



SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS OF THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC LANDSCAPE IN INDONESIA TOWARDS 2045

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Abstract: *INDONESIA WILL COMMEMORATE ITS CENTENARY OF INDEPENDENCE IN THE YEAR 2045. THE POPULATION AGED 15-64, WHICH ACCOUNTS FOR 70% OF THE TOTAL POPULATION, HAS RESULTED IN A DEMOGRAPHIC DIVIDEND. WHEN PROPERLY HANDLED, THE DEMOGRAPHIC DIVIDEND CAN DRIVE FUTURE INDONESIA GROWTH. HOWEVER, IF MISMANAGED, IT MIGHT BECOME A THREAT. THE REALIZATION OF THE VISION FOR 2045 IS CONTINGENT UPON POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC STABILITY, AS THESE VARIABLES SHAPE THE GOVERNMENT'S APPROACH TO RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, INCOME DISTRIBUTION, AND DECISION-MAKING, ALL OF WHICH HAVE SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS FOR SOCIETY. NEVERTHELESS, INDONESIA CONTINUES TO CONFRONT NATIONAL, REGIONAL, AND INTERNATIONAL OBSTACLES THAT HINDER ITS PURSUIT OF ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL STABILITY. THIS ARTICLE THOROUGHLY EVALUATES THESE DIFFICULTIES AND PRESENTS IDEAS TO STRENGTHEN THE ECONOMY AND POLITICAL STABILITY BASED ON SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS A RESEARCH APPROACH TO ADEQUATE REFLECTIVE UNDERSTANDING OF CURRENT SITUATION. MORE PRECISELY, THE PAPER SUGGESTS DIRECTING ATTENTION TOWARDS (1). ESTABLISHING AN EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM THAT INCLUDES A WELL-DESIGNED CURRICULUM, UP-TO-DATE FACILITIES, SECURE WELFARE FOR ACADEMIC STAFF, AND AN AFFORDABLE PRICE; (2). GENERATING FAIR JOB PROSPECTS; (3). ENFORCING POLICIES THAT PRIORITIZE THE WELL-BEING OF THE PEOPLE AND THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES; AND (4)—ENHANCING POLITICAL REFORMS WHILE AVOIDING REGRESSION IN DEMOCRACY, NEPOTISM, CORRUPTION, AND DIGITAL AUTHORITARIANISM; (5). AND FOSTERING NATIONAL UNITY BEYOND POPULISM.*

Keywords: SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS, POLITICAL-ECONOMY LANDSCAPE, AND DEMOGRAPHY DIVIDEND

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INTRODUCTION

Indonesia celebrates 100th independence on August 17, 2045, with a vision of "Golden Indonesia 2045" based on the 2025-2045 National Long-Term Development Plan. (Putera et al., 2022). The vision of a prosperous Indonesia embodies a strategic plan that is inclusive and collaborative, engaging all components of the nation to realize a national life characterized by happiness, prosperity, and safety (Bappenas, 2019; Kemendikbud, 2017).

On other side, the national development strategy for 2045 strongly emphasizes leveraging the demographic dividend, which is characterized by a growing working-age population (Hilbig et al., 2022). The composition of the productive age population (15-64 years) in Indonesia will reach its maximum point compared to the non-productive age population (0-14 years and over 65 years) (Maryati & Muslin, 2023). According to Barsukov (2019) Demographic changes are becoming one of the most critical factors determining socio-economic development in the 21st century.

Global trends in birth and death rates are shifting the demographic system to a new state, leading to a transition between demographic "window" and population aging (Bongaarts, 2009; Lutz & Qiang, 2002). The growth of a population influenced by three main factors: the number of births, the number of deaths, and the movement of people in and out of the area. When predicting population changes, the most important factor to consider is the trend in births (De Alwis & Sanderatne, 2016). according to Chakraborty (2020) The demographic dividend not only depends on changes in age structure but also on human capital that can benefit countries that experience it as long as it is managed well (Gribble & Bremner, 2012).

In the global south's development context, the demographic dividend is crucial for formulating development cooperation strategies and assessing future social and economic ramifications (Hilbig et al., 2022). But According to Zhou et al (2023) , There are numerous challenges associated with harnessing the demographic dividend in developing countries. Therefore, it is essential to study in a more reflective manner that combines experience and academic perspective toward situational that contribute to the challenges. The reason we used situational analysis to integrating empirical, methodological, theoretical, and epistemological perspectives into a single scientific research model, thereby enhancing understanding of empirical reality (Kalenda, 2016).

The nexus between politic and economy play an important role in every aspect of Indonesia people's lives, that we make as main subject for research in this paper. Politics and economics are intricately intertwined, representing two sides of the same coin. Each significantly impacts the other, creating a complex and dynamic relationship. in line with the theory of historical materialism, and the economy determines politics, and politics in turn reacts to the economy(Hadley, 1899) . In fact, the connection between the two created the term political economy which has been used for the last 300 years to express the link between the political and economic affairs of a country (Elliott, 1994).

METHODELOGY

The method used in this research is qualitative with situational analysis approach to analyze current situation in Political and economic that determine achievement of the mission and vision of the plan to realize a golden Indonesia by 2045. According to Pérez & Cannella, (2013) situational analysis requires the researcher to integrate personal and professional experiences into critical research design and analysis.

Originally, situational analysis, which emerged in the mid-1990s, was based on constructivist theory, focusing on the context of research without human factor.but the "*interpretive shift*" later emphasized cultural contexts, historical significance, and the interpretation of meaning by social actors



and researchers (Boisvert & Suransky, 2023). On other side, according to Offenberger (2023) Situational analysis as a theory-methods package is paid to analyzing relationality and aligning pragmatism and poststructuralism.

Pragmatism means based on Wiliam James description is method to approaching between meaning and truth its related to overcome split between religion and scientific knowledge, The Pragmatic method aims to discern the meaning and truth value of any proposition, regardless of the advocate's temperament (Allmark & Machaczek, 2018; Mitchell, 2018; Ngo et al., 2021; Saharrea & Viale, 2021; Savransky, 2021) and Post-structuralism is method to interrogate all conventional binaries and promotes a perspective that challenges commonly accepted "truth" and "knowledge". Proponents of poststructuralism consistently question how established "facts" and "beliefs" serve to reinforce the dominance and power of certain actors within power dynamics (Åhäll, 2023; Perry, 2023; St. Pierre, 2023; Thomassen, 2017; Willett & Etowa, 2023).

As method, situational analysis combine o both data collection and data analysis or *vice versa*, the situational analysis extends the traditional grounded theory (Fulton & Hayes, 2012). The praxis of situation analysis in a research context helps sharpen criticism, emphasize responsiveness, and strengthen community involvement (Pérez & Cannella, 2013). In situational analysis, according to Clarke, quoted by Bruno Medeiros Ássimosa and Marcelo de Rezende Pintoa data can be obtained in different ways; in a qualitative context, it can use in-depth interviews, ethnographic research, and documentary analysis, including literature review (2022). In this research, we reference three groups of data: current political and economic issues ,scientific literature, and government publications.

DISCUSION

A. POLITICAL INSTABILITY

In February 2024, Indonesia just completed simultaneous general elections,that elect member of the house of representatives (DPR), The regional representative council (DPD), The regional people's representative council (DPRD), and the election of president and vice president with three pairs of candidates: Ganjar Pranowo and Mahfud MD, Anies Baswedan and Muhaiman Iskandar, and Prabowo Subianto and Gibran Rakabuming Raka. After changing the rules from those previously chosen by parliament in 2004 under megawati soekarno era (Samosir & Gian Tue Mali, 2022; Sulistiono & Boediningsih, 2023; Suparno, 2018).

All political manifestos are talking about reaching the national progress target for 2045. Anies Baswedan and Muhaimin Iskandar want to focus on people's issues, regional growth, and working together. They (Anies and Muhaimin) don't like the idea of moving the capital from Jakarta to Kalimantan. Ganjar Pranowo and Mahfud MD want to speed up programs to take advantage of Indonesia's growing population. They care about acceleration on research, innovation, human development, and many other important things that related with Indonesia 2045 vision. but Ganjar and Mahfud, not totally oppose Jokowi policy like Anies-Muhaimin but they emphasize acceleration . Meanwhile, Prabowo and Gibran want to keep things going the way President Joko Widodo started to reach Indonesia's goals for 2045.

The results of the Indonesia 2024 general election made the pair Prabowo Subianto and Gibran Rakabuming from The Advanced Indonesia Coalition the winner (bernama, 2024). In the 2024 Indonesia General Election, Prabowo Subianto, a former general in the Indonesian army and part of the Soeharto family, achieved victory after three consecutive electoral defeats in 2009, 2014, and 2019. According to Richard Borsuk (2024), Prabowo Subianto secured the Indonesian election victory on



February 14th, largely due to two campaign promises: maintaining the policies of outgoing president Joko Widodo and implementing a program to provide free lunches and milk to millions of schoolchildren. However, his win with 58% of the vote garnered mixed reactions due to apprehensions regarding political ethics that related with controversial decision by the Constitutional Court on October 16, past human rights issue, allegations of intervention by the incumbent president, and pork barrel politics. Although Prabowo's social media campaign was crucial, its success would not have been possible without Jokowi's intervention, known as the "*Jokowi effect*" (SURYANA, 2024).

Prabowo's initial electoral strategy has mainly relied on obtaining Jokowi's full endorsement, culminating in his selection of Gibran, Jokowi's first son, as his running mate (Muhtadi & Muslim, 2023). Even though Jokowi rejected the three-term discourse which could lead to political instability in mid-2023 (Sarira & Najicha, 2022) And poor leadership quality (Rahayu, 2021). But, as a popular leader in the country, many analysts say that Jokowi has been maneuvering behind the scenes to preserve his legacy and expand his influence after his term of office ends (Lamb & Teresia, 2023). In politics, a president's active participation in a campaign can conflict with free and fair elections. The presence of top officials can subtly influence the public to align with the president's choices.

The president's intervention during election periods is known to the public as *cawe-cawe* (Komarudin, 2023). which was previously criticized by the former president, Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono in a book entitled "*The President Can Not Do Wrong*", (2023) to bear in mind that national interests may differ from the political interests of a President or a political party. Various studies have outlined different levels of state interests, beginning with the fundamental survival interests of a state, followed by vital state interests, and then significant interests. Consequently, it is essential to scrutinize the President's involvement in the election process and consider which interests are at play.

President Joko Widodo stated that it is acceptable for the president to take sides as long as state facilities are not used, citing specific articles of the law. However, other law articles still limit the support of a president and other state officials from favoring or creating policies benefiting a particular candidate (Fajri, 2023). Apart from that, this intervention is also carried out through Pork-barrel politics is common practice among incumbents seeking re-election in Indonesia with massive cash transfers, particularly through social aid programs, intimidation tactics, and mobilization of the apparatus (Editor 360, 2024). On the other hand, in the viral documentary "*Dirty Vote*", the expansion of new provinces in the Papua region is seen as a form of achieving victory because it will divide the vote (editor kumparan, 2024), have raised suspicions of vote buying and electoral manipulation

Moreover, Gibran, appointment which continues with the registration of candidacy within 7 days, was a surprising betrayal of the Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle because at the time, Gibran still a member of the party that supporting Ganjar Pranowo and Mahfud Md (Baharudin, 2023). The Constitutional Court decided on October 16 to create an exception to the minimum age of 40 for presidential and vice-presidential candidates, allowing young officials with experience in lower levels of government to run. (Strangio, 2023). Constitutional court decision became public spotlight, because head of Constitutional court, Anwar Usman, is Gibran's uncle, who several weeks later was decided to be removed from his position as chief judge for violating ethics, especially principles of impartiality, integrity, and independence (Firdaus, 2023). Due to the rush to be nominated by Indonesia national election committee that also violate ethics and his uncle's decision, Gibran received a stigma in the public sphere as a candidate characterized by inexperience and nepotism (Llewellyn, 2023).



Prabowo and Gibran's winning pattern is likened to the Philippine election. Margello Rainer calls the phenomenon occurring in Indonesia "*Philippinization*" where there is a tendency to romanticize the authoritarianism of the past, especially as Prabowo, like Marcos, Jr. was part of a family of dictators in the past (Fenis, 2024). Both Prabowo and Bongbong spent time abroad following the collapse of the dictatorship regimes they were associated with. Prabowo resided in Jordan for about 3 years, while Bongbong stayed in the United States for 5 years. Upon their return to their respective countries, they reentered the political arena. Despite holding government positions, they have both faced controversy. Bongbong has been implicated in corruption cases on multiple occasions, and Prabowo's volatile and fiery temperament has frequently attracted attention.

The power of social media helped re-brand Prabowo's image from stiff and explosive to a cute "*Gemoy*" or chubby figure. TikTok is a significant platform, especially in Indonesia, where it has the largest audience globally. It's well-suited for our Gen Z voter demographic, who make up 27.94% of the 2024 election voters and are set to cast their first votes. In *tiktok*, *Gemoy* (a Indonesian slang term to describe someone chubby, cute, and lovable) and *joget* (dancing) have become the sole propaganda taglines (wahid, 2024). even because of this method, despite its controversial past, which is associated with the kidnapping and torture of pro-democracy activists. Prabowo and Gibran are ahead in election surveys ahead of next month's election in Indonesia, the world's third-largest democracy (Ratcliffe, 2024). The effective use of social media with this digital army covers all kinds of dark traces related to Prabowo with positive things similar to the Philippines. Dr. Nicole Curato calls this campaign approach as toxic positivity method that erases dark history with positive things and evades demands for accountability (Curato, 2024).

Prabowo and Gibran's victory created instability, although it was not as heated as in the 2019 election, which created bloody clashes between security forces and Prabowo's supporters at that time (Widodo, 2024).; in the 2024 election, there was no turmoil among supporters. The losing candidates, namely pairs number 1 and 3, preferred the legal route to the Constitutional Court, which in the end resulted in the demands of all the losing candidates being rejected by the Constitutional Court. according to court decision there was no evidence of systematic fraud and presidential "meddling", nor that state bodies, regional officials and social assistance had been mobilised to sway polls in Indonesia (Teresia & Widiyanto, 2024). even though of the nine Constitutional judges, there were three who rejected the decision (dissenting opinion) but lost their votes to the other judges who accepted the decision to abandon the lawsuits of all presidential and vice presidential candidates (Suhendra & Janti, 2024).

The recent victory of Prabowo and Gibran, combined with the political maneuvers of the current president, has sparked concerns about the future of democracy in Indonesia. Prabowo, now serving as Indonesia's Defense Minister, was a former general who was dishonorably discharged from the military in 1998 and subsequently prohibited from entering the United States and Australia due to alleged human rights violations. Many Indonesians fear that Prabowo, who was previously married to the daughter of the dictator Suharto, may not uphold democratic values and could potentially steer Indonesia toward authoritarianism.

Upon examining the functioning of democracy in Indonesia, it becomes evident that entrenched structural barriers impede attempts to reinstate authoritarianism. These barriers do not arise from civil society but from competition among self-serving elites vying to centralize power and wealth. Consequently, Prabowo's victory will not extinguish democracy in Indonesia. Instead, democracy will persist, upholding the legacy of the Jokowi administration. While the ruling elite may



continue to undermine democracy, they are unlikely to push for full-fledged authoritarian rule. In 2024, the normalization of populism in the political process is leading to a shift away from the essential goal of improving people's lives. This trend is causing political stagnation. Populist leaders or political actors often rely on authoritarian approaches, using populism as a flexible tool to pursue personal gains under the guise of acting in the people's best interests (Nur Budiman et al., 2022). Democracy is not a number but rather political participation, the process of which must be accountable from the start of determining candidates until determining the results.

From the beginning, when the validity of the nomination alone clearly violated propriety, the legitimacy of the election had fallen; even as this article was being written, the chairman of the Indonesian General Election Commission was involved in a sexual incident that resulted in his being removed from office by the ethics body of the Indonesian general election commission (Karmini, 2024). Ironically, this is not the only time the chairman of the general election commission has been involved in a case; previously, he also had an ethical violation in accepting Gibran's nomination as vice presidential candidate (Suhendra, Jio ; Janti, 2024).

Empirically, the potential for fraud in elections in Indonesia always exists. Fraud tends to occur when rulers abuse their power. What's wrong with the law? It has many limitations because lawmakers and enforcers are the holders of power, making it difficult for the law to function as it should. This highlights a concerning trend of democratic backsliding, signaling the erosion of checks and balances by a gradually expanding executive power (Wunsch & Blanchard, 2023). The impact of democratic backsliding is the erosion of democratic standards and norms, leading to weakened public administration quality worldwide and poorer citizen experiences. Public bodies can also act as a barrier to democratic erosion (James, 2024).

In the state civil service context, the president serves as the ultimate authority in the bureaucracy. If the president favors a specific candidate, the bureaucracy will likely follow suit, potentially driven by a desire to align with their leader. Upholding neutrality is crucial for preserving the integrity and efficacy of the civil service and ensuring governmental institutions' fair and transparent operation. (James, 2024). The author contends that this principle applies not only to the bureaucracy but also to the president.

On other side, Elections in Indonesia are still not free from oligarchic influence. Democracy in Indonesia does have elements of oligarchic democracy, namely a democratic order where political struggle is dominated by a coalition of predatory interests and encourages the marginalization of civil society forces (Fukuoka, 2013). Empirical facts show that there is no balance between the power of wealth and the power of participation in Indonesia, because formal control of politics is in the hands of party oligarchs, which creates the phenomenon of political cartelization (Hargens, 2020).

Real politics is about caring for the people when they need it, not just when politicians need them. The failure of democratic consolidation after Soeharto's regime hurt the democratic climate in the reform era. People were caught up in the euphoria of reform but forgot that oligarchic power persisted after the fall of the New Order.. The oligarchic forces originally in contact with the Soeharto regime again consolidated (adapted) to a reform regime that was much more profitable for them (Kenawas, 2023). The oligarchy has two main capitals, financial and political, as a strong foundation. When this influence is felt to be strong, the next mission is to control the government. When the government is under control, policies/regulations will be easily regulated and created to advance the oligarchy's interests, especially those related to economic resources. Fighting inequality and strengthening the participation of civil society is the best solution, according to Novianto & Wulansari



(2023). Capital accumulation is the financial power of oligarchs in Indonesia, which is always intertwined with control over natural resources, This situation continued to persist from the authoritarian New Order era to reform (Engelman, 2021). Groups like this are the biggest political financiers (Morse, 2019).

This situation must be combated through fair natural resource management by the law's mandate, namely the welfare of the people, not just a group. After the 2024 election and the subsequent political years before 2045, Indonesia needs the unity of the people's movement again to build an alternative political force based on a Political Manifesto based on Democratic, Progressive, and Socialist principles. We must act immediately before we stop at declarations or statements calling for developing alternative political forces.

Populism can be fought by improving our pluralistic perspective. Indonesian people must be proud to be Indonesian so that they can strengthen their national identity, namely *Bhinneka Tunggal Ika*, without being divided by populism, which involves identity. Strengthening diversity must go beyond populist programs and have a clear direction: internalize the values of diversity in every Indonesian. Freedom of opinion, press, and political participation must be maintained and encouraged so people can express their views without fear and be involved in the political process while strengthening it. Vital democratic education and appropriate information campaigns can increase public awareness about the risks of populism and neo - authoritarianism.

B. ECONOMIC INSTABILITY

Indonesia is a developing country and the economic development activities carried out aim to reduce existing economic problems. Economic development will continue to grow if it is carried out in accordance with the right flow to match its goals and objectives. This is done through the path of industrialization. Industrial manufacturing almost always gets a major priority in the development plans of developing countries. This industrial sector is made a leader which means that by carrying out industrial development will increase other sectors in services and agriculture.

Indonesia is recognized rich in resources. Effective resource and industrial management are crucial for industry growth, which depends on inter-sectoral relationships. The Indonesian economy, as indicated by GDP, shows that the processing industry dominates, followed by Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, and Wholesale Trade and Retail-Repair of Cars and Motorcycles, contributing 19.25 percent, 13.28 percent, and 12.97 percent, respectively, in 2021 (Personal interview with staf of ministry of trade, 2024) . In terms of expenditure, the structure of the Indonesian economy has not experienced significant changes during the 2017-2021 period. During the five-year period, the Household Consumption Expenditure Component has always been the largest contributor to the Indonesian economy. In 2021, the household consumption expenditure component contributed 54.42 percent, covering more than half of Indonesia's GDP. After that, there are Gross Fixed Capital Formation (PMTB) and Export of Goods and Services components, each of which contributes to the Indonesian economy by 30.81 percent and 21.56 percent. (BPS, 2023) When viewed within the scope of ASEAN, Indonesia experienced an acceleration in the growth rate in 2021.

ASEAN-5 consisting of Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and the Philippines managed to grow positively by 4.92 percent after contracting by 3.39 percent. The highest economic growth rate occurred in Singapore at 7.61 percent after contracting by 4.14 percent. Meanwhile, Myanmar actually experienced a contraction in the growth rate of 8.89 percent after in 2020 managed



to maintain positive growth of 3.19 percent. This position is very good where in the previous year all countries experienced the COVID-19 pandemic which made the economy decline. In the future, Indonesia must become a major part of the global economic power which of course must be prepared by human resources to be able to process various natural resources contained in the land and waters. So if this development plan is implemented well, then the future of Indonesia can actually be bright in the equatorial hemisphere.

However, two things create economic instability in Indonesia; the first is related to the problem of education, which tends to be expensive; the curriculum needs to be better, problem with educational welfare, facilities are lacking, and equality still needs to be improved. At the same time, the second is access to work, which still revolves around the lack of job opportunities, low wages, lack of social protection, and age discrimination. We certainly agree that education ensures critical thinking and responsible citizenship. Education empowers individuals to make informed decisions and actively participate in their communities. Investing in education is essential for the progress of society but the quality of education in Indonesia is still relatively low and requires more serious attention (Larasati, 2022; Nurfatimah et al., 2022; Wahyudi, 2022).

In 2023, based on data released by worldtop20.org, Indonesia's education ranking is ranked 67th out of a total of 209 countries worldwide. The Indonesian order is side by side with Albania which occupies the 66th position and Serbia in the 68th position. The ranking is produced based on five levels of education in Indonesia, namely early childhood school enrollment rate of 68%, elementary school completion rate of 100%, secondary school completion rate of 91.19%, high school graduation rate of 78% and college graduation rate of 19% (Aprilia, 2023).

The steep tuition fees in Indonesia continue to contribute to a high number of college dropouts. In 2024, widespread protests erupted on campuses in response to the issue of expensive tuition. Ironically, amid this turmoil, a high-ranking official in the Ministry of Research and Technology, responsible for higher education, made a statement suggesting that pursuing higher education is not a necessity (afifa, 2024). This statement contradicts the practical demand for graduates in the job market. The concept of tertiary education needs to be redefined in light of the country's development. It's not just about the level of education; the exorbitant cost of education has turned it into a commodity. Tertiary education should be considered a right when there are decent and formal employment opportunities available, thus enabling people to prosper without being forced to obtain a university diploma in order to find work.

Capitalization of education has become mainstream in Indonesia. This capitalization can also be seen in efforts to commercialize education by changing the status of the campus to a State University with a Legal Entity (PTN-BH). This is because PTN-BH has special autonomy in managing its funding sources. The incoming state budget will be reduced, and universities will be required to seek funds from any party. Even though the government makes payment regulations based on economic classification, discrepancies often occur in the field, and access to scholarship opportunities still needs to be improved. The government made another fatal mistake by discussing an online loan scheme for college fees. However, if we discuss online loans in Indonesia, more problems will arise than positive solutions. At the same time, this discourse also abandons the government's commitment to education as a human right, as stated in the Covenant. International Human Rights 1966 concerning Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights was later ratified by the Indonesian Government in Law No. 11 of 2005.



The shifting of the State's responsibility in the field of education to higher education in Indonesia has been evident in various education policies introduced by the government post-reform. These include Government Regulation (PP) No. 61 of 1999 regarding State-Owned Legal Entities (BHMN) in Higher Education (PT), Law (UU) on the National Education System (Sisdiknas) of 2003, Decree (SK) of the Directorate General (Dirjen) of Higher Education (Dikti) No. 28/DIKTI/Kep/2002 on non-regular programs at State Universities (PTN), PP No. 23 of 2005 on the application of the Financial Public Service Agency (BLU) pattern for PTNs, Minister of National Education Regulation (Permendiknas) No. 2 of 2005 on Cross-Subsidies for Higher Education Operational Costs, PP No. 48 2008 on Education Funding, the Education Legal Entity Law (BHP) 2009, and Law no. 12 of 2012 on Higher Education (UU DIKTI), along with its derivatives like Single Tuition Fee (BKT) and Single Tuition Fee (UKT) through Minister of Education and Culture Regulation (Permendikbud) no. 55 of 2013. As a result, Indonesia state university are required to adopt a more flexible, autonomous, and performance-based financial management system.

Apart from that, there is still a lack of welfare for educators at all levels, which is still a problem in education (Mansir, 2020). In addition, there is a lack of academic qualifications and teacher competence, teacher distribution, and public and government appreciation for the teaching profession (Putra Kelana, 2021). This problem is also related to the crucial issues that are most often discussed and need serious attention, such as inadequate facilities (Permana et al., 2023) and a curriculum that still needs improvement and relevance to the current context. According to Damayanti et al (2023) Ideally, Indonesia's educational curriculum must meet the challenges and needs of its time, and the curriculum is considered the most essential part of the educational process. Of course, seeing how Indonesia can create quality and competitive human resources is an extraordinary challenge. On the one hand, it can help solve fundamental problems. However, if the education ecosystem still needs to be improved, it can also make human resources capable of winning global competition. In practice, justice is needed in the world of education to improve the welfare of educators, curriculum, facilities, and equality for all Indonesian society. Connecting educational needs with human rights must be a priority for the government in the future.

Second problem that lead to economic instability is unemployment. Unemployment is a big problem because in society's opinion working for wages is the main way to earn money, and money in society's opinion is the main tool that must be owned if we want to fulfil all our needs. Unemployment cannot be solved just like that even though everyone is educated or goes to school like us. However, education is the initial capital of knowledge and ability when you want to apply for a job. The fact in the field looking for a job is not easy, everyone should not give up on applying so as not to become unemployed. In addition, not everyone can complete their studies to become the main requirement in finding a job. So this is the cycle of poverty that occurs among the community. Poverty can be measured based on the inability to meet primary needs such as clothing, food, health, and education which will be needed or can be said to be a tool in obtaining household sector income (Hawariyuni & Andrasari, 2022; Sabran et al., 2023). Youth unemployment in Indonesia also still high (Yanindah, 2022). Basicly, unemployment is not new to society, but today we have the technical ability to overcome it. Education is crucial for success in the world of work, but the social gap between rich and poor continues to widen. Poverty thrives alongside prosperity, showing the need for improved human resources.



High unemployment in Indonesia is one of the challenges to economic equality. Many people of productive age are still out of work. The unemployment rate in Indonesia was 5.83 out of 208.54 million people of working age in February 2022, according to the latest data from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS). Overall, the declining unemployment rate in developing countries has not been able to improve the quality or security of life of its citizens, resulting in poverty in the community. The stereotype of the unemployed is that they are people who do not contribute to society, precisely because they do not have a job and are therefore unable to fulfil their needs. To overcome this problem, apart from opening the widest possible job opportunities and skills training that is suitable for work. Another thing that is needed is the elimination of discrimination against age and gender which always occurs in the world of employment in Indonesia. Addressing biases in hiring and firing that are rooted in concerns about their performance and safety records is necessary (Lazarus, 2023). On the other hand, Older job seekers demonstrate various resilient and redesigned strategies in response to ageism, depending on their varying social and intersectional positions. As their positions change over time, job seekers employ different methods, highlighting each agency's relational and temporal dimensions in labor market decision-making (Keskinen et al., 2023).

CONCLUSION

As Indonesia approaches 2045, the 100th anniversary of Indonesia's independence, it is evident that economic and political instability continues to impede progress towards a more advanced Indonesia across all sectors. Achieving Indonesia's golden vision and mission hinges on addressing two primary factors. Political instability remains entrenched in corrupt practices and oligarchic intervention, hindering democratic progress. Economic challenges are closely tied to educational issues, including teacher welfare, curriculum quality, educational costs, and unemployment due to discrimination and limited job opportunities. A comprehensive approach is imperative, focusing on (1) revamping the education system with a well-designed curriculum, modern facilities, fair compensation for educators, and affordable fees; (2) creating equitable employment opportunities; (3) prioritizing welfare and sustainable natural resource management through policy enforcement; (4) advancing political reforms to uphold democracy while combatting corruption and authoritarianism; and (5) fostering national unity beyond populism.



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