



# Reconstruction of Political Party System Towards Substantive Democracy in Indonesia

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**Abstract.** In a democratic country, the existence of political parties is very important, especially as Indonesia adheres to a representative democratic system. The embodiment of democracy is the conduct of elections, elections are often called democratic parties, this is not excessive because basically, elections become the starting point of people's sovereignty at stake. In an electoral system that can be tested only political parties, only through political parties and political positions can be filled. The research method was descriptive analysis, using a conceptual approach. The conclusion of this work was the need to build a good and clean political party system. To avoid political parties being made "factories" of money, the party cadres who are elected and serve as rulers must be separated from the party and party. Therefore, It focused on building and not being dramatized by the political party that carried it. Then to support the party machine, it is necessary that the party be given a budget every year, adjusted to the number of votes it gets during the election. This can break the chain of the occurrence of political party officials who result in abuse of power.

**Keywords:** Reconstruction · Political Party System · Democracy of Indonesia

## 1 Introduction

Indonesia's constitution clearly adheres to the democratic political system, this can be seen in Article 1 paragraph 1 of the 1945 Constitution, assigning that political parties as participants in the General Election of Members of the DPR and DPRD (Article 22E paragraph (3)) and which proposes the pair of presidential and vice-presidential candidates (Article 6). The Law on Local Government also assigns political parties to propose candidate pairs of regional heads and deputy regional heads. With his position as a participant in DPR and DPRD Member Elections, it is the political party that determines who is the candidate for the DPR and DPRD members and directs its cadres in the DPR and DPRD in making decisions on legislation, budget, and supervision [1].

Political parties are the main components and actors of the democratic political system both as participants in DPR and DPRD member elections and who propose presidential and presidential election participants as well as regional head and deputy regional head elections, as well as a "bridge" between the people and the state. Political parties are referred to as a bridge between the people and the State because political

parties carry out the role of the people's political representation in voicing the aspirations and the will of the people and fighting for them to be part of public policy.

Politics and democracy are inseparable entities, Indonesia's political system is a democracy. If Article 1 paragraph (2) of the 1945 Constitution says "sovereignty is in the hands of the people and implemented according to the Basic Law", then whether the 1945 Constitution has fully determined what is meant by people's sovereignty (democratic political system) [1].

Since independence, until now Indonesia has practiced a party system based on a multiparty system although in different degrees and qualities. During the 1945 Parliamentary Democracy 1959 applied a multiparty system with a high level of competition while during the 1959 1955 Dream democracy despite practicing a multiparty system but there was no competition and only numbers because the existing political party parties did not have any role. At the time of the New Order with the number of political parties that are only still referred to as a simple multiparty system as well but the multiparty system that existed during the New Order was the same as when the Period of Guided Democracy. Difference in the New Order there was a dominant political party that is Golkar which continues to win throughout the New Order so often people call it a hegemonic party system [2].

Political parties are also the most ambiguous and problematic democratic institutions. Ambiguous because political parties cannot be fully considered or treated as public institutions or moreover as institutions of security. Political parties do not get major funding or personnel facilities and assistance from the state, so its position as a public institution is not strong. On the contrary, political parties also cannot be fully considered as private institutions, as befit foundations, cooperatives, or mass media companies because political parties are engaged in the field of power and involve open communities. This vagueness affects the arrangement of political parties in general, and on the arrangement of political financing, party financing, campaign financing, and political party accountability in particular [3].

## **2 Problem Formulation**

From the above description that how important political parties are in democracy, it needs to be tested how effective the political party system in Indonesia, failure in building a good democratic system is the responsibility of a very large political party, how the role of political parties in realizing a substantive democracy.

## **3 Research Method**

This type of research was descriptive analysis, using a conceptual approach. The conceptual approach was to study the meaning in depth that is relevant in this case is an element of abstraction in a field study and was universal, its function gives rise to something interesting to examine.

## 4 Results and Discussion

### 4.1 Political Party System

Carl J. Friedrich argued that a political party is a group of stably organized people with the aim of seizing or maintaining control over the Government for the leadership of his party and based on that mastery, giving the members of his party both moral and material benefits. From the definition given by these experts, it is regulated later in a Law governing political parties. Indonesian Law No.2 of 2008 which was refined through Law No.2 of 2011 on Political Parties, mentions that political parties are political organizations formed by a group of citizens of the Republic of Indonesia voluntarily on the basis of equal will and ideals, to be able to fight for the interests of members, the interests of the community, the nation and the country through elections [4].

Defining a political party is from the side of a political party as an instrument of realizing a political ideal or political thought about the nation-state that is considered ideal (the best regime, good society). The Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia in 1945 mentions political parties in two articles. First, Article 6A states that “a political party or a combination of political parties proposes a pair of presidential and vice-presidential candidates before the general election is held”. Second, Article 22E paragraph (3) mentions “participants in the general election of members of the DPR, Provincial DPRD and DPRD Regency/City are political parties” [5].

Article 11 paragraph (1) of the Law on Political Parties mentions the five functions of political parties. First, as a means of political education for members and the wider community to become Indonesian citizens who are aware of their rights and obligations in community life, nationhood, and statehood. Second, as a means of creating a climate conducive to the unity and unity of the Indonesian nation for the welfare of the people. Third, as a means of absorbing, gathering, and channeling the political aspirations of the community in formulating and establishing state policies. Fourth, as a means of political participation of Indonesian citizens. And fifth, as a means of political recruitment in the process of filling political office through democratic mechanisms with regard to gender equality and justice [5].

The organization of political parties is necessary as a people’s power that is outside the activities of the government. Monitoring and assessing the wisdom of the government (policy evaluation) especially in the form of Broader scaled evaluation is the duty of the obligations of political parties, so that the government in policy making always pay attention to the interests of the people (public interest) [6].

### 4.2 Democracy and Political Parties

It is necessary to fundamental thinking in organizing and reforming the ownership system in Indonesia. Elections are not only democratic procedures, but also an integral part of the electoral democratic system that is the basic building for an effective system of government. In other words, an effective and accountable electoral democratic system is a key prerequisite for the establishment of a substantive democratic system in which the ruling government is able to provide public services to the people and realize the welfare of the people.

Therefore, the question that needs to be asked is not what kind of political system is able to realize the goals of the State of Indonesia, but what kind of democratic political system (people's population) is able to realize the four goals of the country. The four goals to be realized by the State of the Republic of Indonesia are "protecting the entire Indonesian nation and all Indonesian blood, advancing the general welfare, educating the life of the nation, and participating in implementing world order based on independence, lasting peace, and social justice".

The election system of members of the DPR and DPRD is clear, but it has determined several principles. What has been determined in the Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia 1945, among others, are:

(a) "Participants in the Election of Members of the DPR and DPRD are Political Parties," (Article 22E paragraph (3));

(b) "Election Participants of DPD Members are Individuals" (Article 22E paragraph (4)).

(c) "The pair of presidential and vice-presidential candidates is proposed by a political party or a combination of political parties participating in the general election before the implementation of the general election" (Article 6A paragraph (2)).

Thus, the role of political parties in presidential and vice-presidential elections is not as a participant in the general election but only as a proposed party. Participants in the presidential and vice-presidential elections are the spouses of presidential and vice-presidential candidates. From the provisions of this Constitution, it can be concluded that the role of political parties in the election of members of the DPR and DPRD is much greater than the role of the party in the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections. Therefore the role of political parties in the general election of members of the DPR and DPRD should be more than just nominating [7].

Simplification of political parties in order to build a moderate pluralism party system can be carried out on three levels, namely simplification of the number of Political Parties Participating in elections, simplification of the number of political parties in the DPR and DPRD, and the institutionalization of the party system. A number of questions need to be asked against the first level. First, why does the number of political parties in the election need to be simplified? The answer to this question is not only a reason/reason to simplify but also in the form of the purpose of simplification. Second, how to simplify the number of political parties participating in the election. The answer to this question is not only in the form of arrangements (through articles) and their consistent implementation and enforcement but also in the form of assessments and decisions of voters collectively (through the Market). A number of questions can be asked against the second level. First, what is the theoretical reason for simplification of the number of political parties in the DPR and DPRD. Second, what is the basis of constitutionality simplifying the number of political parties in the DPR and DPRD. Third, what is the purpose of simplification of the number of political parties in the DPR and DPRD [1].

### 4.3 Reconstruction of Political Party System

A party system is called robust and adaptable if it is able to absorb and unify all the new social forces that emerged as a result of modernization from this point of view the number of parties will only be important if it influences the capacity of the system to form the institutional channels necessary to accommodate political participation.2.

For Huntington a solid party system must have at least two capacities First to launch political participation through party channels to divert all forms of political activity and violence The second includes and distributes the participation of several newly mobilized groups intended to reduce the level of strong pressure faced by the political system Thus the political party system still has serious problems from the side. institutional and the implementation of internal democracy.

Political parties as pillars of democracy need to be organized and perfected to realize a democratic political system in order to support an effective presidential system. The arrangement and refinement of political parties is directed at two main things, namely first, forming the attitudes and behaviors of political parties that are patterned or systemic so that a political culture is formed that supports the basic principles of the democratic system. This is demonstrated by the attitude and behavior of Political Parties that have an adequate system of selection and recruitment of nationality and develop a system of wiring and strong political leadership. Second, maximize the function of the Political Party against the people through political education with effective political wiring and recruitment to produce cadres of leadership candidates who have the ability in the field of politics [8].

Democracy from the beginning is a concept of government obtained from, by and for the people (from the people, by the people, of the people). The people have an important role and position in the administration of government. The people determine a system of government and the government itself through the participation of citizens either directly or through representatives. To ensure the involvement of the people in an objective process of government, the political system must guarantee the freedom and equality of every citizen in it, without fear, intimidation, coercion, and deception.

Robert A. Dahl in Mangunsung provides five criteria for democracy, namely: 1) equality of suffrage in determining binding collective decisions; 2) effective participation, i.e. equal opportunity for all citizens in the collective decision-making process; 3) the disclosure of truth, i.e. there is an equal opportunity for everyone to give an assessment of the course of the political process and government logically; 4) the final control over the agenda, namely the existence of exclusive power for the public to determine which agenda should and should not be decided through the process of government, including delegating that power to others or institutions representing society; 5) The inclusion, i.e., the cover of society includes all adults in relation to the law. While According to Afan Gaffar can be observed through the following indicators: 1) accountability; 2) rotation of power; 3) open political recruitment; 4) Democratic elections; and 5) citizens enjoy their basic rights [9].

Some of the things that need to be regulated include sources of funds (party membership, nonpartisan individuals and corporations, netizen or social media donations) and their designation (for party organizations or elections), limits on the number of donations, financial reporting, limits on campaign costs, forms of donations prohibited from companies, and surveillance systems.

Then in the development of state life, there is the movement of defenders of women's political rights, there is the anti-bullying movement. These movements demand freedom and equality in political life. These values then became the existential features of democracy. In its development, the country is not only a city-state like ancient Greece. Many

emerged a much larger country than the ancient Greek state, with far more citizens demanding to participate in the management of political life. The management of the political participation of citizens requires procedures. Democracy then requires a procedural characteristic, namely political parties. Another procedural feature of democracy is that sovereignty is in the hands of majority. The process of managing political life, and participating citizens having to submit to the law is also a hallmark of democracy [10].

Political parties that should be the main institutions of democratic development often also experience internal conflicts as a result of the lack of democratic mechanisms in it. Many new political parties have sprung up as a result of internal conflicts and this further complicates the formation of political parties that institute up to the grass-roots level. Likewise, political parties who should be able to prepare the best cadres to fill the positions of public turned out to be mostly filled by people who only have power capital and closeness to the leadership. Therefore it is not surprising that human resources in political parties can be said to be of poor quality because meritocracy or *career pathing* system does not work well [11].

## 5 Conclusion

In an electoral system that can be tested only political parties, only through political parties and political positions will be filled. Therefore, it is necessary to build a good and clean political party system. To avoid political parties being made “factories” of money, the party cadres who are elected and serve as rulers must be separated from the party and party. Therefore, it focused on building and not being dramatizing by the political party that carried it. Then to support the party machine, it is necessary that the party be given a budget every year, adjusted to the number of votes it gets during the election. From this can break the chain of the occurrence of political party officials who result in abuse of power.

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**Research Contributions.** The expected contribution is to provide a model of substantive democracy application in Indonesia not just a procedural democracy that has been running.

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