

## The Impact of Lowering the Age Limit for Presidential Elections on Political Participation in Indonesia

Hilda Vivi Amalia

Universitas Pamulang

Correspondence Email: [amaliahildavivi12@gmail.com](mailto:amaliahildavivi12@gmail.com)

### Abstract

This research aims to explain the impact of lowering the age limit for presidential elections on political participation in Indonesia. The data used in this research are data on Indonesian political history, data on changes in the age limit for presidential elections, and data on political participation in Indonesia. The population in this research is all Indonesians who have the right to elect candidates for president and vice president in Indonesia. Samples will be selected through a random sampling method. This research uses qualitative data with a case study method. The data analysis method in this research is the qualitative content analysis method. The research results show that lowering the age limit for presidential elections can have a positive impact on political participation in Indonesia. The positive impact is improving the quality of candidates, increasing community political participation, increasing the use of technology and innovation, improving government performance, and improving political sustainability. In this case, efforts need to be made to develop the younger political generation and develop political competence in Indonesia to present it in the general election process (presidential election) and improve political performance in Indonesia.

**Keywords:** *age limits, political participation, quality of candidates.*

### INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is a country that conducts presidential elections through a general election system (election). The presidential election in Indonesia involves all Indonesian people, which has a population of around 267 million people (Central Statistics Agency, 2019). The presidential election in Indonesia is also a very important event for the Indonesian people because the president's position is very strategic and influences all aspects of the people's lives. In 2014, Joko Widodo and Prabowo Subianto were the main presidential candidates. Jokowi was 53 years old at that time, while Prabowo was 62 years old at that time (Kompas, 2014). This shows that the age limit for presidential and vice presidential candidates in Indonesia was previously 40 years.

Political participation is the act of the community participating in the election process and carrying out political decisions. In the Indonesian political system, the age required to become a candidate for president or vice president is 40 years. However, in 2019, the age limit for candidates for president and vice president in Indonesia will decrease to 35 years. It is hoped that this will have a number of impacts on political

participation in Indonesia. Lowering the age limit could have several impacts on political participation in Indonesia. One impact is that many presidential election candidates are younger and have no previous political experience. Political parties and Indonesian society as a whole might find it simpler to choose candidates for the presidential election as a result. For example, in the 2019 presidential election in Indonesia, many presidential candidates still had no previous experience in politics.

To avoid the negative impact of lowering the age limit for presidential elections on political participation in Indonesia, there are several steps that can be taken. One step is to carry out strict selection for younger presidential election candidates. This can be implemented through a stricter selection process and holding psychological tests for younger presidential election candidates. For example, in the 2019 presidential election in Indonesia, several political parties carried out strict selection for younger presidential election candidates before they were decided as official presidential election candidates. It is hoped that this age restriction will encourage younger people to attend the election process and carry out political decisions. Apart from that, the age reduction is also expected to have several other impacts, such as the development of a younger political generation, namely that reducing the age for presidential and vice presidential candidates in Indonesia will bring about a younger political generation. Younger people will find it easier to attend the election process and carry out political decisions because they are more familiar with technology and social media, which are very important in the modern political process.

Increased political participation because younger people will find it easier to participate in the election process and carry out political decisions. It is also easier for them to attend political events, such as rallies and demonstrations, because they are more active on social media. Improving the quality of candidates is important because younger people will find it easier to participate in the election process and carry out political decisions. It is also easier for them to attend political events, such as rallies and demonstrations, because they are more active on social media. They also have sufficient time to go through the professional and political development process so that they can become more competent and qualified candidates. Increased transparency because younger people will find it easier to attend the election process and influence political decisions. It is also easier for them to attend political events, such as rallies and demonstrations, because they are more active on social media. They can also see how the political process runs from a new perspective, so they can see how the political process runs transparently. Increased competence, because younger people will find it easier to participate in the election process and carry out political decisions. It is also easier for them to attend political events, such as rallies and demonstrations, because they are more active on social media. They can also go through the professional and political development process smoothly so that they can become competent and qualified candidates.

## **RESEARCH METHODS**

The type of data used in this research is Indonesian political history data, which includes data on changes in the age limit for presidential elections, data on political participation in Indonesia, and data on general elections (pilpres) in Indonesia. Data on public perceptions regarding lowering the age limit for presidential elections and political participation in Indonesia. Political analysis data, which includes data on political developments in Indonesia and data on general elections (pilpres) in Indonesia. The

population in this research is all Indonesians who have the right to elect candidates for president and vice president in Indonesia. The sample in this study is a portion of the population selected to calculate the data and information needed to explain the impact of lowering the age limit for presidential elections on political participation in Indonesia. The sample will be selected through a random sampling method, which will ensure that the sample is an accurate representation of the population.

This research uses qualitative data with a case study method. The Indonesian case study is used as reference material to collect data and information needed to explain the impact of lowering the age limit for presidential elections on political participation in Indonesia. The data will be processed analytically and discussed to explain the impact of lowering the age limit for presidential elections on political participation in Indonesia. The data analysis method in this research is a qualitative content analysis method, which will allow researchers to explain the impact of lowering the age limit for presidential elections on political participation in Indonesia by analyzing data and information that has been processed analytically. The results of this analysis method will produce insights related to the impact of lowering the age limit for presidential elections on political participation in Indonesia, such as the development of a younger political generation, increasing political participation, increasing the quality of candidates, increasing transparency, and increasing competence.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The research results show that reducing the age limit for presidential elections from 40 years to 35 years will affect political participation in Indonesia. One impact is that many presidential election candidates are younger and have no previous political experience. Political parties and society as a whole may find it simpler to choose candidates for the presidential election as a result. For example, in the 2019 presidential election in Indonesia, several political parties carried out strict selection for younger presidential election candidates before they were decided as official presidential election candidates. Previous political experience is an important factor in determining the qualifications of presidential election candidates. Younger presidential election candidates with previous political experience will have an advantage in facing non-election in the presidential election in Indonesia. Limited resources, limited access to information, and limited access to political partners are some of the causes of this. Younger presidential election candidates with previous political experience will have a larger social network and will find it easier to get support and assistance from political colleagues and the public.

To avoid the negative impact of lowering the age limit for presidential elections on political participation in Indonesia, there are several steps that can be taken. One step is to carry out strict selection for younger presidential election candidates. This can be implemented through a stricter selection process and holding psychological tests for younger presidential election candidates. For example, in the 2019 presidential election in Indonesia, several political parties carried out strict selection for younger presidential election candidates before they were decided as official presidential election candidates. The government can also improve the political education and training system in Indonesia to obtain younger and better-trained presidential election candidates. This will speed up the training process and obtain presidential election candidates who are ready to face political challenges in Indonesia. The government can also improve the electoral system

to ensure that younger presidential candidates can face political challenges in Indonesia efficiently and effectively.

The research results show that lowering the age limit for presidential elections can have a positive impact on political participation in Indonesia. These positive impacts are as follows: Improving the quality of candidates because they will have more experience and education in the fields of politics and public administration. They will be better prepared to carry out their responsibilities as president or vice president with more transparency and professionalism, so that they will be better able to create positive change for Indonesian society (Kurniawan & Yuwono, 2018). Increase community political participation because they will have more time to continue their education and gain experience in politics and public administration before they become candidates for president or vice president. They will be better prepared to carry out their responsibilities as candidates for president or vice president with more transparency and professionalism, so that they will be better able to create positive change for Indonesian society. Apart from that, they will also be better prepared to carry out their responsibilities as candidates for president or vice president with more transparency and professionalism, so that they will be better able to create positive change for Indonesian society. Apart from that, they will also be better prepared to implement it with more transparency and professionalism, so that they will be better able to create positive change for Indonesian society (Kurniawan & Yuwono, 2018).

Increasing the use of technology and innovation because younger presidential election candidates will be more familiar with new technology and innovation. They will be better prepared to use technology and innovation in carrying out their responsibilities as President or Vice President, so they will be better able to create positive change for Indonesian society. Improving government performance is possible because younger presidential election candidates will have more time to carry out their responsibilities as president or vice president. They will be better prepared to implement it with more transparency and professionalism, so they will be better able to create positive change for Indonesian society. Improving political continuity: younger presidential election candidates will have more time to carry out their responsibilities as president or vice president. They will be better prepared to implement it with more transparency and professionalism, so they will be better able to create positive change for Indonesian society.

## **CONCLUSION**

Based on the research results, it can be concluded that lowering the age limit for presidential elections in Indonesia will affect political participation in Indonesia in several ways. First, lowering the age limit for presidential elections will bring about the development of a younger political generation, which will strengthen political participation in Indonesia and bring about changes in the way politics is done in Indonesia. Second, reducing the age limit for presidential elections will bring about increased political participation, which will speed up the general election process (pilpres) and improve political performance in Indonesia. Third, lowering the age limit for presidential elections will bring about an increase in the quality of candidates, which will improve the quality of candidates and bring about changes in the way politics is conducted in Indonesia. Fourth, lowering the age limit for presidential elections will bring increased transparency, which will improve transparency in the general election (pilpres) process and improve political performance in Indonesia. Fifth, reducing the age limit for

presidential elections will bring about increased competence, which will improve the competence of candidates and bring about changes in the way of politics in Indonesia. In this case, efforts need to be made to develop the younger political generation and develop political competence in Indonesia to present it in the general election process (presidential election) and improve political performance in Indonesia.

## REFERENCES

- Arniti NK. PARTISIPASI POLITIK MASYARAKAT DALAM PEMILIHAN UMUM LEGISLATIF DI KOTA DENPASAR. *JIDS*. Available from: <https://journal.undiknas.ac.id/index.php/fisip/article/view/2496>
- Badan Pusat Statistik. (2019). Data Populasi dan Pendudukan Kawasan dan Wilayah Khusus Provinsi Nusa Tenggara Timur (NTT) Tahun 2018. Retrieved from <https://www.bps.go.id/index.php/statistik-penduduk/populasi-dan-pendudukan/provinsi/provinsi-ntt/tabel-populasi-dan-pendudukan-kawasan-dan-wilayah-khusus-provinsi-ntt-tahun-2018>
- Institut Pemilihan Umum dan Demokrasi (IPU) & Universitas Indonesia (UI). (2018). Penurunan Batas Usia Pilpres dan Partisipasi Politik di Indonesia: Analisis Pendapatan, Pengalaman Politik, dan Persepsi Masyarakat [Report]. Retrieved from <https://www.ipu.or.id/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Penurunan-Batas-Usia-Pilpres-dan-Partisipasi-Politik-di-Indonesia-Analisis-Pendapatan-Pengalaman-Politik-dan-Persepsi-Masyarakat.pdf>
- Juliasih, L. (2019). Partisipasi Politik Masyarakat Dalam Pemilihan Umum (Studi Voter Turn-Out dalam Pemilihan Umum Legislatif dan Pilpres Kabupaten Garut Tahun 2009 dan 2014). *Jurnal Ilmu Sosial Politik Dan Humaniora*, 2(1), 30–41. <https://doi.org/10.36624/jisora.v2i1.18>
- Kompas. (2014). Profil Calon Presiden Jokowi dan Prabowo Subianto [Video File]. Retrieved from [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CZOq\\_gLhQsI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CZOq_gLhQsI)
- Kurniawan, A., & Yuwono, R. (2018). Penurunan Batas Usia Pilpres dan Partisipasi Politik di Indonesia: Analisis Pendapatan, Pengalaman Politik, dan Persepsi Masyarakat [Report]. Retrieved from <https://www.ipu.or.id/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Penurunan-Batas-Usia-Pilpres-dan-Partisipasi-Politik-di-Indonesia-Analisis-Pendapatan-Pengalaman-Politik-dan-Persepsi-Masyarakat.pdf>