Indonesia is highly dependent on the quality of its legal dynamics. What has been reported by Freedom House in 2023 and 2024 needs to be a lesson to improve the legal dynamics in Indonesia. All efforts need to be made to achieve Indonesia’s identity which prioritizes the rule of

law by fulfilling civil liberties to achieve a democratic state.

Recommendations

According to the analysis and reflection above, the following recommendations can be made:

- a. The need for a human-rights, sociological, inclusion, and tolerance approach in the preparations of the substance of laws and regulations by the House of Representatives and the Regional Representatives Council, as well as all state institutions in the executive branch at the central and regional levels that have the authority to issue legal products (i.e. Government Regulations, Presidential Regulations, and so on in the hierarchy of laws and regulations). Legal products need to not only have a restrictive approach, but also protect and facilitate the civil liberties of the community to achieve public welfare;
- b. The need to increase transparency and participation in the formation of laws and regulations by the House of Representatives and the Regional Representatives Council, as well as all state institutions in the executive branch at the central and regional levels that have the authority to issue legal products. It is necessary to implement meaningful participation in the process of forming laws and regulations at every stage. In addition to producing quality legal products, increased participation can also increase public confidence in the policies that will be implemented;
- c. The need for stricter supervision from the Judicial Commission and supervisory and ethical institutions of each law enforcement profession to follow up on ethical violations or maladministration in the law enforcement process;
- d. The need for the establishment of implementing regulations by relevant state institutions that are comprehensive and can be implemented by all parties involved. Information dissemination related to the provisions of new legal products is also needed, and
- e. People need to participate in monitoring the dynamics of democracy and understand what their rights are as protected in the constitution. In addition to defending their inherent constitutional rights, it is hoped that this knowledge can also be used to protect others around them.

Indonesia is about to step into a new government. It is appropriate that the poor legal culture described in this paper does not happen again. System improvement and a commitment to consistently implement transparency, participation, equality, non-discrimination, and non-violence are mandatory. Hopefully, this leadership transition period can be used as a momentum for reflection to create a breakthrough that can bring Indonesia closer to becoming a democratic country that protects the civil liberties of its people.

- **Christina Clarissa Intania** -

The situations of civil liberties in Indonesia are highly dependent on the quality of its legal dynamics. All efforts need to be made to achieve Indonesia's identity that prioritizes the rule of law by fulfilling civil liberties to achieve a democratic state.

Bolstering Indonesia's International Trade amidst The Global Uncertainty

In an era of increasingly accelerated globalization, international trade is an important factor. International trade has also been proven to make a country better off, such as providing goods or services that people need and can enjoy (McDonald, 2017; World Bank, February 12, 2023). In addition, international trade can trigger productivity growth and increase country involvement in world supply chains, etc. (World Bank, February 12, 2023).

In general, international trade provides access for a country to obtain goods or services that that country does not have from other countries; for example, spare parts and technology related to electric vehicle batteries. The existence of international trade allows developing countries, such as Indonesia, to obtain technology to develop an electric vehicle ecosystem, from developed countries such as the United States. As a result, the electric vehicle market will become more competitive in terms of price and types of vehicles offered.

Apart from that, the World Bank (February 12, 2023) also explained that this technology exchange could also help accelerate a country's reduction in targeted greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Rusydiana (2018) said that resource allocation and efficiency were the benefits of international trade, which would later lead to national economic growth.

Therefore, this article shall provide an analysis regarding the impact of international trade on the economy, social and environment in Indonesia, as well as policy recommendations to strengthen Indonesia's international trade amidst conditions of global uncertainty for the current government and the future government (2024-2029).

The Current Conditions of Indonesian International Trade

So far, Indonesia's trade balance still shows a surplus. According to the Central Statistics Agency (BPS) (May 15, 2024), as of April 2024, Indonesia's export value was at a level of US\$19.62 billion, of which non-oil and gas exports were US\$18.27 billion and oil and gas exports were US\$1.35 billion. On the other hand, Indonesia's import value of US\$16.06 billion is still dominated by non-oil and gas imports (US\$13.10 billion) and oil and gas imports (US\$2.96 billion). In other words, there will still be a trade balance surplus of US\$3.56 billion in April 2024.

Even though the trade balance surplus in April 2024 was lower than that in March 2024 (4.58% YoY) and compared to April last year (3.94% YoY), Indonesia's trade balance was still in surplus for the 48th consecutive month (BPS, May 15, 2024). This indicates at least two things from the export side: (1) our superior export commodities are still in demand and needed internationally; (2) the economy of Indonesia's trading partners is still good enough to import Indonesian commodities.

The Government must be careful with this trade balance surplus condition. This is due to the potential for Indonesia's economic growth to be hampered due to conflicts in the Middle East region, such as rising fuel oil (BBM) prices because Indonesia is still importing crude oil and fuel. Adijaya (2024) in "Maintaining Indonesia's Economic Engine Through Economic Freedom" also said that Indonesia's dependence on importing fossil energy would further reduce the already limited fiscal space of the State Revenue and Expenditure Budget (APBN). Apart from that, increasing domestic fuel prices could also encourage inflation which will reduce people's purchasing power.

However, international trade has had a positive impact on the economy, social and environment in Indonesia. According to Wisniasari et al. (2023), the positive impact of international trade for Indonesia is to foster harmony so that it increases the confidence of other countries to trade with Indonesia, increases employment opportunities which also increases people's welfare, and makes it easier for people to get their daily needs.

From a social perspective, international trade carried out by Indonesia will reduce poverty levels in the long term (Agusalim, 2017). If we look at the impact on the environment, Laorens (2023) explains

that environmental degradation resulting from efforts to fulfill international trade through the exploitation of natural resources will have an impact on increasing GHG emissions and disrupting long-term economic sustainability.

Recommendations

In the midst of the current conditions of uncertainty, the Government must make efforts to strengthen international trade. This is because exports and imports can build the resilience of companies and countries, increase productivity and profitability, increase business opportunities to enter new markets, and increase opportunities to become pioneers for future goods and services. Some recommendations that can be proposed include:

1. The Government, including the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Trade, Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and other related ministries/institutions must be able to look for diversified markets for both exports and imports. This is important to reduce dependence in one market and reduce the risk of instability if current trading partners experience an economic slowdown. The government must also map potential partner countries based on domestic needs, the needs of the country, natural and economic potential, etc.
2. Second, the Government through the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, Ministry of Trade, Ministry of Industry, and related ministries/institutions must be able to improve the class of Indonesian oil and gas and non-oil and gas products so that they can be competitive on a global scale. Knowing the competitive advantages and comparative advantages of the sectors and products produced is very important. The Government must also focus on producing value-added products and not just exporting raw materials. The Government, through the Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy, can also promote products that have sustainability and eco-friendly standards to meet the need for green products.
3. Third, the Government through the Ministry of Villages, Development of Disadvantaged Regions and Transmigration, the Ministry of Cooperatives and SMEs, as well as other related ministries/institutions must be able to encourage MSMEs to move up in class through funding assistance, fiscal incentives, networking with relevant stakeholders, and ease of doing business so they can enter the international market. Apart from that, capacity

building and upskilling programs for MSMEs through multi-party collaboration also need to be implemented more optimally.

- Putu Rusta Adijaya -

International trade has been proven to make a country better, such as providing goods and services that people need, accelerating a country to reduce targeted greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and so on.

“In the midst of current conditions of uncertainty, the government must strive to strengthen international trade, such as through diversifying import-export markets, focusing on value-added products, and providing facilities and infrastructure to increase the capabilities of MSMEs.

Improving Indonesia's Economic Potential Through Cultural Heritage Development

Indonesia, with an area of 1,904,569 Km² based on Worldometers data (access May 6, 2024), is one of the countries with the greatest diversity of the society, cultural heritage and beliefs in the world. At least, there are more than 200 ethnic groups with their own languages and dialects spread from Sabang to Merauke. The distribution of ethnic groups in Indonesia has also been united by marriages between different ethnic groups after Indonesia gained independence in 1945. This has made the Indonesian nation more cohesive (Wonderful Indonesia, access May 6, 2024).

On the other hand, Indonesia also has a large cultural heritage. There are at least three types of cultural heritage; namely, tangible cultural heritage, intangible cultural heritage, and natural heritage (UNESCO, 2003, in Fahik, Ratminingsih, & Adyani, 2021). According to the site resources.riches-project.eu (access May 6, 2024), material cultural heritage “refers to physical artifacts that are produced, maintained and distributed amongst generations in a society. These include artistic creations, built heritage such as buildings and monuments, as well as other physical or tangible products of human creativity that have cultural significance in a society.”

Intangible cultural heritage is “practices, expressions, knowledge and skills passed down from generation to generation in a community that are created and change by members of the society continuously depending on their interactions with nature and history, and the environment” (UNESCO, 2005, in Fahik, Ratminingsih, & Adyani, 2021). Meanwhile, natural heritage is a place that is still beautiful and untouched by human presence, such as natural ecosystems and biodiversity for the species that live in them (UNESCO, 2003b, and Lim et al., 2019, in Fahik, Ratminingsih, & Adyani, 2021).

Many studies show that cultural heritage has an influence on economic development; for example, through income, job creation, as well as investment and sustainable business from tourist visits to museums and natural cultural reserves in a country (Santander.com, May 3, 2023). In addition, cultural heritage can develop regional tourism potential, empower local craftsmen and artists, and encourage a balance of demand and supply regarding craft products and expertise (Basha, 2020).

Therefore, this article will provide an analysis regarding the relationship between cultural heritage and socio-economics, Indonesia's cultural economic potential, as well as policy recommendations to increase Indonesia's economic potential through cultural development for the current and future governments (2024-2029).

Cultural Heritage and Socio-Economic

The city economy is affected by the existence of “cultural clusters” that emerge in a city in a country. The existence of this cultural cluster can be a trigger for the development of a creative economy which will later influence the city's competitiveness (Borg & Russo, 2005). In European cities studied by Borg and Russo (2005), such as Amsterdam, the Netherlands, an increase in cultural activity is reflected in the presence of the best cultural infrastructure such as the Rijks national museum and the Van Gogh museum. One of the best cities, according to Borg and Russo (2005), has a culture that is not only able to attract enthusiastic foreign tourists but also attracts interest and is enjoyed by the local community. This cultural heritage also plays a role as both an education center and an entertainment center.

In addition, according to UNESCO (October 18, 2016), the process of reconstruction and rehabilitation of cultural heritage such as the Al-Askari Temple in the city of Samarra, Iraq, shows that this can improve the welfare of the surrounding community, as well as restore social cohesion between communities. Cities in China are no exception, Zeng and Wang (2023) show that the acquisition of world cultural heritage in these cities can increase local economic growth.

In Indonesia, cultural heritage itself is part of the creative economy. According to Law Number 24/2019 concerning the Creative Economy, the creative economy is defined as “the realization of added value from intellectual property originating from human creativity based on cultural heritage, science and/or technology.” In other

words, it is not enough to combine science and technology without being based on cultural heritage in realizing a highly competitive creative economy.

For example, in “Projecting Indonesia’s Creative Economy Potential on the Global Stage” (2022) by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Torajamelo, one of the local brands, has succeeded in combining fashion, sustainability, lifestyle while also preserving the cultural heritage of backstrap loom weaving in Indonesia. Another example of cultural economic potential is Ciletuh Bay, West Java, which provides income of IDR 862.64 billion per year to the region, and does not include income from hotels and other culinary tourism (katadata.co.id, May 8, 2024).

The importance of cultural heritage for the national economy, local economy and community welfare requires multi-party cooperation. One of the world’s financial institutions, the World Bank, also encourages and collaborates with the Indonesian Government to maintain the cultural heritage of the Yogyakarta Cosmology Axis which in September 2023 will become part of the UNESCO world cultural heritage site through funding and investment in basic infrastructure. For example, sanitation and water, building and repairing roads and sidewalks, and collaborating with local businesses and workers (World Bank, February 12, 2024).

Recommendations

Considering the relationship between the development of cultural heritage and socio-economic progress, such as the creative economy in Indonesia, the current government and the government for the 2024-2029 period need to increase economic potential through the development of cultural heritage.

First, the Government through the Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy/Tourism and Creative Economy Agency in collaboration with relevant Ministries/Institutions needs to maintain, improve and implement the rule of law regarding the creative economy optimally in order to increase the potential of Indonesia’s creative economy, maintain indigenous communities, as well as local and national cultural heritage.

Second, the Government through the Ministry of BUMN, the Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy, other relevant ministries/institutions, and companies that focus on corporate social responsibility related to cultural heritage must increase collaboration and

synergy with non-governmental organizations to safeguard local and national cultural heritage, promoting cultural heritage that existing in a region creatively, empowering the community, and building supporting infrastructure to increase the excellence and competitiveness of cultural heritage in the region. This will later lead to a multiplier effect for the regional economy.

Third, the Government through the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology must be the main actor in combining and integrating culture in subjects at every level of education. This is important to mitigate the loss of national identity due to forgotten cultural education.

- Putu Rusta Adijaya -

Indonesia is one of the countries with the greatest diversity of people, cultural heritage and beliefs in the world. The potential for cultural heritage in Indonesia is very large because it is sustainable with the creative economy. "In increasing Indonesia's economic potential through cultural development, the Government needs to maintain the supremacy of law, increase collaboration with non-governmental organizations, and combine and integrate culture in subjects at every level of education."

Examining the Effectiveness of the Prabowo-Gibran Cabinet

Prabowo-Gibran's victory, which was announced by the General Election Commission on March 20 2024, has caused waves of speculations about the composition of their cabinet. Since then, various predictions have emerged regarding who will fill ministerial positions in the new cabinet. This is not surprising considering the large size and strength of the Prabowo-Gibran winning team during the campaign, which will politically impact the composition of their cabinet.

Not only that, since the announcement of their victory, many political parties from opposing camps have begun to approach and show interest in collaborating; for example, the Nasdem Party and PKB have shown their support for the new Government. The General Chair of NasDem, Surya Paloh, and the General Chair of Gerindra, Prabowo Subianto, met in person on Thursday (25/4) at Prabowo's residence on Jalan Kertanegara, South Jakarta. Surya Paloh stated that supporting the 2024-2029 Prabowo-Gibran Government was the best decision. On the other hand, the General Chair of PKB, Cak Imin, also expressed his party's support for Prabowo Subianto. This attitude was conveyed during a meeting with Prabowo (Datik.com, 27/4/2024)

Meanwhile, news about the possibility of the Prosperous Justice Party (PKS) joining the new administration has become a main focus. PKS Secretary General Aboe Bakar Alhabsyi revealed that PKS also opened up opportunities to follow NasDem's steps in supporting Prabowo-Gibran. However, until now, there have been no further discussions such as those carried out by Surya Paloh. Signs of PKS participation in the Prabowo-Gibran Government can also be seen from their invitation to Prabowo to attend the halal bihalal event at the PKS DPP Office, Jalan TB Simatupang, South Jakarta (Kompas.com, 26/4/2024).

This shift in political dynamics shows that the new government under Prabowo-Gibran will be faced with new challenges and opportunities in building strong conditions and implementing their political agenda. The public and political observers are enthusiastically following further developments to see how these dynamics will influence the direction of politics and policy in the future. Moreover, Prabowo is very enthusiastic about the “Unity” narrative with his recent statement that he wants to hold 40 meetings at once (CNN Indonesia, 8/5/2024).

It seems that there is no awareness on the part of Prabowo and the management regarding the legal basis that regulates the number of state ministries; namely, Law no. 39/2008 concerning State Ministries, which stipulates that the maximum number of ministries can only reach 34. This article will review further how the implementations of this plan can affect the effectiveness of the bureaucracy, as well as the potential for a system of checks and balances that emerges from this discourse. By referring to the existing legal framework, we can better understand the impact of the steps taken by the Government in terms of ministerial structure, as well as their impact on overall government governance.

Prabowo’s Ministries in Organizational Theory

Changes in organizations are inevitable, as stated by Sutarto (1988) in his book on Organizational Basics. In facing changes, organizations have various ways to adapt, from overhauling structures, changing work procedures, to making changes to personnel and equipment. This statement is very relevant to Prabowo Subianto’s plan to create 40 officials in his cabinet. Most likely, this idea emerged because there were many problems in the previous government that were deemed to need to be fixed.

In the context of the Law on State Ministries, which restricts the number of ministries up to 34 to maintain effectiveness, it is important to remember that the Jokowi government, which consists of 34 ministries alone, has not fully demonstrated the expected level of effectiveness (Indonesia Corruption Watch, 2018). Therefore, a fundamental question arises regarding the urgency of adding publications to this framework. Before writing a new ministry, it is necessary to carry out an in-depth evaluation of the performance of existing ministries, as well as an analysis of the needs, benefits, impacts and risks that may arise from adding new ministries to government administration, including in terms of improving the quality of public services and performance efficiency.

Apart from that, ministerial publications must really have a significant positive impact and not make the bureaucracy more complex and difficult to manage. Apart from that, it is also necessary to pay attention to whether the additional ministries will strengthen coordination between government institutions or will actually lead to overlapping duties and responsibilities between ministries. In this context, revisions to the Law on State Ministries may need to be carried out with a comprehensive evaluation, including ensuring that the process of adding ministries is carried out in a transparent, accountable manner and in accordance with urgent needs and relevant applicable laws and regulations. This is important, so that the policy of adding ministries has a strong and clear legal basis, and is relevant to the needs of the future government.

This needs to be remembered, increasing the number of ministries is not only limited by law, but also has the potential to create a government ecosystem that is too large and ineffective. This can lead to bureaucracy that is complicated and difficult to manage, and has the potential to create ambiguity in responsibilities and coordination between institutions. In addition, adding ministries also means increasing the burden on the state budget, which could result in additional pressure on government finances. In a government structure that is too large, the height of a long and complex organization can create obstacles to fast and efficient decision making, because every decision must go through a series of complicated processes. A wide span of control for government officials can also result in difficulties in monitoring and managing performance and accountability, because it involves large responsibilities. Thus, increasing the number of ministers must be accompanied by a thorough evaluation of the government's capacity and ability to manage these changes without compromising the effectiveness and efficiency of the overall government system.

Therefore, in implementing plans to increase the number of ministries, it is necessary to carry out an in-depth evaluation of the impact on the effectiveness and efficiency of government as a whole. These steps must be considered carefully so as not to sacrifice the quality of governance to achieve certain goals. Strong coordination is also needed between all relevant parties to ensure that these changes run smoothly and provide maximum benefits for the country and society.

Regarding Checks and Balances

The ambition of “unity” advocated by Prabowo is sometimes considered to go beyond reasonable limits and cannot always be justified rationally. The sacrifice of basic aspects of democracy in order to achieve “unity” is often a subject that involves intense matters. As a democratic country, respect for diversity of opinion and freedom of expression is a principle that is highly upheld. Therefore, attempts to direct all parties into a single political view can raise questions about the essence of democracy itself.

In a political context, polarization is an unavoidable phenomenon. However, when the ambition of “unity” is seen as a tool to strengthen political power without regard for freedom of expression and the rights of citizens, it can become a source of tension and conflict. The balance between achieving desired political goals and maintaining democratic values is a complex challenge for political leaders.

The debate between pros and cons, as well as the dynamics between contradictions and contradictions, is a characteristic feature of a healthy political process in a democratic country. However, when efforts to create unity are perceived as a tool to cover up dissent and stifle critical voices, it can threaten the basic principles of democracy. Diversity of opinion is a source of wealth for a democratic society, and rejection of a wide range of political views can only be detrimental to healthy political development.

The importance of recognizing political complexity and respecting freedom is considered important in managing existing political dynamics. Labeling each person or group as a political “friend” or “foe” without considering common interests and democratic values can muddy the political atmosphere and efforts to reach mutually beneficial agreements. Therefore, the society needs to be wary of efforts aimed at differentiating discussion spaces and ignoring freedoms, which are considered an inseparable part of democracy.

Political coalitions that are too large are often considered detrimental, and are often seen as a serious threat to government stability. Without a *strong check and balance mechanism*, *power tends to attract the attention of the majority group in the government*. This could potentially result in the division of positions being less transparent and based on political interests, not qualifications or competence. As a result, satisfaction tends to be ineffective because there are too many interests that must be accommodated, resulting in the

decision making process being slow and difficult to implement.

Recommendations:

1. The new government, in implementing plans to increase the number of ministries, will need to carry out an in-depth evaluation of its impact on the effectiveness and efficiency of the government as a whole. These steps must be considered carefully so as not to sacrifice the quality of governance to achieve certain goals.
2. The new government must understand how important it is to take advantage of the initial moments of its administration to initiate and implement comprehensive administrative reforms, as well as encourage improvements in public services.
3. It is also important for the new Government to take into account the potential risks that may arise from publishing publications, such as ballooning budgets, increasing bureaucratic channels, contaminating power, or conflicts of interest between institutions . A comprehensive risk evaluation should be conducted to identify and address potential issues that may arise during the implementation process. In this way, the steps taken can be more focused and have the potential to achieve the desired results more effectively.
4. Finally, it is also important to involve all relevant stakeholders in the decision-making process regarding changes to the ministry's structure. Active participation from various parties will help ensure that decisions taken reflect the needs and aspirations of the society more broadly. In this way, the change process can become more transparent and gain wider support from society, thereby strengthening the legitimacy and sustainability of the policies taken.

The announcement of Prabowo-Gibran's victory on March 20 2024 created political waves. Support from rival parties, including the possibility of PKS joining, adds to political dynamics. However, it is important to consider legal aspects regarding the number of regulations that Prabowo wants to avoid a negative impact on bureaucracy and the balance of power in government. These political changes will determine the direction of future policy.

- Felia Primaresti -

Stagnation of Law Enforcement and the Potential Closure of Electoral Democracy

The challenge of law enforcement in eradicating corruption, especially related to political corruption, seems to still be the main focus in 2024. This refers to the “busy” year 2024 with political activities such as the last general elections, and the regional head elections that will be held in November. Apart from that, another thing that deserves to be a common discourse and concern is that data from the Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK), which showed that 40% of suspects processed by the KPK (2004-2023) came from political circles, both legislative members and regional heads. . These also involved election participants (Indonesian Corruption Watch, 2023).

The results of the KPK research show that the political year is a period that is vulnerable to corruption. The high need for political funds forces candidates in elections or regional elections to seek support from sponsors, which often leads to political corruption because this assistance is not provided free of charge. As many as 82.3% of regional head candidates admitted that they were funded by third parties with certain compensations (Dalilah, 2019).

In some cases, these large political funds are used for activities such as political dowries to political parties or *money politics* for voters, which are part of election crimes. These political activities certainly involves political parties as participants or organs that have the authority to determine candidates in political contestations.

However, to date, no political parties have been punished, even though the parties or their cadres are indicated to have committed election crimes. The Center for Anti-Corruption Studies, Faculty of Law, Gadjah Mada University (Pukat UGM) stated that almost every political party that had representatives as council members or ministerial officials in the 2009-2014 United Indonesia Cabinet was involved in criminal acts of corruption, with the Democratic Party having a percentage of 28.40%, Hanura 23.50%, PDI-P 18.08%,

PKS 17.24%, Golkar 16.03%, PKB 14.28%, PPP 13.16%, and Gerindra 3.85%. Of this amount, criminal responsibility is largely borne by the management (Wangga, 2018).

In election crimes, for example, there is manipulation of campaign funds by political parties. Indonesia Corruption Watch (2021) provides an example that almost all of the reporting on political party campaign funds in the 2009 legislative elections was dishonest. PKS reported campaign spending of IDR 36.3 billion, even though advertising spending alone was IDR 74.6 billion. Golkar's campaign report was IDR 142.9 billion, even though the advertising was IDR 277.3 billion. The PAN report was IDR 17.9 billion, even though the advertisement was IDR 71.1 billion. Hanura's report was IDR 1.2 billion, even though the advertisement was IDR 44.8 billion. The PDI-P report was IDR 38.9 billion, even though the advertisement was IDR 102.9 billion (Republika, 2013).

In the 2019 elections, it was found that eight political parties did not comply with campaign finance regulations and nine political parties had problems regarding the transparency of donor identities (Hermanto, 2019). Referring to Article 496 of the Election Law, political parties that manipulate campaign funds are threatened with one year's imprisonment and a fine of IDR 12 million. In fact, not a single political party has succeeded in being held criminally responsible for these election crimes.

The police and prosecutors appear to delay handling such cases for the reason of avoiding political issues. Although they use arguments to maintain neutrality, this delay is not supported by clear legal regulations. In fact, this could be seen as an admission of weaknesses in law enforcement that should be addressed with stricter supervision.

The Closure of Electoral Democracy

The large political costs that continue to be normalized have many implications for the sustainability of electoral democracy in Indonesia. The massive practice of money politics, apart from causing acts of corruption in the future, will also never educate the public about substantive democratic processes.

This normalization of money politics not only impacts short-term results in elections, but also has serious long-term consequences. The decline in the quality of elected leadership due to money politics often leads to public policies that do not favor the interests of the wider community, but rather the interests of those who have

large capital. Apart from that, the normalization of money politics also weakens the democratic system because it damages the integrity of the electoral process. When money politics becomes the norm, people's trust in the democratic process and its leaders tends to decline, which can lead to political apathy and low participation in the next election.

According to *the exit poll* released by Indonesian Political Indicators (2024), in the 2024 Elections, 46.9% of respondents considered money politics to be something normal. This percentage increased significantly from a level of 32% in the 2019 election. Among them, the majority, 48.4%, stated that they would accept the money but would still choose candidates according to their conscience. As many as 35.1% would receive money and voted for the candidate who gave the money, while 7.3% would accept money but vote for the candidate who gave more money than the other candidates. In addition, 8% of respondents thought that money politics was normal but would not accept the money, and 1.2% did not know or did not answer.

The data indicated that election participants were trying to normalize money politics in the society. In fact, referring to Law Number 17/2017, Article 267 explains that campaigns are part of political education. Using this logic, campaigns should be carried out with full responsibility. In this case, a responsible campaign is a campaign that prioritizes substance, vision, mission and programs, and does not violate relevant laws and regulations. Apart from that, the most important thing is that responsible campaigns do not carry out black campaigns, such as through the spread of false information and other similar content, as well as provocation.

This issue is becoming increasingly crucial considering that next November regional elections will be held in various regions in Indonesia. Pilkada is an important moment to ensure that the elected leaders truly have sufficient integrity and capability to lead their regions. Concerns are increasing because in many of these areas there are significant allocations of village funds as well as special autonomy (autonomy) policies, both of which are vulnerable to abuse. In 2022, the village sector was the sector with the most corruption cases, with 155 cases involving 252 suspects, according to the Indonesia Corruption Watch (ICW) report. This number was equivalent to 26.77% of the total corruption cases handled by law enforcement in 2022, and an increase compared to 154 cases in 2021.

In detail, of the 155 corruption cases in the village sector, 133 cases were related to village funds, while the other 22 cases were related to village revenues. Apart from that, corruption also occurred a lot in the utilities sector with 88 cases, government with 54 cases, and education with 40 cases. The natural resources and banking sectors each recorded 35 cases, while the agrarian sector recorded 31 cases. The health and social sectors were also not spared, with 27 and 26 cases respectively. Again, the large number of corruption cases in various sectors often stems from massive normalized political costs and manipulation, starting with money politics in the election process.

Recommendations

1. Strict supervision and intensive political education are needed by election management organizations and civil society in general to maintain the quality of democracy and prevent the recurrence of money politics practices, which can damage public trust and the quality of leadership at the regional level.
2. The Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK) must improve internal governance and improve the quality of case handling. Over the last few years, there have been no substantial improvements in this matter, especially after changes to regulations at the KPK. Apart from that, the KPK is also expected to be able to handle major cases more effectively by involving political elites.
3. Apart from that, attention also needs to be paid to recovering state financial losses. Prosecutors have handled a number of cases with significant financial losses, and in 2024, focus must be placed on tracing assets to support recovery of these losses.
4. The role of the courts is also a concern, especially regarding the sentences handed down to perpetrators of corruption. Data show that the sentences given are still relatively light, and the existence of the Corrections Law allows convicts to be released more quickly. This shows the need for an evaluation of the justice system to ensure that the punishment imposed can provide a deterrent effect that is appropriate to the level of the crime committed.

- Felia Primaresti -

The challenges faced law enforcement in eradicating corruption, especially related to political corruption, seem to still be the main focus in 2024. This refers to the 'boom' in 2024 with political activities such as the last elections, and the regional elections, which will be held in November. "Referring to the data from the Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK), 40% of the suspects processed by the KPK (2004-2023) came from political circles, both legislative members and regional heads.

Looking at the Preparations of the Voter List for the 2024 Simultaneous Regional Elections

On May 2 2024, the Ministry of Home Affairs (Kemendagri) has provided Population and Civil Registration Data (Dukcapil) as a database for compiling a List of Potential Election Voters (DP4) in the 2024 Regional Head Elections (Pilkada). These important data were submitted directly by Minister of Home Affairs M. Tito Karnavian to the General Election Commission of the Republic of Indonesia (KPU RI). The 2024 Simultaneous Regional Elections DP4 submitted by the Ministry of Home Affairs totaled 207,110,768 people (dukcapil.kemendagri.go.id, 2/5/2024).

The list consists of 103,228,748 men and 103,882,020 women. These data were verified and validated by the Directorate General of Dukcapil, Ministry of Home Affairs, by removing residents who died, residents who changed domicile and adding the results of the e-KTP recording of new voters up to April 2024 (dukcapil.kemendagri.go.id, 2/5/2024).

Previously, on April 23 2024, KPU held a “Public Test of the Draft KPU Regulation on the Compilation of Voter Lists in the 2024 Simultaneous Regional Head Elections (Pilkada). This public test is part of preparations for the simultaneous regional elections, where voting will be held on November 27 2024.

Like the 2024 general elections, the updating of the 2024 Pilkada voter list will also be based on the Potential Election Voter Population Data (DP4) released by the Ministry of Home Affairs (Kemendagri). From the DP4, the data will be processed to become a permanent voter list (DPT), which in the process can be supplemented with an additional voter list (DPTb) and a special voter list (DPK) as in the 2024 Elections (kompas.com, 23/4/2024).

The Indonesian KPU hopes that there will not be too much data differences when the matching and research process (coklit) is carried out by the voter list updating committee (pantarlih). The Voter List Information System (Sidalih) will also be used again as a tool to update the voter list, as was done for the 2024 Elections. Meanwhile, the determination of the DPT itself will be carried out on September 21 2024. This is based on KPU Regulation (PKPU) Number 2/2024 concerning the Stages and Regional Election Schedule (kompas.com, 23/4/2024).

Previous Election Experiences

Compiling a voter list is an important stage in holding elections in Indonesia, including regional elections. Often the voter list is a problem that arises during the implementations of elections; for example, in the 2019 General Elections, when there were 36 days until the voting, the issue of the voter list was still generating polemic. At that time, Prabowo Subianto-Sandiaga Uno's National Winning Body (BPN) took issue with the alleged irregularity of 17.5 million voter data and 775 thousand duplicate data in the 2019 Election Permanent Voter List (DPT) (Kompas.com, 11/3/ 2019).

These alleged irregular data occurred because there were data on voters born on July 1, totaling 9.8 million voters. Furthermore, there are data on voters born on December 31 totaling 3 million, as well as data on voters born on January 1 (totaling 2.3 million). Responding to these allegations, KPU explained that the data referred to the data from the Directorate General of Population and Civil Registration (Dukcapil) of the Ministry of Home Affairs (Kemendagri). The existence of voter data with the dates mentioned above is because residents forgot their birth dates when recording the Dukcapil administration process (Kompas.com, 11/3/2019).

An example of a voter registration problem occurred in the 2024 Elections, where the Indonesian Election Supervisory Agency (Bawaslu) found that 4,005,275 citizens who had entered the Permanent Voter List (DPT) for the 2024 Election apparently did not have electronic Resident Identity Cards. On average, they are new voters who will be 17 years old on voting day; and voters who are 17 years old, but have not yet produced an electronic KTP (republika.co.id, 26/7/2023).

KPU considers that voters who are only 17 years old and do not yet have an e-KTP can use a Family Card (KK). The KPU stated that the Population Identification Number (NIK) was sourced from data

from the Ministry of Home Affairs and believed that at the time of voting, first-time voters had obtained an KTP. This is because the KPU continues to coordinate with the Ministry of Home Affairs (detik.com, 26/7/2023).

To Encourage the Preparation of a Good Voters List

Judging from this experience, the voter list preparation stage requires good management as part of the implementations of election rules. The process of the election stages, from compiling the voter list to counting the votes, needs to be carried out with good management. For this reason, it is necessary to carry out risk management in organizing the 2024 General Elections and Pilkada.

The International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA) (2016) defines risk management in elections as a systematic effort undertaken to develop knowledge about and situational awareness of internal and external risks to the election process, in order to initiate timely prevention and mitigation actions. Risk management usually refers to processes for identifying and analyzing threats to take preventive and mitigating actions.

Meanwhile, specifically related to the risks of compiling voter lists, Hopwood and Shejvali (2015) provide several points that must be monitored in order to encourage the preparations of good voters lists, such as: the risk of deliberately reducing the voters list in certain areas; there is a risk of increasing the voters list through fraudulent means, and a risk of failure to update the voters list regularly.

Next, there is a risk that failure to remove the names of deceased residents could result in 'ghost voters'; the absence of an independent verification process for voter lists; there is no or limited access for parties and other stakeholders to information related to the voter list, and finally there is the risk of many errors in writing names in and duplicate names in the voter list.

According to the explanations above, it is important for election organizers, especially the KPU, to map and prevent problems from arising in compiling the voters list for the 2024 Regional Elections. Learning from the experience of previous elections in Indonesia, the risks that can be identified are from the issue of preparing the legal framework, information dissemination to the Regional KPU and Regional Bawaslu, the coklit process, and determining the voter list. If these risks are not anticipated from the start and cannot be overcome at a later date, they will result in confusion in the implementa-

tions of voting and the potential for misuse of voters data and lists, as well as loss of voters' voting rights.

Recommendations

Responding to these challenges, steps are needed to be taken by election organizers and other relevant policy makers. First, the KPU, Bawaslu and the Ministry of Home Affairs ensure that they have a mutual understanding regarding the main ingredients of voters data in accordance with the KPU Regulations regarding the Compilation of Voters Lists in the 2024 Simultaneous Regional Head Elections.

Second, Bawaslu together with civil society groups, especially election observers, supervise the preparation stage until the determination of the voters list. Third, KPU, Bawaslu and the Ministry of Home Affairs encourage community participation, especially those who have met the voting criteria, to take care of population documents so that they do not lose their right to vote.

- Arfianto Purbolaksono -

It is important for election organizers, especially KPU, to map and prevent problems from arising in preparing the voters list for the 2024 Pilkada

Examining Population Policy through Indonesian Family Development Index

According to a report from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS), there were 1.58 million marriages in the country in 2023, down 7.51% from those in 2022 (year-on-year/yoy). This is also a record low for the past decade. In the past 10 years, the national marriage rate had reached a record high in 2013, at 2.21 million marriages, but over time and due to the occurrence of a pandemic, the marriage rate has tended to experience a significant decline (Databoks.katadata.co.id, 29/2/2024).

The decline in marriage rates in the productive age group has not only hit Indonesia, but also developed countries in Asia such as Korea, China / PRC, Japan, and Singapore.

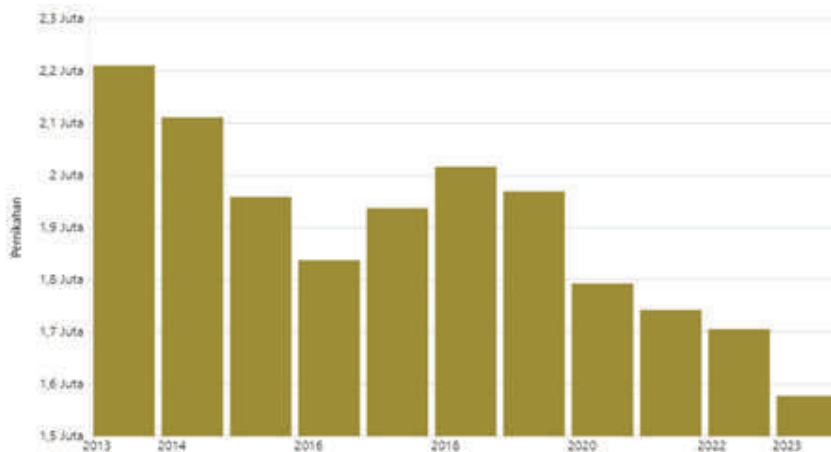
In Japan; for example, the low marriage rate also has an impact on the increasing number of housing units that are no longer inhabited due to the number and demographics of the population, which were mostly filled by the elderly and then left behind due to death. Apart from death, the elderly also left their homes to live in nursing homes. According to the latest data from Japan's Ministry of the Interior, uninhabited houses reached a level of nine million buildings in October 2023. This figure increased by 510,000 from the previous survey conducted in 2018 (CNNIndonesia.com, 8/5/2024).

Uncovering the Root Causes of Indonesia's Declining Marriage Rate

The phenomenon of declining marriage rates in Indonesia is an important finding to discuss. This is because Indonesia is the 4th most populous country in the world (goodstats.id, 5/3/2024).

The decline in marriage rates in Indonesia over the past ten years does not always have to be responded to negatively. It can be influenced by various factors. The graph below shows the fluctuations

in the marriage rate that occurred in each year. In addition, if seen from 2019 onwards, it had actually experienced a significant decline. The decline in marriage rates in 2019-2022 could be caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, which forced people to comply with large-scale social restrictions (PSBB).



Source: Processed by the author, databoks.katadata.co.id, 2024

This PSBB regulation has caused most community activities to be limited or even canceled in order to prevent the spread of the Covid-19 virus and other variants. In addition, the declining marriage rate in Indonesia could be caused by the economic impact of the pandemic. Economic instability during and after the pandemic influenced young people's decision to delay marriage. This also has implications for the growing awareness of young people to improve the quality of life for themselves, such as continuing higher education, including honing skills as provisions for the world of work,

On the other hand, the decline in marriage rates in Indonesia during the pandemic has also led to another phenomenon; namely, the increase in the birth rate of new babies. This phenomenon is thought to be the impact of social restriction policies. The social restriction policy during the pandemic has resulted in families (especially married couples) having more frequent interactions, which of course increases the number of possibilities for couples to have children again.

Family Development Index in Indonesia's Population Policy

The National Population and Family Planning Agency (BKKBN) states that family development aims to improve the quality of the

family so that there can be a sense of security, serenity, and hope for a better future in realizing physical welfare and inner happiness.

The concept of integrated and comprehensive family development has been launched by the National Development Planning Agency (Bappenas) for the 2019-2025 RPJMN National Medium-Term Development Plan. The 2019-2025 RPJMN states that the purpose of family development is to realize strong and prosperous families by using a family resilience approach through various dimensional collaborations such as religion, legal basis and family integrity, gender equality, parenting and care, economy, basic needs and socio-culture and psychology (BKKBN, 2020).

In addition, to achieve this, a measure is needed to measure success in family quality development efforts so that the information can be used as strategic data as a measure of government performance and become the basis for stakeholders and policymakers in formulating policies/programs/activities (BKKBN, 2020).

To realize the efforts, BKKBN launched the Regulation of the National Population and Family Planning Agency of the Republic of Indonesia Number 3/2022 concerning the Measurement of Family Development Success through the Family Development Index.

The Family Development Index (iBangga) is a tool that measures family quality as shown through family peace, independence, and happiness and describes the role and function of the family for all regions in Indonesia. iBangga contains three important indicators to measure success in building family quality. With these indicators, it is expected to be able to provide information on the situation of Indonesian families in a particular year, including in making policy programs.

Furthermore, BKKBN noted an increase in the family development index (iBangga) in 2023 from the previous year. Through the three dimensions of the measurement index, it was known that the peace score was at 59.44, independence a score of 53.58, and the happiness score of 71.26. In the report, BKKBN also noted that there was an increase in the index value from 56.07 (in 2022) to 61.43 (in 2023). The increase in index value also placed Indonesia in the status of developing family category (antaranews.com, 2/5/2024). Although the 2024 reporting data states that there is an increase in the index value, this does not necessarily describe the actual situation of Indonesian families. The current situation of Indonesian families shows the opposite with many cases of domestic violence

(KDRT) including the increasing divorce rate, which causes Indonesian families to experience disharmony.

In the case of violence; for example, this situation does not only happen to women, but can actually happen to anyone who is a family member in it (husband and children). According to data collected from the Online Information System for the Protection of Women and Children (Simfoni PPA) of the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection (KemenPPPA) during 2023, 73 percent of cases of violence against women, where domestic violence (KDRT) occurs due to economic factors. Even more recently, most wives in Bojonegoro (East Java) are filing for divorce because their husbands are addicted to online gambling.

In addition, there are many other factors and aspects that cause disharmonious family situations in Indonesia. However, if we reflect on the current low marriage rate in Indonesia, then the disharmonious family situation may have a significant impact/influence on the decision of every young person to decide to get married.

To build a family ecosystem through the institution of marriage should start from the process of education and character-building of individuals in the family. Education in the family is a form of non-formal education institution that is expected to be able to transfer values to be internalized by individuals in dealing with various life situations, especially in the context of family. All these internalized values are then transformed into character in the individual.

In addition, the inheritance of characteristics is not genetically inherited, but the results of individual learning in the family occur continuously from generation to generation. Therefore, the development of a harmonious family (physically and mentally prosperous) in marriage can only occur if there are common values between individuals. The state, as a regulator, has a very important role in supporting the development of a harmonious family; creating family resilience stability by providing ease of business/economic opportunities that have an impact on labour availability, living wages, maternity leave for fathers; and ensuring food affordability.

The Importance of Building a Comprehensive Family Resilience System:

The declining marriage rate in Indonesia shows that the family resilience system is very low. This can be seen from the increasing

divorce rate caused by various factors. Therefore, building a comprehensive family resilience system requires the role and participation of all elements of society.

To improve the family resilience system comprehensively, each party can carry out its role such as:

1. To improve the quality of human life through higher education and vocational education. With an education level, it is expected to be able to obtain economic opportunities which certainly have an impact on the ability of generations to build a family.
2. The Government can ensure that regulations provide ease of business opportunities that are expected to increase economic growth.
3. To increase the institutional role of the Marriage Advisory, Development, and Preservation Agency (BP4) in an effort to preserve marriage through household education.
4. BKKBN as part of the government can reintroduce generation planning (GenRe) as part of the marriage-age maturing program for young adults. With the reintroduction of the programme, it is hoped that it can direct young adults to plan a healthy and quality family life.

- **Dewi Rahmawati Nur Aulia** -

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Saving Indonesia's Generations from the Dangers of Pornography

The Government will form a Task Force (Satgas) to handle child pornography. This is due to the fact that the victims of child pornography can be found span across different levels of education, from elementary, junior high, high school, to childhood education. People with disability have also become victims. Coordinating Minister for Political, Legal, and Security Affairs Air Chief Marshal (Ret.) Hadi Tjahjanto in a coordination meeting on the Handling of Online Pornography at the Coordinating Ministry for Political, Legal and Security Affairs office, Jakarta, Thursday (18/4/2024) explained that the impact of this problem is very serious, so it is important to handle it, considering that the perpetrators are known or people close to the victims. The coordination meeting was attended by Minister of Social Affairs Tri Rismaharini, as well as Minister of Communication and Information Budi Arie Setiadi (Polkam.go.id, 18/4/2024).

In addition, the former Minister of ATR / BPN also explained that the Task Force for Handling Pornography will immediately take steps, starting from the stages of prevention, handling, law enforcement, to the stage after the incident in synergy with other ministerial institutions. The ministries involved will be united and then coordinated under the Coordinating Ministry for Political, Legal, and Security Affairs. Minister Polhukam explained that his ministry would handle both online and offline issues. Some of the ministerial institutions mentioned to be involved in the steps to handle this pornography case include the Ministry of Research and Technology, the Ministry of PPA, the Ministry of Religious Affairs, the Ministry of Social Affairs, the Ministry of Communication and Information, Police, KPAI, the Ministry of Law and Human Rights, the Attorney General's Office, LPSK, and PPATK (Polkam.go.id, 18/4/2024).

The History of Pornography

Pornography has a long history in human culture. In its early days, pornography was part of classical art that depicted various erotic illustrations. These erotic illustrations could be depicted in works of painting, including sculptural carvings.

History also records that the first person to get into legal trouble for exposing ‘pornography’ was Marcantanio Raimondi. Reporting from Kompas.com, he was an Italian painter who displayed images of a sexual nature. In addition, he also sculpted an erotic carving with the title ‘I Modi’ which in English is called the Position. However, he was acquitted by the efforts of an Italian writer named Pietro Aretimo, who was later considered the father of modern pornography (kompasiana.com, 11/5/2021).

Pornography etymologically comes from the word ‘porne’ which is a combination of the words prostitute and graphics. In a book published by the Encarta Reference Library, the definition of pornography is everything that materially, whether in the form of films, newspapers, writings, photographs, or others, causes the emergence or appearance of sexual desires (kompasiana.com, 11/5/2021).

Referring to Law Number 44/2008, pornography is defined as images, sketches, illustrations, photographs, writings, sounds, moving images, animations, cartoons, conversations, gestures, or other forms of messages through various forms of communication media and/or public performances, which contain obscenity or sexual exploitation that violate the norms of decency in the society.

Nowadays, pornography is no longer considered as a form of artwork that contains political messages/satire. Therefore, today pornography is simply all media that contains sexual stimulation in audio, visual, including kinesthetic (motion). In the context of pornoaction, this content can occur if individuals perform actions that contain sensual expressions and are reflected in the form of public behavior.

Pornography Business Prospects and Impacts

Pornography is considered to be a promising business. Businesses that contain pornographic content, especially online, are economically very attractive to various groups. Chair of the Indonesian Internet Warung Association (AWARI) Irwin Day revealed that the amount of money spent on pornography reached US\$3,075 per second. In addition, according to 2006 statistics, the number of internet users who viewed sites with pornographic content was also large, where per second no less than 28,258 internet users viewed pornographic content (Tempo, 28/7/2008).

Pornography is not only a national problem but has become a global issue that must be addressed together. In America, the porn indus-

try has even penetrated the world of virtual reality, or VR, since 2016. This makes two-dimensional porn films will develop according to the technology used, so they are not outdated. The trials have also been carried out at the CES event in Las Vegas (okezone.com, 15/12/2022).

Likewise in Indonesia. In Playboy magazine; for example, before the rise of online pornography, this printed magazine was a fairly exclusive product to be accessed by certain circles of the society. This magazine allegedly contained models (especially) women as sensual objects. In addition, the objectification of women as models in the magazine brought some strong reactions from the community, especially from religious groups. These religious groups protested against the production of the magazine, which was considered not in accordance with the civilization of the Eastern society, especially the Indonesian nation. Although this magazine had stopped printing since 2019, this does not necessarily mean that the pornography industry has stopped. The development of technology and digitization has made online pornographic content much more desirable than photo treats from printed magazines.

The widespread buying and selling of products or simply viewing the content of pornographic sites explains the potential for economic gains from the commercialization of the human body. The anatomy of the body in both men and (especially) women is no longer seen as God's creation that has aesthetic value and the philosophy of human creation through biological processes. In fact, the creation of every human being is essentially a part that can be explained scientifically and is not taboo.

On the other hand, the outbreak of pornographic content on various online sites and social media, which is currently no longer able to be limited, also has a serious impact. The impact of pornography, among others, is the changes in substances in the brains that have the potential to create a feeling of addiction. Just like addictive substance users, pornography users can develop addiction. Pornographers tend to be unable to control their motor skills and motivation, and this can affect sexual arousal. If the sexual arousal that arises due to pornography addiction is always used, then this can certainly reduce the sensitivity of individuals in building healthy relationship interactions with partners.

Many sexual crimes such as rape occur due to the influence of pornography addiction. Rape of women and children for example. In

the perpetrators of rape, the aggressiveness of sexual behavior does not only occur because of the opportunity to have forced intercourse but also the existence of track records of the perpetrator's memory on everything related to aspects of bodily sensuality, especially in women.

Still in the context of the impact caused by the existence of pornography and pornoaction, research in Germany shows that watching pornographic films or videos regularly can make brain volume in brain regions related to motivation shrink (Skala.info, 21/1/2023).

Countermeasure Policy

In an effort to overcome the dangers of the spread and impact of pornography, Law 44/2008 has issued two government regulations (PP) and one presidential regulation (Perpres). These regulations include Government Regulation No. 5/2014 on the Terms and Procedures for Licensing the Production, Distribution and Use of Pornographic Products, Government Regulation No. 40/2011 on Guidance, Assistance and Recovery for Children who are Victims or Perpetrators of Pornography, and Presidential Regulation No. 25/2012 on the Task Force for the Prevention and Handling of Pornography.

On the implementations of Presidential Regulation No. 25/2012 on Task Force for Prevention and Handling of Pornography, Indonesian Broadcasting Commission (KPI) supports the strategy development of synergistic and comprehensive efforts to prevent and handle pornography by the Task Force for Prevention and Handling of Pornography (GTP3) led by Ministry of Human Empowerment and Culture and Ministry of Religious Affairs, along with related ministries and institutions. One of the steps to be taken, according to KPI, is digital literacy and information dissemination of child and women-friendly broadcasting content, to prevent pornographic content from being inserted in KPI broadcast rooms (KPI.go.id, 13/3/2024).

However, this is not enough. There needs to be efforts made by all parties to filter all information circulating, especially on the internet. This includes filtering a variety of information on the internet through censorship policies; for example. This policy is carried out to protect copyright, including preventing cybercrime, preventing access to inappropriate content such as pornography, and controlling or monitoring information (goodstats.id26/10/2023). Indonesia is known to be a Southeast Asian country with a lower internet

ensorship policy than three other countries, namely Myanmar, Thailand, and Malaysia. Indonesia is on par with Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam (goodstats.id,26/10/2023).

According to Comparitech, Indonesia restricts and bans torrents, restricts and bans pornography, restricts political media content, and restricts social media content. Internet censorship policies are implemented through the application of several laws and regulations, such as the Broadcasting Law, ITE Law, Job Creation Law, National Police Chief's Circular Number SE/2/II/2021, Government Regulation Number 24/2010 on the Implementation of Electronic Systems and Transactions, and the Telecommunications Law (goodstats.id, 26/10/2023).

However, there are pros and cons in the use of regulations regarding internet censorship policies in Indonesia, such as being an obstacle to freedom of expression and opinion, as well as abuse of power to suppress opinions that differ from those of the owners of power (goodstats.id, 26/10/2023).

Pornography is not a new problem in Indonesia. In the context of communication, pornography should be an important discourse for the society to distinguish between art products as a result of human reasoning and pornography as a means of personal exploration that has an impact on addiction. Therefore, this is not only the task of academics/scholars in providing scientific enlightenment, but also a common task in defining pornography.

Recommendations

To prevent the Indonesian generations from being exposed to the dangers of pornography, it is necessary to involve the participation of all parties in carrying out their roles, such as:

1. To encourage the enforcement of legal certainty for the perpetrators or providers of pornography/pornography products or services that are spread across various public frequencies.
2. To ensure that existing regulations do not threaten freedom of expression, freedom of speech, and individual freedom.
3. The Ministry of Communication and Information and KPI can create a digital literacy improvement program that directly targets students by visiting them from school to school to improve digital literacy and awareness of the dangers of exposure to pornography in students.
4. The Ministry of Religious Affairs, BKKBN, KemenPPPA, and

the Ministry of Health can collaborate in disseminating information on the dangers of exposure to pornography for individuals including domestic partners, and the potential impacts that will be experienced.

- Dewi Rahmawati Nur Aulia -

Pornography is not a new problem in Indonesia. In the context of communication, pornography should be an important discourse for the community to distinguish between art products as a result of the human mind and pornography as a means of personal exploration that has an impact on addiction

 **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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