

GENERAL ELECTION PROBLEMS IN INDONESIA POST REFORMATION



By:

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Introduction: *What is General Election?*

- General Election is a political event held democratically and independently without any interference from government. General election is a competition to win people's support and votes in getting political positions.
- As a competition, a general election must be held by credible and independent institutions in order that the decisions made are for the sake of the people.
- General election is a complex political event which converts people's votes into political seats. Therefore, the organizers should include paid professionals who are knowledgeable, skillful, and abide by ethic codes.





Indonesian Case

Institutions related to general election organization:

- National Election Commission (*Komisi Pemilihan Umum/KPU*) as the organizer of general election at national level as well as regional (province, regency/city).
- Board of Election Supervisors (*Badan Pengawas Pemilu/Bawaslu*), both at national and regional levels (province, regency/city). This board functions as supervisor at each stage of the implementation of the election.
- Election Honor Council (*Dewan Kehormatan Penyelenggara Pemilu/ DKPP*). This council is in charge of any violation of the election code of conduct.





1999 election:

Facts:

- 48 political parties
- 550 seats available
- Spending IDR 1.3 trillion
- Winning party:
PDI Perjuangan
- Participation: 92.99%





2004 election:

Facts:

- 24 political parties
- 550 seats available
- Spending IDR. 3.2 trillion
- Winning Party: Golkar
- Participation: 84.07%

1 Partai Nasional Indonesia Marhaenisme (PNI Marhaenisme) PNI MARHAENISME	2 Partai Buruh Sosial Demokrat (PBSD) PBSD	3 Partai Bulan Bintang (PBB) PARTAI BULAN BINTANG	4 Partai Merdeka PARTAI MERDEKA	5 Partai Persatuan Pembangunan (PPP) PPP	6 Partai Persatuan Demokrasi Kebangsaan (PDK) PDK
7 Partai Perhimpunan Indonesia Baru (PIB) PARTAI PIB	8 Partai Nasional Banteng Kemerdekaan (PNBK) PNBK	9 Partai Demokrat PARTAI DEMOKRAT	10 Partai Keadilan dan Persatuan Indonesia (PKPI) PKPI	11 Partai Penegak Demokrasi Indonesia (PPDI) PPDI	12 Partai Persatuan Nahdliotul Ummah Indonesia (PUNI) PARTAI PERSATUAN
13 Partai Amanat Nasional (PAN) PAN	14 Partai Karya Peuli Bangsa (PKPB) PKPB	15 Partai Kebangkitan Bangsa (PKB) PARTAI KEBANGKITAN BANGSA	16 Partai Keadilan Sejahtera (PKS) PARTAI KEADILAN SEJAHTERA	17 Partai Bintang Reformasi (PBR) BINTANG REFORMASI	18 Partai Demokrasi Indonesia Perjuangan (PDI Perjuangan) PDI PERJUANGAN
19 Partai Damai Sejahtera (PDS) PARTAI DAMAI SEJAHTERA	20 Partai Golongan Karya (Partai Golkar) PARTAI GOLONGAN KARYA	21 Partai Patriot Pancasila PARTAI PATRIOT PANCASILA	22 Partai Sarikat Indonesia (PSI) PARTAI SARIKAT INDONESIA	23 Partai Persatuan Daerah PPD	24 Partai Pelopor PARTAI PELOPOR

2009 election:

Facts:

- 38 national political parties
6 local political parties (Aceh)
- 560 seats available
- Spending IDR 8.5 trillion
- Winning party:
Demokrat
- Participation: 70.9%

**KENALI PILIHANMU
UNTUK MENANDAI!**

*Tanda
Pilihanmu*

PARTAI POLITIK PESERTA PEMILU 2009

1 HAMURA	2 PKS	3 PKP	4 PKS	5 PKS	6 PKS	7 PKP
8 PKS	9 PAN	10 PKS	11 PKS	12 PKS	13 PKS	14 PKS
15 PKS	16 PKS	17 PKS	18 PKS	19 PKS	20 PKS	21 PKS
22 PKS	23 PKS	24 PKS	25 PKS	26 PKS	27 PKS	28 PKS
29 PKS	30 PKS	31 PKS	32 PKS	33 PKS	34 PKS	35 PKS
36 PKS	37 PKS	38 PKS	39 PKS	40 PKS	41 PKS	42 PKS
43 PKS	44 PKS					

*Satu Suara
untuk Masa Depan!*

Pemilu Legislatif : 9 April 2009
Pemilu Capres : 8 Juli 2009

2009
PEMILU

ELECTIONS-MDP

KOMISI PEMILIHAN UMUM • Jl. Imam Bonjol No. 29 Jakarta - Telp. (021) 3193 7221 Fax. (021) 3113 7710 <http://www.kpu.go.id>





2014 election:

Facts:

- 12 national political parties
- 3 local political parties
- 560 seats available
- Spending IDR 16 trillion
- Winning party: ?
- Participation: ?



2014
Pemilihan Umum

Partai Politik Peserta Pemilihan Umum 2014

<p>1 Partai NasDem</p>	<p>2 Partai Kebangkitan Bangsa</p>	<p>3 Partai Keadilan Sejahtera</p>	<p>4 Partai Demokrasi Indonesia Perjuangan</p>	<p>5 Partai Golongan Karya</p>
<p>6 Partai Gerakan Indonesia Raya</p>	<p>7 Partai Demokrat</p>	<p>8 Partai Amanat Nasional</p>	<p>9 Partai Persatuan Pembangunan</p>	<p>10 Partai Hati Nurani Rakyat</p>
<p>11 Partai Damai Aceh</p>	<p>12 Partai Nasional Aceh</p>	<p>13 Partai Aceh</p>	<p>14 Partai Bulan Bintang</p>	<p>15 Partai Keadilan dan Persatuan Indonesia</p>



Legislative Election Post Reformation

Year	Number of Seats	Cost	Winning Party	Voters Participation
1999	550	1.3 trillion	PDI Perjuangan	92.99%
2004	550	3.2 trillion	Golkar	84.07%
2009	560	8.5 trillion	Demokrat	70.9%
2014	560	16 trillion	?	?



2014 Elections in Indonesia:

In 2014, there will be 2 elections in Indonesia:

- **April 9, 2014** is the legislative election to elect members of both national and regional legislatures. Elections will be held simultaneously for members of:
 - People's Representative Council (DPR),
 - Regional Representative Council (DPD),
 - Regional House of Representatives Level I (DPRD I)- *province level*-, and
 - Regional House of Representative Level II (DPRD II) *Kabupaten/Kota (regency) level*
- **July 9, 2014** is the presidential election to elect president and vice president.



Election Problems in 2014:

1. Doubts over the election organizer

In the regulation number 15/2011 on the organization of elections, Article 11 paragraph (1) and Article 85 letter I states that members of political parties are allowed to be the organizer of election as long as they resign from their position before signing up for candidacy. This regulation has several flaws:

- There will be negative rumors and trust issues from the society.
- There is no guarantee that members of political parties are neutral.
- With a very short period of transition from being a political party member to becoming a non-political party, there might be dualism of perception.
- Members of political parties as the organizer of the election may fail the role and function of the National Election Commission (KPU)



Election Problems ...

2. Media objectivity is questionable

Almost all political parties own their own media, either mass media or electronic media (Surya Paloh owns Metro TV; Abu Rizal Bakri owns ANTV and TVOne; Hari Tanu Sudibyo owns RCTI, MNC, and Global; Dahlan Iskan owns Jawa Pos Group; Chairul Tanjung owns Trans TV and Trans 7). This creates the perception that these media are not neutral.





Election Problems ...

4. General election is held during a period of financial crisis where there is a lot of poverty. Therefore, there may be a lot of money politics issues.
5. The neutral stance of civil servants is debatable. Even though there is a prohibition for civil servants to engage in politics, some regions allow it.





Solutions for Fair, Honest, Free, and Confidential Elections

- Supervision from the society at every level
- Report any violation at every stage of election
- Always refer to law should there be any violation
- Enforcing politics with ethics



Thank You