THE ROLE OF POLITICAL PARTIES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DEMOCRATIC GENERAL ELECTIONS IN THE INDONESIAN STATE ADMINISTRATION SYSTEM

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ABSTRACT

Purpose: The objective of this study is to analyze the role of political parties in the organization of democratic general elections, in the context of the Indonesian constitutional system.

Theoretical framework: Democratic elections are one of the fundamental pillars of the Indonesian political system, based on democratic principles. In this context, political parties play a decisive role in influencing and shaping the general election process, as well as in providing a forum for citizen political participation.

Method: This research will use a qualitative approach, with a descriptive analysis and a literature analysis. The results of the study show that democratic elections can be demonstrated in at least 3 things, i.e. whether human rights are recognized, protected and promoted, the loyal capacity of electoral participants.

Results and Conclusions: According to the study, democratic elections in Indonesia require an active role of political parties as representatives of the interests of the people. Political parties must be able to articulate the wishes and needs of citizens and to formulate programmes and policies that reflect citizens' values and expectations. In addition, political parties must ensure that the process of electing candidates is highly transparent and accountable.

Research Implications: According to the conclusions of this study, political parties play an important role in Indonesia in ensuring the consedeeo of democratic elections. Representing the interests of the people, participating in fair elections.

Originality/value: Writing quality candidates and leadership candidates, and mobilizing the public to actively participate in elections are part of the responsibilities of political parties.

Keywords: candidates, political parties, general elections, democracy, people.

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O PAPEL DOS PARTIDOS POLÍTICOS NA REALIZAÇÃO DE ELEIÇÕES GERAIS DEMOCRÁTICAS NO SISTEMA DE ADMINISTRAÇÃO DO ESTADO INDONÉSIO

RESUMO

Objetivo: O objetivo deste estudo é analisar o papel dos partidos políticos na organização de eleições gerais democráticas, no contexto do sistema constitucional indonésio.

Quadro teórico: eleições democráticas são um dos pilares fundamentais do sistema político indonésio, baseado em princípios democráticos. Neste contexto, os partidos políticos desempenham um papel decisivo na influência e na configuração do processo eleitoral geral, bem como na criação de um fórum para a participação política dos cidadãos.

Método: Esta pesquisa utilizará uma abordagem qualitativa, com uma análise descritiva e uma análise da literatura. Os resultados do estudo mostram que as eleições democráticas podem ser demonstradas em pelo menos três aspectos, ou seja, se os direitos humanos são reconhecidos, protegidos e promovidos, a capacidade leal dos participantes eleitorais.

Resultados e Conclusões: De acordo com o estudo, as eleições democráticas na Indonésia exigem um papel ativo dos partidos políticos como representantes dos interesses do povo. Os partidos políticos devem ser capazes de articular os desejos e as necessidades dos cidadãos e de formular programas e políticas que reflitam os valores e as expectativas dos cidadãos. Além disso, os partidos políticos devem assegurar que o processo de eleição dos candidatos é altamente transparente e responsável.

Implicações da pesquisa: De acordo com as conclusões deste estudo, os partidos políticos desempenham um papel importante na Indonésia para garantir a realização de eleições democráticas. Representar os interesses do povo, participar em eleições justas.

Originalidade/valor: Escrever candidatos de qualidade e de liderança e mobilizar o público para participar ativamente nas eleições fazem parte das responsabilidades dos partidos políticos.

Palavras-chave: candidatos, partidos políticos, eleições gerais, democracia, pessoas.

1 INTRODUCTION

In general, modern countries in the world declare themselves as countries with a democratic government system, namely a system of government based on people's sovereignty (Nasution, 2014). The establishment of a country cannot be separated from the concept of sovereignty inherent in the country concerned. Sovereignty is a very important element in a country. This is because the state is an organization of power which is a tool to achieve common goals (Basuki, 2020).

Several nations have utilized Indonesia's constitutional democracy as an alternative for various social and state activities. According to Mahfud MD (2003), there are at least two causes to select democracy as a society and state system. First, nearly every country in the world has made democracy a fundamental principle, and second,
democracy as a state principle has fundamentally shaped the function of society to organize the state as its highest organization.

As a manifestation of the concept of popular sovereignty, it must be ensured in a democratic system that the people are completely involved in planning, organizing, implementing, supervising, and evaluating the execution of the power functions (Rikardo, 2020). The concept of democracy is a manifestation of people's discontent with liberal and utilitarian states. Democracy is the answer or solution to the desire to establish a nation that does not favor anyone, but rather the people who determine a nation's progress (Wijaya, 2023).

General elections are one form of community engagement in the political process. The public can participate in determining the figure and direction of state or regional leadership during a specific time period by voting in elections (Rachbi & Slamet, 2020). When democracy receives extensive attention from the international community, democratic elections become an essential requirement for a country's leadership formation. Elections serve primarily to produce leadership that is closely aligned with the will of the people. Consequently, elections serve to legitimize power (Rokhim, 2011).

If a number of criteria are satisfied, then the elections in question can be considered democratic. To begin, elections need to be competitive, which means that voters need to be free to make their own decisions and act independently (Hung et al., 2023). Second, elections are held consistently, in the sense that elections are required to be held consistently at predetermined time intervals, and elections are held routinely. Third, elections ought to be inclusive, which means that all community groups should be given an equal opportunity to vote and participate in the process (Dedi, 2019). During the course of the election, not a single group experienced any form of unfair treatment. In the fourth place, voters need to be given the opportunity to think about and talk about the various options they have in a relaxed setting, without feeling any kind of pressure, and with access to a wealth of information. Fifth, election organizers who are unbiased and unaffiliated with any political party (Puspitasari, 2004).

The democratic foundation of Indonesia's government is primarily supported by the country's many political parties. The selection of national and regional leadership is facilitated by the use of political parties as a vehicle in the functioning of the national political system (Tulis, 2012). The fact that political parties have been successful in their role as pillars of democracy has been demonstrated by the experience gained through
staging a series of elections at the national and regional levels. The conduct of post-reform elections is regarded as having been a great deal of a success by a great deal of different groups, including the international world. With this description, it is possible to say that the national political system is in line with the arrangement of the life of the nation and state, which includes the arrangement of political parties (Amin, 2015). This is something that can be claimed since it is seen to be in line with the arrangement of political parties (Akimov et al., 2023).

2 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Especially in the dynamic and ever-shifting life of Indonesian society, the function of political parties has made a substantial contribution to the constitutional system. This is especially true when considering the importance of the constitution (Labolo & Ilham, 2015). If there is a way to improve the capabilities of political parties as well as the performance of the political system, this will have a significant impact on the overall level of democracy and the effectiveness of the political system. Therefore, in order to actualize the goals and desires of the people and to improve the quality of democracy, the role of political parties needs to be increased in capacity, quality, and performance (Juanda & Juanda, 2023).

This research will focus on the role of political parties in the process of organizing general elections in Indonesia and their relevance to a democracy-based constitutional system. The purpose of this study is to analyze how political parties play a role in designing, organizing, and supervising the general elections at the national and regional levels, as well as to understand the contribution of political parties in strengthening citizens' political participation in the democratic process.

It is hoped that the results of this research will make a significant contribution to understanding the role of political parties in the implementation of democratic elections in Indonesia. Thus, this research can provide important input for the renewal and improvement of Indonesia's political system in order to strengthen democracy, increase accountability, and create a more inclusive and integrity electoral process. In addition, this research is also expected to provide a basis for further studies in efforts to advance the political system and democracy in Indonesia and countries with similar contexts.
3 METHODOLOGY

The type of research employed in this study is qualitative research, where the most crucial step is to identify key informants who are knowledgeable about the topic of the study (Sugiyono, 2011). It is possible to discover and comprehend something hidden behind a phenomenon using qualitative research methodologies. This approach can be used to learn more about a topic that is poorly understood and to help academics explain complicated details about phenomena that are challenging to quantify. The objective of the qualitative descriptive format is to describe and sum up numerous social reality phenomena that exist in society. This study employs a variety of data collection methods in order to acquire accurate and pertinent information. In this study, observation, interviews, and documentation were the methods used. Data Reduction, Data Presentation, and Drawing Conclusions/Verification are the three (three) concurrent streams of operations that make up a qualitative data analysis, according to Miles & Huberman (2007).

4 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 DEMOCRATIC GENERAL ELECTIONS

General elections (elections) in Indonesia aspire to realize the sovereignty of the people and a democratic state government, in accordance with Pancasila and the Republic of Indonesia Constitution of 1945 (Antari, 2018). Elections are a mechanism for electing a president, vice president, members of the DPR, DPD, and DPRD, as well as regional heads and regional deputy heads who can represent the aspirations of the people in accordance with the development of the nation and state (Salang, 2006).

The implementation of democratic elections is the aspiration of every citizen of Indonesia. Elections are considered democratic if every citizen with the right to vote is able to exercise that right directly, publicly, freely, honestly, and equitably. According to the principle of one person, one vote, one value (one person, one vote, one value) (Zazili, 2012), each voter has the same rights and can only submit a single ballot.

Direct elections allow the people as voters to vote without intermediaries, according to the will of their conscience. Every citizen who fulfills the requirements as a voter has the same opportunity to participate in elections without any discrimination (Putra, 2021). The election process must take place freely, so that every voter can make his choice without pressure or coercion from any party. The security of voters must be
guaranteed, so that they can vote according to their conscience and interests, without anyone knowing their choice (Riskiyono, 2013).

Election organizers must have high integrity, professionalism and accountability in holding elections in a quality, systematic, legitimate and accountable manner. All parties involved in elections, including government officials, election participants, election supervisors and observers, and voters, must act honestly in accordance with statutory regulations (Muhammad, 2012). Voters and election participants must be treated equally and avoid fraud or unfair treatment from any party. Elections must be carried out with high quality in order to guarantee healthy competition, be participatory, represent the diversity of society, and have a clear accountability mechanism (Jurdi, 2018).

However, it should be noted that, while elections are a visible embodiment of democracy in action, they are not always democratic. Elections, being one part of democracy, must thus be held democratically. Democratic elections are more than just symbols; they must be competitive, periodic, inclusive, and conclusive (Muktie Fadjar, 2003). At least three factors can be used to determine whether elections are held democratically or not: a) the recognition, protection, and promotion of human rights; b) fair competition among election participants; and c) building public trust in elections that produce legitimate government.

a) Whether there is recognition, protection or promotion of human rights

Recognition, protection and promotion of Human Rights (HAM) is one of the crucial measurements to assess whether an election is held democratically or not. Democratic elections must guarantee recognition of human rights as a fundamental principle inherent in every citizen. This means that every individual has the right to participate in the electoral process without discrimination based on race, religion, gender, or other social background.

Protection of human rights in elections includes guarantees that voters and election participants will not experience intimidation, violence or pressure from certain parties who seek to influence the election results in an illegal manner. Voters' rights must be fully guaranteed so that they can vote freely and secretly according to their personal beliefs and desires without any improper interference.

Fostering human rights in elections means that the government and all parties involved must be committed to continuing to increase understanding and awareness of human rights and taking concrete steps to improve the quality of elections. In this context,
public education and awareness about the importance of human rights in elections is very relevant so that people's participation in elections increases and has a positive impact on the democratic process.

b) There is fair competition from election participants

Fair competition from election participants is an important measure to assess whether elections are held democratically. Democratic elections must provide equal opportunities for all participants to compete fairly without any advantage or favor from the authorities. In this context, election participants, including political parties and candidates, must be given equal rights to access the mass media, carry out campaigns, and interact with voters freely.

Fair competition in elections also includes guarantees that all participants comply with applicable rules and regulations, and are not involved in manipulative or fraudulent acts in achieving their political goals. Every election participant must act with integrity and honesty, and be ready to take responsibility for the actions and political promises they make to the public.

Openness and transparency in the electoral process is also a key component of fair competition. All election stages, from candidate registration to vote counting, must be accessible and monitored by the public as well as by independent oversight institutions. Thus, the public can have confidence that elections take place with honesty and accountability.

By ensuring fair competition from election participants, the general election process will become more meaningful and representative for the community. The community will feel valued and have an active role in determining the direction of the country's government, so that elections can contribute positively to strengthening democracy in Indonesia.

c) Build public trust in elections that produce legitimate government

The building of public trust in elections which results in legitimate government is an important measure for assessing the success of an election in a democratic context. Public trust in elections includes the belief that the general election process runs fairly, transparently, and is not influenced by certain political interests. In elections that are considered legitimate, people have confidence that their votes are valued and counted correctly, so that the results reflect the true will of the majority of citizens.
To achieve a high level of trust, election administrators must carry out their duties with integrity and professionalism. The election process must be carried out in a transparent manner, supervised by an independent institution, and open to public scrutiny. Every stage of the election, including candidate registration, campaigning, voting and vote counting, must be carried out with accountability and without intervention from interested parties.

The active participation of the people in elections is also an important factor in building trust in the process. Citizens should feel encouraged to participate and believe that their voices have a real impact in determining the direction of the country's government. Voter education and raising awareness about the importance of voting rights are crucial steps in mobilizing voter participation.

In an election that succeeds in building public trust, winners and participants in elections that are not successful must accept the results gracefully and show sportsmanship. Transparent and timely delivery of results is also critical to ensuring confidence in the integrity of elections.

4.2 THE ROLE OF POLITICAL PARTIES IN DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS

Political parties in Indonesia have not institutionalized their problems as modern organizations. Institutionalization of political parties refers to the process of strengthening the attitudes and behavior of political parties in a patterned or systemic manner in order to create a political culture that supports the fundamental principles of a democratic system. What matters in terms of political development is not the number of extant parties, but the robustness and adaptability of the party system. If political parties can assimilate and unite all the new social forces that arise as a result of modernization, then it is said that the party system is robust and flexible. From this perspective, the number of political parties is only relevant if it influences the system's ability to establish the necessary institutional channels for political participation (Romli, 2016).

A robust party system requires at least two capabilities. First, initiating political participation through the party channel in order to deter all forms of anomic and violent political activity. Second, incorporate and channel the participation of a number of newly mobilized groups whose participation is intended to alleviate the pressure on the political system. Thus, a robust party system provides entrenched party organizations and
institutionalized procedures for assimilation of new groups into the political system (Ristyawati et al., 2016).

Political parties are the main elements in a democratic political system, and their role covers various aspects that are very important in ensuring elections that are transparent, inclusive and represent the will of the people. With a strong party system in Indonesia, of course, it can provide an optimal role for political parties in holding democratic elections in our country. The following are some of the main roles of political parties in democratic elections.

a) Representing the interests of the people

The main role of political parties in democratic elections is to represent the interests of the people. This means that political parties function as intermediaries who articulate the aspirations and needs of the people in the political process. By becoming the voice of the people, political parties are responsible for listening to and understanding various issues faced by citizens, as well as developing programs and policies that reflect the values and expectations of the people. In addition, political parties must also prioritize transparency in the process of forming programs, so that people can have a better understanding of the vision and goals of each party. By effectively representing the interests of the people, political parties can create healthy and constructive competition in elections, as well as ensure elections that are efficient in realizing an inclusive and participatory democracy.

b) As an election participant

As election participants, political parties have an important role in competing for the support and votes of voters. They must formulate a political strategy, articulate their vision and program, and try to convince the public about the superiority and relevance of the political platform they offer. Election contestants must actively participate in campaigns that are transparent and promote an honest approach, respect voter rights, and respect democratic principles. Through healthy and fair competition, political parties as election participants contribute to encouraging the active participation of the people in the democratic process and provide a variety of choices for voters to determine the direction of the country's government.

c) Develop candidates and potential leaders

Developing candidates and prospective leaders is a crucial role of political parties in democratic elections. Political parties are responsible for carrying out a careful and
accountable selection process in determining the candidates to be promoted in elections. This process must reflect the quality and integrity of the candidates, and take into account the representation of the diversity and aspirations of the community. Political parties must ensure that the candidates they carry have the ability, competence and commitment to meet the needs and expectations of the people. In addition, political parties must ensure that the selection process is carried out with transparency, so that the public has confidence that the candidate they are promoting is the best choice to lead a particular country or region. By drafting qualified and representative candidates and leader candidates, political parties play an important role in creating healthy competition and strengthening the legitimacy of elections and the elected government.

d) Mobilizing people to participate in elections

Mobilizing people to participate in elections is one of the central roles of political parties in strengthening democracy. Political parties are responsible for providing a deep understanding to the public regarding the importance of their right to vote and the positive impact of active participation in elections. By carrying out inclusive and informative campaigns, political parties can invite citizens from various walks of life to participate in the general election process. They must put forward an approach that approaches the community, listens to their aspirations, and proposes solutions that are relevant to various issues faced by the community. By mobilizing the public to participate in elections, political parties encourage a more representative electoral process and produce a government that better represents the will and interests of the people as a whole.

5 CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

The conclusion from the above research is that democratic general elections in Indonesia are an effort to realize people's sovereignty and state government based on the values of Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution. The implementation of democratic elections is the dream of all Indonesian citizens, where voting rights can be exercised directly, public, free, confidential, honest, and fair. Political parties play a central role in this democratic process by representing the interests of the people, becoming election participants who compete fairly, drafting quality candidates and prospective leaders, and mobilizing the public to actively participate in elections. Democratic elections must also be based on the recognition, protection and cultivation of human rights, as well as building public confidence in elections that produce a legitimate and legitimizing
government. Through democratic elections, Indonesia can continue to strengthen and advance a democratic system that is inclusive, participatory and efficient in facing the demands of nation and state development.
REFERENCES


