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OPTIMIZATION OF SIMP (SOLIDITY, INTEGRITY, MENTALITY, PROFESSIONALITY) ELECTION SUPERVISORS TO ACHIEVE DEMOCRATIC, HONEST AND FAIR ELECTIONS

Muhammad Asmawi¹, Lathifah Sandra Devi²

¹muhammadasmawi@unbaja.ac.id
²lathifahsandradevi@gmail.com
* Correspondence email: muhammadasmawi@unbaja.ac.id

Abstract

A democratic country is a country whose government is run based on the principle of popular Sovereignty. Popular Sovereignty means that the people have the ultimate power to determine state policies and regulations. The people can use this power in various ways, such as elections, referendums, and petitions. The purpose of this writing is to maximize the performance of general election supervisors to realize democratic, honest, and fair general elections. The research method uses descriptive qualitative analysis using data from literature sources and then analyzed. The study results show that election organizers must have an attitude of solidarity, integrity, mentality, and professionalism. The responsibility of the election supervisor is the Election Supervisory Body. The Election Supervisory Body, as an institution responsible for implementing general elections, must improve the loyalty, performance, and behavior of election supervisors to achieve democratic, honest, and fair general elections. Optimizing the behavior of election supervisors to improve integrity can be done with technical guidance, consolidation between election administrators, and digitalization of supervisory applications.

Keywords: Election Supervisor, SIMP, Bawalsu

INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is based on the law (rechstat) outlined in the 1945 Constitution (Enggarani, 2019). Law as a social institution in the life of the nation and state must be based on law in order to create peace, justice, and security as well as regulate all human behavior in it (Febriansyah, 2017). The rule of law is attached to the supremacy of law. Namely, state administrative actions must be based on applicable law; besides that, legal certainty must be given (legality principle) (Silkenat et al., 2014).
A democratic system based on law and people's Sovereignty is the basis of life in the nation and state (Bachmid, 2021). Indonesia uses a democratic government system led by the people, from the people, and for the people. As stated in Article 1, Paragraphs 1 and 2 of the 1945 Constitution, Indonesia is a unitary state in the form of a republic with the foundation of people's Sovereignty (Irawan, 2016). In implementing the principle of popular Sovereignty, which is guided by wisdom in deliberations and representation, it is necessary to form deliberative institutions and people's representative institutions, which are a form of accountability because the democratic system organizes elections whose members are elected through democracy. Elections are held honestly, fair, and genuinely transparent or open (Adiwilaga et al., 2018).

General elections are a medium for the aspirations of the people's voice in a democratic way to realize a system of state government that is sovereign by the people as mandated by the 1945 Constitution. Humans are positioned as democratized, sovereign creatures, called the principle of people's Sovereignty (Asshiddiqie et al. yang Demokratis, 2008). Democracy is realized through the election method to elect representatives of the people and other stakeholders.

Elections are one of the most basic means of channeling citizens' human rights. Since becoming independent in 1945, Indonesia has held eleven general elections, from the first election in 1955 to the 2014 election. Thus, the 2019 election is the twelfth election in Indonesia. In the short history of state administration in Indonesia, after the resignation of President Soeharto in 1998, the position of President of the Republic of Indonesia was replaced by Vice President Bacharuddin Jusuf Habibie. With this change in leadership, at the urging of the Indonesian people, the General Election was accelerated and held on June 7, 1999, or thirteen months after Bacharuddin Jusuf Habibie's reign (Nanda, 2018). One of the reasons for holding quick
elections was to gain recognition or trust (legitimacy) from the public, including the international community, because the government and other organizations that emerged from the 1997 elections were considered unreliable. This was followed by holding a meeting with the People's Consultative Assembly to elect a new President and Vice President, including changing the composition of the People's Consultative Assembly and People's Consultative Assembly before the end of their term of office (Asshiddiqie et al., 2014).

Elections based on the 1945 Constitution are contained in Article 22 E paragraph (1) of the 1945 Constitution, which requires the holding of quality general elections, including the broadest possible participation of the people by specific democratic principles, namely direct, general, free, secret, honest, and fair (Handayani, 2014). Elections have become a global phenomenon in both developed and developing countries. Elections are the best means to facilitate a peaceful, open, and fair change of power. However, election practices in various countries in the world show various variations of implementation, from those that are carried out freely and relatively to holding elections that are full of violations and fraud (Ham, 2014). Of the various empirical phenomena of the implementation of these elections, issues related to the integrity of elections have been raised and become the concern of many parties (Alvarez, 2012). Based on research by Solihah, R&Witianti, S., problems in post-democratic elections such as money politics, black campaigns, political transactions, and the professionalism of election supervisors. Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning General Elections regulates the duties of election supervisors, namely preventing political practices election supervision from preparation, implementation, violations, and evaluation (Praja, 2020).
RESEARCH METHODS

This study uses a qualitative descriptive analysis research method. The qualitative method is a process of research and understanding based on a method that investigates a social phenomenon and human problems. This study creates a complex picture, examines words, detailed reports, and respondents' views, and conducts studies in natural situations (Creswell, 2014). Researchers collected data from related documents and literature, which are secondary in research. Then, the data is processed and analyzed directly by the researcher.

RESULT, ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

1. The Election in Indonesia

The purpose of general elections, namely the purpose of parliamentary elections, is to elect members of parliament for negotiations and parliamentary institutions, form a government, continue the struggle for independence, and maintain the integrity of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia. According to the preamble of the 1945 Constitution, democratic elections are a means to protect the people's right to self-determination and to achieve state goals. On the other hand, choices must be made beautifully for the continuation of social, national, and state life in order to determine the people's choices both at the central and regional levels.

Election system innovations in Indonesia have evolved since the reform era in 1998. The dynamics of transition and strengthening that the Indonesian people went through during that era included the Indonesian constitutional system in the 1945 Constitution. One of the fundamental changes in the provisions of the Constitution Article 1 paragraph (2) of the 1945 Constitution states that "Sovereignty must be in the hands of the people and must be implemented according to the Constitution. Previously, the amendment contained in Article 1(2) of the 1945 Constitution stated:
"Sovereignty is in the hands of the people and is exercised exclusively by the People's Consultative Council."

Implementing sound and quality elections to increase the degree of competition that is healthy, participatory, and more robust and accountable representation. Elections for members of the House of Representatives, Regional Representative Council, and Regional People's Representative Assembly, as well as the election for President and vice president, are carried out in different ways and stages. The opinion of Jimly Asshiddiqie is that elections are held periodically for the following reasons: (1) the alteration of people's actions and doctrines as an ambition in choosing representatives in parliament; (2) conditions and aspects of people's lives transform according to circumstances and situations, in other words, several factors can change their aspirations; (3) increasing population growth can also affect people's aspirations; and (4) the need for regular elections for a better governance rhythm (Asshiddiqie et al., 2006).

Before an update to the election system, the elections for members of the House of Representatives, Regional Representative Council, and Regional People's Representative Assembly were carried out before the election for the President and vice president. However, since the Constitutional Court Decision Number 14/PUU-XVI/2013 in connection with the review of Law No. 42 of 1945 concerning the 2008 General Election of the President and Vice President, the Constitutional Court confirmed that the elections for members of the House of Representatives, Regional Representative Council and Regional People's Representative Assembly, as well as the election of the President and Vice President, were ready, at the same time. The reality is that implementing the election system, with the election of members of the House of Representatives, Regional Representative Council, and Regional People's Representative Assembly before the implementation of the presidential and deputy
elections, cannot be a means of social change in the expected direction. The results of the elections for members of the House of Representatives, Regional Representative Council, and Regional People's Representative Assembly before the presidential and vice-presidential elections have yet to confirm the presidential system, which is based on the Constitution. The mechanism of mutual checks and balances, especially between the House of Representatives and the President, could be better. The results of the evaluation of the implementation of the election are carried out periodically, namely by holding elections simultaneously, namely the election of the President and vice president, together with the election of members of the House of Representatives, Regional Representative Council, and Regional People's Representative Assembly, based on the balance and decision of the Constitutional Court Number 14/PUU-XVI/2013. The advantages of holding elections that are carried out simultaneously are that the issue of financing the holding of elections can be more economical, executive and legislative functions can be quickly evaluated, the people can design their functions of checks and balances between the executive and legislature, reduce waste and horizontal friction in society and produce institutions (legislative and executive) are vital because the will of the people elects them.

2. The quality of election organizers on the principles of election administration

Democracy is synonymous with general elections. Submission of aspirations from the community is highly prioritized. The Election Supervisory Body represents the process of supervising elections in Indonesia, and the public can also take part in holding elections, which are called election monitoring activities.

Election monitors and supervisors are both very much needed for the holding of honest and fair elections (Supriyanto, 2013). Between the two, there are differences; election observers are only monitoring violations, while election supervisors have a
broader role, namely resolving violations and implementing election disputes. Moreover, most are only involved on voting day, while supervision is involved for all stages of the election (Supriyanto, 2013). The electoral system in Indonesia makes an election observer part of the official structure (IDLO, 2009). The motive for election monitoring is to minimize electoral fraud so that the democratic transition can run safely and peacefully according to the principles of free and fair elections.

The opinion of supervisors, according to George R. Terry in Muchsan: "Control is to determine what is accomplished, evaluate it, and apply corrective measures if needed to result in keeping with the plan," can mean that supervisors focus on evaluation and correction activities on the results that have been achieved (Muchsan, 2012). Then, Newman's opinion about supervisors: "Control is assurance that the performance conforms to plan," meaning that the focus of supervision is to ensure that the implementation of a task can be by the plan. In addition, Siagian describes supervision as follows: "The process of monitoring the performance of all organizational activities to ensure that the work carried out goes according to a predetermined plan" (Siagian, 2016).

The legal regulations regarding election supervisors are contained in Law Number 7 of 2017 Election Supervisors, which is very strong, not only at the central (The Election Supervisory) and Provincial (Provincial Election Supervisory Body) levels, the Election Supervisory institutions at the Regency/City level have also changed to a permanent nature. Voting Place supervisors own supervisory ranks. Based on Law Number 7 of 2017, the Election Supervisory Body consists of a. Election Supervisory Body; b. Provincial Election Supervisory Body; c. Regency/City Election Supervisory Body; d. District General Election Supervisory Committee; e. Village General Election Supervisory Committee; f Overseas General Election Supervisory Committee; g. voting place Supervisor. Maintaining the integrity of the election
supervisory board is not only the responsibility of the Election Organizer Honorary Council. However, it is a joint task between the General Election Commissions and Election Supervisory Body. Talking about this, the institution must meet the requirements, namely being independent, having a clear source of funds, and being registered.

The Election Supervisory Body is an independent institution that holds elections properly. The Election Supervisory Body has a dual role, namely the supervisory function and the court's function (adjudication) in the series of elections. From this dual function, it is proper for the Election Supervisory Body to apply high integrity to all leaders, employees, and election supervisors. The challenge for the Election Supervisory Body as an institution with a dual function must prove its role and existence in overseeing elections with integrity values for the progress of the nation and state.

Elections are part of democracy, which describes a country that puts forward the Sovereignty of the people of the 1945 Constitution Article 1 (2), namely a democratic country that puts forward the principle of people's Sovereignty. The main goal of democracy is the involvement of the people in the formation and administration of government through participation, representation, and supervision (Gaffar, 2013), additionally from N.D. Arora and S.S. Awasthy (2008: 308-309) convey that the characteristics of democracy are the accountability of the government to those who are governed (the people), and the government must be elected by those who are governed or at least by representatives who are governed. Somebody (Gaffar, 2013). Elections with integrity obtain elections that run with substance and proportionality. The context of integrity in elections is crucial because the breath that animates elections is politics, which has the essential characteristic of "justifying means to achieve goals and power." The election should have run both procedurally
and substantially. Elections are good procedurally if the prerequisites have been met, and elections are substantially successful if their objectives are achieved. The prerequisites of elections are prioritizing freedom of choice, public participation, and an arena for honest and fair political competition. The ongoing elections in Indonesia have been going on for years; of course, they also have an impact. The impact of elections with no integrity, such as disputes and claims over election results.

This democratic party, which costs much money, will only produce leaders whose legality and legitimacy are doubtful. Election tragedies in various countries, including developed and developing countries, still show that elections cannot be separated from various violations and fraud (electoral malpractices). Hubert's opinion, nine kinds of behavior violate elections, such as corruption, bribing, and favoritism (corruption: bribing and favoritism), conflicts of interest (conflicts of interest), fraud and theft (fraud and theft), abuse of resources, abuse of power and information (misuse of power and information), indecency; intimidation, discrimination (indecency: intimidation, discrimination), and violation of personal time (private time misconduct). In addition to behavior that violates the election, the implementation of the election is also known as Flawed Election Language, which means that the election does not meet the objectives. Pastor's opinion is "an election in which some or all of the major political parties refuse to participate or reject the results (Pastor, 1999)". According to the Pastor, there is concern that at the time of the general elections, some or all of the major political parties will refuse to participate or reject the results. The causes of election actions, according to Fabrice Lehoucq, namely (1) related to efforts to maintain economic needs, (2) high level of political rivalry, (3) the weak tradition of citizens being involved in collective activities, weak civil society organizations (social differentiation); (4) high distress scores; (5) low citizen literacy resulting in weak capability to protect civil liberties, including the proportional
representation election system which provides opportunities for political parties to commit violations (Lehoucq, 2003).

Law Number 7 of 2017 discusses all matters relating to elections in Indonesia, including election supervision. Election supervisors are under the command of the Election Supervisory Body, which has a dual function in elections, namely supervision and courts. Chapter 2, Article 3 of Law no. 7 of 2017, regarding the principles of election organizers such as independent, honest, fair, legal certainty, orderly, open, professional, proportional, efficient, and effective. This principle is a reflection for election supervisors to become supervisors who have high solidarity, good integrity, and a robust and professional mentality in supervision. For the sake of realizing democratic, honest, and fair elections, it is necessary to have election supervisors who have principles in the administration of elections. Improving the quality of election organizers as professionals in carrying out elections cannot be separated from personal integrity, high solidarity, and a good mentality to support the realization of democratic elections (Simanjuntak, 2016).

Based on data taken from the Election Organizer Honorary Council Public Information Management and Documentation Guidelines, recapitulation of complaints, and reports on alleged violations of the election organizers' code of ethics from January 2023 to May 8, 2023, there were 39 complaints received. Elements of incoming complaints regarding election participants/pair candidates, campaign teams, communities/voters, political parties, and election organizers with the type of complaint by direct complaint, forwarding to Election Supervisory Body /Voting Place and by letter (Pos/E-mail) (30/07/2023). Here is the data in numbers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Complaints</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
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<td>July</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Complaint Element</th>
<th>Amount Complaint</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Election contestants/candidate pairs</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campaign Team</td>
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<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masyarakat Pemilih</td>
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<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voter Society</td>
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<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Election Administrator</td>
<td>7</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>39</strong></td>
<td><strong>39</strong></td>
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<td>Direct Complaints</td>
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The continuation of the Election 3 Supervisory Body / Voting Place

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<th>By Mail (Email/Post)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>43</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: (https://ppid.dkpp.go.id/index.php?a=data&k=1&hal=1) (RI, 2023)

Based on the above data obtained on the Information and Documentation Management Officer Election Organizer Honorary Council website, it presents public data about complaints recapitulation and reports of alleged violations of the election organizers' code of ethics. From this data, it was found that election organizers made several mistakes.

According to Rahmad Bagja, chairman of the Election Supervisory Body, in order to improve the quality of supervisory performance for the better, one way or another, supervision can be done online in order to obtain transparent and open information. Utilizing digitalization to facilitate access, such as strengthening the Dispute Resolution Information System (SIPS), the Violation Handling Information System (Sigap Report), and the Election Monitoring Information System (Gloria, 2022). The three applications are a preventive measure for prosecution of violations and progressive election process dispute resolution. In addition, election supervisors are also required to realize the principles of election organizers. Optimization of this election supervisor has been designed long before the general election activities will begin with the aim of forming an attitude of solidarity, integrity, mentality, and professionalism. Improving the performance of election supervisors can be done through:

1. Technical Guidance
Technical assistance is also associated with duties and responsibilities as election supervisors. In carrying out their duties and obligations, they are expected to maintain an attitude of solidarity, integrity, mentality, and professionalism. Technical guidance as part of ethical training in supervisors also needs to be carried out as an implementation of the Election Supervisory Body Regulation Number 2 of 2022 concerning work procedures and patterns of supervision because ethics is a spirit in knowledgeable people.

2. Consolidation of supervisors for general election stages

General elections can run ideally on condition that they are jointly successful and need support from institutions that are struggling in general elections, such as the Election Supervisory Body, General Election Commission, Election Organizer Honorary Council, Attorney, and Police. The ranks of the Election Supervisory Body supervise the Polling Place Supervisor. If a violation is found, the Police and the Attorney General's Office also participate.

3. Digital implementation of election supervisors and law enforcement

Optimizing supervisory applications such as SIPS, Siwaslu, and Sigap needs to be socialized to the public to make it easier to get information quickly, openly, and transparently.

CONCLUSION

Optimizing SIMP (Solidarity, Integrity, Mentality, Professionalism) of Election Supervisors to achieve democratic, honest, and fair elections is an important thing to do. SIMP stands for Solidarity, Integrity, Mentality, and Professionalism. These four things are values that Election Supervisors must uphold in carrying out their duties and functions by Law No. 07 of 2017. Solidarity is an essential value for Election Supervisors to have. Election Supervisors must be able to work well together with fellow Election Supervisors, with Election Organizers, and with the public. Good
cooperation between elements involved in general elections is needed to realize democratic, honest, and fair elections. Integrity is an essential value for Election Supervisors to have. Election Supervisors must have high integrity. Integrity is being honest, straight, and impartial. Election Supervisors must maintain their integrity in carrying out their duties and functions. Mentality is an essential value for Election Supervisors to have. Election supervisors must have a strong mentality. This strong mindset is needed to face various challenges someone faces in carrying out their duties and responsibilities. Professionalism is an essential value for Election Supervisors to possess. Election Supervisors must have high professionalism. Professionalism is a task-oriented attitude and optimal results. Election Supervisors must be able to carry out their duties and functions professionally to realize democratic, honest, and fair elections.

By optimizing SIMP, Election Supervisors can realize democratic, honest, and fair elections. Democratic elections are carried out with the principles of democracy, namely people's Sovereignty, freedom, openness, and equality. An honest election is an election that is free from fraud and violations. A fair election is an election that provides equal opportunities for all election participants to compete.

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