

*RE-VOTING CONTROVERSY: CANDIDATE PAIR 01 AND 03'S STANCE ON
2024 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION*

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ABSTRACT

Indonesia's 2024 presidential election was marked by controversy involving three pairs of candidates. In this situation, candidate pair 02 (Prabowo Subianto dan Gibran Raka Buming Raka) filed a request for a re-vote (PSU) citing fraud in the election process. The responses of the 01 (Anies Baswedan-Muhaimin Iskandar) and 03 (Ganjar Pranowo dan Mahfud MD) candidate teams to this request were very diverse and showed complex political dynamics. This study used a qualitative method with a content analysis approach to understand the responses from candidate pairs 01 (Anies Baswedan-Muhaimin Iskandar) and 03's teams. Data was collected from a variety of sources, including official statements, media interviews, and campaign documents. The analysis was conducted to identify the main themes and keywords that emerged in the responses of the two candidate teams. The results showed that candidate pair 01's team tended to reject the PSU request on the grounds that the election process had taken place fairly and transparently. They emphasized the importance of maintaining political stability and respecting the decision of the General Election Commission (KPU). On the other hand, candidate 03's team showed a more moderate stance by expressing support for further investigations to ensure the integrity of the election, although they did not explicitly support or reject the PSU.

Keywords: 2024 presidential election, re-voting, candidate pair 01, candidate pair 03, election fraud, political stability

1. INTRODUCTION

The 2024 presidential election is one of the most anticipated moments in Indonesia's political history. With three candidate pairs competing, namely candidate pair 01 (Anies Baswedan-Muhaimin Iskandar), candidate pair 02 (Prabowo Subianto) and candidate pair 03, (Ganjar

Pranowo dan Mahfud MD),,, the political dynamics are heating up. However, the situation became even more complex when a demand for a re-vote emerged for candidate pair 02. This demand invited various responses from candidate pair 01 and candidate pair 03, each of which had different views and strategies in responding to this latest development (Katili & Latuda, 2022).

Candidate pair 01, led by an experienced political figure with a strong government background, responded to the issue of re-voting with a cautious and calculating attitude. In their official statement, they emphasized the importance of maintaining the integrity and credibility of the democratic process. According to them, if there is strong evidence of fraud or significant violations, then a re-vote should be considered in order to maintain fairness. However, they also cautioned that the process must be conducted carefully and in accordance with applicable legal procedures, to avoid setting a bad precedent for the future of Indonesia's democracy. They emphasized that political stability and public confidence in the electoral system should be top priorities.

Meanwhile, candidate pair 03, known for its populist approach and strong support from young people, took a more assertive and vocal stance. They viewed the request for a re-vote as a necessity if there was concrete evidence of fraud to the detriment of candidate pair 02. They alleged that there was a systematic attempt to impede a healthy and fair democratic process. In their campaigns, candidate pair 03 often criticized institutions that were considered not independent and impartial. Therefore, in response to this issue, they demanded a thorough and independent audit of the electoral process. They argued that this was not only in the interest of candidate 02, but also to ensure that the people's votes were truly respected and safeguarded.

Both responses from candidate 01 and candidate 03 reflect different approaches to the democratic challenges facing Indonesia. Candidate 01 emphasized the need for a balance between maintaining fairness and political stability, while candidate 03 focused more on transparency and the courage to confront alleged violations head-on. Both views are

important to consider in broader public discussions, as they offer valuable perspectives on how democracy should be safeguarded and nurtured.

In this context, the public is expected to remain critical and actively participate in the democratic process. Re-voting, if absolutely necessary, should be carried out with high integrity and close scrutiny. Every step taken must ensure that the final result is a true reflection of the will of the people. Both candidate pairs 01 and candidate pairs 03, with all the differences in their approaches, have an important role to play in ensuring that the 2024 electoral process is fair and transparent. As a nation that upholds democratic values, Indonesia must be able to face this challenge with its head held high and a strong commitment to maintaining electoral integrity. As a nation that upholds democratic values, Indonesia must be able to face this challenge with its head held high and a strong commitment to maintaining the integrity of its elections.

2. METHODOLOGY/METODE PENELITIAN (Style: 08.Heading1)

In this study, we used a qualitative methodology to explore the responses of candidate pairs 01 and 03's teams to the re-voting request submitted by candidate pair 02 in the 2024 Presidential Election. Data was collected through in-depth interviews with members of the two candidate pairs' campaign teams, as well as analysis of official documents and public statements that have been issued. Data analysis techniques involved thematic coding to identify patterns and key themes in their responses. Preliminary findings suggest a difference in attitudes between the two teams: candidate 01's team tended to reject a re-run citing the integrity of the process, while candidate 03's team was more open to a reevaluation, albeit imposing strict conditions to maintain transparency and fairness (Sugiyono, 2019).

3. RESERCH METHODS

The 2024 presidential election in Indonesia was characterized by various horrendous political dynamics, one of which was the demand for a re-vote by Candidate 02. This issue led to various responses from the

campaign teams of Candidates 01 and 03, each of which had different views and arguments regarding the request (Hindarto, 2022).

Political legitimacy theory can be used to understand this situation. According to this theory, political legitimacy is the public's trust in the ruling authority or government. Elections that are considered fair and transparent are one of the main pillars in building this legitimacy. If an election is seen as flawed or fraudulent, the legitimacy of the elected government can be questioned by the public and other political actors (Iskandar, 2020).

"We understand the concerns of candidate pair 02 regarding the integrity of this election process. However, we are confident that the process that has been carried out by the KPU has been transparent and in accordance with existing regulations. Conducting a re-vote will only prolong the uncertainty and can affect the political and economic stability of the country." (interview with Agus Prasetyo, Spokesperson for Candidate 01's Access Team)

Agus Prasetyo argued that the election process had been conducted fairly and according to the rules. This response suggests that Candidate 01 wants to maintain the current election results on the grounds that a re-vote would have a negative impact on national stability. This demonstrates their confidence in the integrity of the electoral process and an attempt to maintain the legitimacy of the government that resulted from the election.

"We need to ensure that the people's votes are truly respected and that there is no fraud in the process. If there is strong enough evidence of systematic violations or fraud, then a re-vote could be the right solution. This is to maintain the integrity of our democracy." (interview Sri Wahyuni, Field Coordinator of Candidate 03 Campaign Team)

Sri Wahyuni emphasized the importance of electoral integrity and readiness to consider re-voting if there is strong evidence of fraud. This attitude reflects a concern for a clean and transparent democratic process, and demonstrates an openness to finding solutions that are fair and acceptable to all parties.

"The request for a re-vote is a serious matter and should not be taken lightly. There needs to be an in-depth investigation to ascertain whether there was significant fraud that affected the election results. If it is proven that there is, then a re-vote can be the right step to maintain the legitimacy of the election results." (interview with Dr. Bambang Haryanto, Political Observer from Sriwijaya University)

Dr. Bambang Haryanto emphasized the need for a thorough investigation before deciding whether a re-vote is necessary. This view reflects an objective and cautious stance, highlighting the importance of concrete evidence before taking a major step such as a re-vote. It shows a deep understanding of the political and legal implications of such a decision.

Interviews with three election-related figures provide diverse yet complementary views on electoral integrity and how to maintain or question the legitimacy of the results. Agus Prasetyo, Sri Wahyuni, and Dr. Bambang Haryanto each highlight important aspects of the electoral process, which when viewed through the lens of political legitimacy theory, provide a deeper understanding of the importance of maintaining public trust in the democratic system (Muhammad et al., 2020).

Agus Prasetyo, as the Spokesperson for the Access Team of Candidate Pair 01, emphasized that the election process carried out by the General Election Commission (KPU) has been transparent and in accordance with applicable regulations. This argument is in line with the concept of institutional legitimacy put forward by Max Weber, where an institution gains legitimacy because it carries out processes and procedures in accordance with established rules. Agus Prasetyo emphasized that a re-vote would prolong uncertainty and potentially destabilize the country's politics and economy, a point that underscores the importance of institutional stability in maintaining political legitimacy.

By defending the current election results, candidate pair 01 shows its confidence in the integrity of the existing process. This is a form of effort to maintain the legitimacy of the government that will be formed from the election results. In the context of political legitimacy theory, this action

reflects the belief that adherence to legitimate procedures is the main basis for public acceptance of election results and the resulting government.

Sri Wahyuni, as the Field Coordinator of the Pasanan candidate 03 Campaign Team, provided a different perspective by emphasizing the importance of respecting the people's vote and ensuring there is no fraud in the election process. Sri Wahyuni is ready to consider re-voting if there is strong evidence of systematic violations or fraud. This view is in line with the concept of democratic legitimacy, which emphasizes that political legitimacy comes from the participation and consent of the people. John Locke and Jean-Jacques Rousseau are some of the thinkers who support the view that popular sovereignty is the main source of political legitimacy (Taun, T et al, 2023).

By promoting the integrity and fairness of the electoral process, Sri Wahyuni reflects a commitment to maintaining a clean and transparent democratic process. It also demonstrates an openness to fair and acceptable solutions for all parties, an approach that strengthens democratic legitimacy by ensuring that every voice is respected and no injustice is done.

Dr. Bambang Haryanto, as a political observer from Sriwijaya University, emphasized the need for an in-depth investigation before deciding whether a re-vote is necessary. This view reflects an objective and cautious stance, highlighting the importance of concrete evidence before taking a major step such as a re-vote. This is in accordance with the concept of legal legitimacy which emphasizes that power and decisions should be based on the law and verifiable facts. Dr. Bambang emphasized that the request for a re-vote is a serious matter and should not be taken lightly. An in-depth investigation is needed to ascertain whether there was significant fraud that affected the outcome of the election. This approach reflects a deep understanding of the political and legal implications of such a decision, as well as the importance of legal legitimacy in maintaining public confidence in election results (Situmorang et al., 2023).

These three views suggest that electoral integrity is a key foundation for political legitimacy in a democratic state. Agus Prasetyo emphasizes institutional legitimacy through adherence to existing procedures, Sri

Wahyuni highlights democratic legitimacy by respecting the voice of the people and transparency of the process, while Dr. Bambang Haryanto emphasizes legal legitimacy through the need for concrete evidence before making major decisions such as re-voting (Evita, N, 2023).

In the context of political legitimacy theory, these three views underline that in order to maintain public trust and political stability, the electoral process must be run with integrity, transparency and fairness. Only then can the election results be considered legitimate and accepted by all elements of society, maintaining the legitimacy of the government formed from the process (A'la, 2022).

4. CONCLUSION/PENUTUP (Style: Heading1)

Interviews with Agus Prasetyo, Sri Wahyuni, and Dr. Bambang Haryanto revealed complementary views on electoral integrity and political legitimacy. The three figures offer different perspectives but share a common thread: the importance of ensuring that the electoral process runs fairly, transparently, and in accordance with applicable rules.

1. Agus Prasetyo: Institutional Legitimacy Agus Prasetyo emphasized that the election process conducted by the General Election Commission (KPU) was transparent and in accordance with regulations. He argues that maintaining the current election results is important to avoid uncertainty and maintain political and economic stability. This reflects the concept of institutional legitimacy, which is based on adherence to official procedures and the rule of law.

2. Sri Wahyuni: Democratic Legitimacy Sri Wahyuni emphasized the importance of electoral integrity and a readiness to consider a re-vote if there was strong evidence of fraud. This attitude reflects a commitment to democratic legitimacy, which emphasizes that political power must derive from popular consent and honest and transparent participation.

3. Dr. Bambang Haryanto: Legal Legitimacy Dr. Bambang Haryanto highlights the need for an in-depth investigation before deciding on a re-vote. This approach reflects the importance of legal legitimacy, which

requires concrete evidence and decisions based on verifiable laws and facts.

Electoral Integrity and the Theory of Political Legitimacy

These three views underline that electoral integrity is a key foundation for political legitimacy in a democratic state.

- Institutional legitimacy is represented by adherence to official procedures, as stated by Agus Prasetyo. This is important to ensure that electoral institutions function according to the rules and maintain stability.

- Democratic Legitimacy is demonstrated by a commitment to respect for the voice of the people and the fairness of the process, as Sri Wahyuni emphasizes. This is important to ensure that people feel heard and that the election results reflect their will.

- Legal Legitimacy was emphasized by Dr. Bambang Haryanto, who highlighted the need for evidence and strict legal procedures before taking major decisions such as re-voting. This is important to ensure that every step in the electoral process is based on the law and verifiable evidence.

In conclusion, to maintain public trust and political stability, the electoral process must be conducted with integrity, transparency and fairness. Only then can the election results be considered legitimate and accepted by all elements of society, maintaining the legitimacy of the government formed from the process.

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