

Enhancing Democratic Integrity: The Crucial Role of Election Supervision in Barru's 2020 Regional Head Elections

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ABSTRACT - Elections typically include infractions, thus Bawaslu was created to regulate the process and make elections more democratic. Bawaslu oversees and reduces general election infractions. Supervision evaluates if an activity is being executed as planned. The supervision equivalent of Das Sollen (plans) must match Das Sein (reality). According to this survey, the Bawaslu of Barru Regency has performed oversight well. (1) Bawaslu observed the Barru Regency regional head election from candidate selection to voting at sub-district and polling stations. Inspection Bawaslu examined indicators till he found head election breaches. The Bawaslu guidance and direction indicators help candidates and voters determine the extent of violations in the regional head election. Indicators Following up on Barru district regional head election breaches, Bawaslu took disciplinary action. This study's corrective action indicator is the Bawaslu's review to reduce violations in the head of blood election next year. (2) The COVID-19 epidemic, human resource quality, regulations, and community engagement affect Bawaslu supervision in regional head elections.

Keywords: Enhancing Democratic; Election Supervisory; Regional Head Election

Introduction

General elections, which serve as a mechanism of democracy, have been implemented in various countries, including Indonesia (Hawing & Hartaman, 2021; Usfinit et al., 2014). In Indonesia, periodic elections have been held since the country gained independence. However, the democratic process in prior elections has not successfully achieved the full realisation of mature democratic norms. This was a result of the autocratic governmental system. The aspiration for discovering an optimal democratic framework emerged following the 2004 general election, which was characterised by a generally seamless and secure process (Adistyraningsih & Wisnumurti, 2019; Muhaling, 2014). The 2004 election marked the inaugural general election following the modification of the 1945 Constitution. Article 6A paragraph (1) of the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia required the President and Vice President to be elected directly by the people (Usfinit et al., 2014).

Elections, as a manifestation of popular sovereignty, grant full authority to the people as the rightful possessors of the vote. However, the issue lies in the narrow interpretation of voter participation, which is currently confined to exercising the right to vote during regular election cycles (Riskiyono, 2019). The primary objective of general elections is to select individuals who will hold significant positions in the government, including Regents, Deputy Regents, Governors, Deputy Governors, members of the DPR, DPD, and Presidential Candidates. This aligns with the directive of the Preamble of the 1945 Constitution, which underscores the significance of receiving utmost endorsement (Legitimate) from the populace for these leaders.

In order to attain these anticipated objectives, the organisation of general elections must be executed with stringent quality requirements. Efforts must be made to ensure that the electoral process promotes healthy competition, encourages participation, and achieves a greater level of

representation for all segments of society (Matland, 2005). Enhancing the standard of election administration is crucial for guaranteeing transparent and efficient accountability systems for election outcomes. Implementing specific measures such as overhauling regulations, intensifying supervision, establishing a fair voting system, and promoting public engagement in politics can be highly effective strategies for maximising the role of elections in constructing a robust and responsible democratic framework (Michels & De Graaf, 2017; Moravcsik, 2004). The election's quality can be assessed by the prompt execution of each step, the direct, public, free, confidential, honest, and fair conduct of the election, and adherence to all applicable electoral laws and regulations (Nurkinan, 2018).

Indonesia has conducted direct local elections since June 2005. Prior to the implementation of direct regional elections, the successful implementation of presidential and vice presidential elections took place in 2004. The enactment of direct regional elections is specified in Law No. 32/2004 on Regional Government, which is a modified version of Law No. 22/1999 on the same matter. The establishment of direct regional elections aimed to reinstate the political rights of the people, which were previously exclusively exercised through their representatives in the DPRD. The establishment of direct regional elections is aimed at enhancing democratic governance following the transition from the New Order regime to a period of reform (Hanafi, 2014).

Election of Regional Heads in Indonesia is a mandate from the reform movement in 1998. Election of regional heads is the most important moment of democracy in the life of the Indonesian nation and state as a form of implementation of democracy, regional elections are not only intended to fulfill the desire to change mechanisms, the length of election of leaders and representatives of the people authoritarianism, but also philosophically want to achieve sustainable implementation of democratic values, namely developing participation and responsiveness as well as overall accountability (Suyatno, 2016). In elections, violations often occur during each election period, so an institution is formed whose task is to supervise the election implementation process, so that the elections are held more democratically, this institution is Bawaslu. Bawaslu is tasked with monitoring and minimizing violations that occur in the process of holding general elections.

The General Election Supervisory Body is an election organizing institution tasked with supervising the implementation of elections throughout the territory of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia. Bawaslu is regulated in chapter IV of Law Number 15 of 2011 concerning the implementation of general elections. The General Election Supervisory Agency in South Sulawesi Province as of November 9 2020, Bawaslu noted that it had handled 318 cases in data released by South Sulawesi Bawaslu. The cases were divided into 243 findings and 75 reports. Of this number, 206 were proven to be violations and 96 were declared not to be violations. Meanwhile, 16 other cases are still in process.

The General Election Supervisory Board of Barru Regency, in South Sulawesi Province, has handled 130 cases of violations during the implementation of the Regional Head Election stages in the local district until after the recapitulation of the vote count, from the number of cases there were eight cases of neutrality of the State Civil Apparatus, violations of the determination of campaign props, and election crimes such as the distribution of basic necessities by one of the supporters of a candidate pair as well as cases of alleged money politics committed by supporters of the candidate pair. Some of these cases are already at the investigation level and have even been sentenced in the Barru District Court, from the findings of these violation cases, the most cases were recorded in Barru Regency.

Based on the author's analysis in this study, Bawaslu's supervisory role in Barru Regency seems to have achieved its peak, particularly seen in the extensive outreach initiatives undertaken by

Bawaslu. These endeavours involve promoting community engagement in actively monitoring the execution of the Regional Head election in Barru Regency. Nevertheless, it is important to recognise that Bawaslu's oversight performance still necessitates enhancement. This assertion is supported by the example of the 2020 Regional Head Election in Barru Regency, where Bawaslu Barru ranked top in terms of the biggest number of infractions, according to the acquired data. A total of 73 infractions have been found, with four instances now undergoing handling. A total of 76 infractions were successfully detected in Barru Regency. Upon examining these facts, it becomes evident that conducting a comprehensive assessment of Bawaslu's supervisory strategy and effectiveness is important. To enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of supervising Regional Head elections in Barru Regency, it is crucial to focus on enhancing coordination with related agencies, bolstering the human resources capacity of Bawaslu, and intensifying community outreach efforts. Given the aforementioned background, the author intends to undertake a research project titled "Enhancing Democratic Integrity". The researchers aim to implement strategic measures to enhance the quantity and quality of Bawaslu's supervisory role in regional elections and enhance the electoral system for a more promising future.

Method

The research was conducted in Barru Regency, specifically at the Barru Regency Bawaslu (Election Supervisor) Office, over a period of around two months. The research employed a qualitative research methodology, namely a descriptive research design, with the objective of elucidating the nature of Bawaslu's oversight during the 2020 Simultaneous Election in Barru Regency. This study utilises two types of data: primary data and secondary data. The collection of primary data was accomplished by employing interview techniques with 6 informants who were carefully chosen based on their direct involvement and extensive information pertaining to Bawaslu supervision. In addition to that, observation and documenting techniques are employed to gather extensive and through data.

The data analysis process consisted of three distinct stages: data reduction, data display, and generating conclusions. Data reduction entails the process of systematically organising and classifying data in order to facilitate its comprehension (Sugiyono, 2016). Data presentation entails the systematic organisation and presentation of data. The purpose was to gather comprehensive data and important discoveries about Bawaslu's oversight during the 2020 Simultaneous Elections in Barru Regency. The process of data validation involved three distinct triangulation methods: source triangulation, technical triangulation, and time triangulation. Source triangulation entails the comparison of findings from various individuals providing information. Technique triangulation involves the comparison of outcomes obtained through several data gathering methods. Time triangulation involves comparing results from different time periods to assure the reliability and accuracy of the data. This research aims to offer a detailed and precise assessment of Bawaslu's supervision during the 2020 Simultaneous Elections in Barru Regency.

Result and Discussion

The primary objective of General Elections is to facilitate the implementation of democracy, namely by enabling the selection of individuals for the positions of Regent, Deputy Regent, Governor, Deputy Governor, DPR, DPD, and Presidential Candidates. The primary principle, as stipulated in the Preamble to the 1945 Constitution, is to acquire utmost support (legitimacy) from the populace (Firdaus et al., 2020; Navisa, 2018). In order to accomplish this objective, it is

imperative to enhance the calibre of election administration to ensure robust and inclusive competition, elevate the degree of representation, and establish a transparent process for accountability. The responsibilities of the Regency/City Election Supervisory Body (Bawaslu) encompass overseeing multiple phases of the election management process. The process encompasses updating voter data, identifying election participants, conducting nominations, executing campaign strategies, managing election equipment, facilitating voting, overseeing the transfer of ballot papers, conducting vote recapitulation at several levels, including determining election outcomes and conducting re-voting if necessary (Jamil, 2020). In this scenario, Bawaslu functions as a supervisor, responsible for guaranteeing the integrity and transparency of every phase of the electoral process.

The Bawaslu of Barru Regency in South Sulawesi Province fulfilled its responsibilities by identifying multiple infractions during the execution of the Regional Head Election in Barru Regency. The infractions encompass the lack of impartiality in the State Civil Apparatus, the establishment of Election Props, the allocation of essential commodities, and the implementation of Money Politics. These findings highlight the necessity of enhancing Bawaslu's supervisory role in the execution of Regional Head Elections in Barru Regency, to guarantee the integrity, fairness, and durability of democracy at the regional level. By implementing suitable remedial measures, it is anticipated that forthcoming elections can be conducted more effectively and in alignment with robust democratic values.

Election supervisory function in organizing regional head elections in Barru Regency Oversight function

General elections in Indonesia are an instrument for directly implementing popular sovereignty, so a supervisory system is needed that is based on justice and openness in resolving the election dispute process. Bawaslu has authority not only limited to supervising the General Election implementation process, starting from the registration stage, factual verification of voter data, campaigning, voting, vote counting to determining election results, but Bawaslu has the authority to take action against alleged violations committed by election organizers. such as the General Election Commission and/or election participants, both political parties and individual candidates. In this indicator, this research explains that monitoring is an activity carried out by the leader directly at the place where the incident occurred and where the subordinate is on duty. In this research, the monitoring indicator referred to is the monitoring carried out by Bawaslu of Barru Regency in the election of regional heads in Barru Regency.

Table1. Supervision of Preparations for Regional Elections

No	Supervision of Preparations for Regional Elections
1.	Planning and determining the schedule for the election stages
2.	Logistics procurement planning by the KPU
3.	Implementation of the determination of electoral districts and the number of seats in each electoral district for the election of members of the Provincial Regional People's Representative Council and members of the Regency/City Regional People's Representative Council by the KPU in accordance with the provisions of statutory regulations
4.	Socialization of election implementation;
5.	Implementation of other supervisory duties as regulated in statutory provisions.

Source: Election Supervisory in Barru's

Based on the table 1, it can be seen that Bawaslu carries out monitoring in a structured manner and is carried out based on applicable laws and regulations. Bawaslu in carrying out supervision Bawaslu has carried

out monitoring in the implementation of regional head elections which are carried out from the sub-district level to the village level to obtain facts, data and information.

The Election Supervisory Body as an election organizing institution tasked with monitoring the implementation of elections has the authority to, among other things, supervise the implementation of election stages, receive reports of alleged election violations, and follow up on findings or reports to the competent authorities and in order to carry out their duties. and its authority is that Bawaslu is in accordance with the mandate of Law Number 7 of 2017 and then forms Provincial or Regency Bawaslu throughout Indonesia. Various tools and institutions have been established to improve the quality of regional elections, including through monitoring. As an activity that is no less important for the quality of regional election implementation, apart from supervision by the supervisory institution, namely Bawaslu, monitoring mandated by regional election regulations also plays an important and strategic role. In accordance with the provisions of Article 123 paragraph (2) of Law Number 1 of 2015, this monitoring can, among other things, be carried out by local regional election monitoring social organizations and fulfill accreditation requirements.

Control Function

Bawaslu has authority not only limited to supervising the General Election implementation process, starting from the registration stage, factual verification of voter data, campaigning, voting, vote counting to determining election results, but Bawaslu has the authority to take action against alleged violations committed by election organizers. such as the General Election Commission and/or election participants, both political parties and individual candidates. Bawaslu's tasks carried out in the context of preventing election violations and preventing election process disputes are identifying and mapping potential vulnerabilities and election violations, coordinating, supervising, guiding, monitoring and evaluating election implementation, coordinating with relevant government agencies and increasing public participation in election supervision. In the Pasaribu theory, inspection is an activity carried out through careful and systematic observation, recording, investigation and study of everything related to work.

Supervision is carried out starting from the candidate registration process to the implementation of the regional head election, which is carried out at the polling station level in the implementation of the regional head election in Barru district.

Table 2. Violations discovered by Bawaslu Barru Regency

No	Region	Type of violation				
		Administration	Other laws	Criminal Election	Administration & code of ethics	Code of Ethics
1.	Barru City	-	3	3	1	1
2	District Ballusu	14	-	1	-	-
3	Barru District	14	2	1	-	-
4	District Mallusetation	12	3	-	-	-
5	District Pujananting	29	-	1	-	1
6	District Soppeng Riaja	4	-	-	-	-
7	Tanete Riaja District	18	1	-	-	-
8	District Tanete Rilau	18	1	3	-	-
TOTAL		109	10	9	1	1

Source : Election Supervisory Borad in Barru's

Election administration violations are violations of procedures, procedures and mechanisms relating to the administration of election implementation at every stage of implementation outside of election crimes and violations of the election organizer's code of ethics (Prawira, 2019). Confronting other laws is a violation regulated outside the election law. For example, regarding the neutrality of the village head, it is regulated by village law. The neutrality of State civil servants is regulated in the State civil servants law. Regional head crimes are acts or actions that can be assessed as criminal acts based on regional head election law Number 10 of 2016 concerning the election of governors, deputy governors, regents, deputy regents, and mayors and deputy cities. Regional head election crimes can be committed by Candidate Pairs, Political Parties, Success Teams, Candidate Pairs' Witnesses at the Polling Place and Candidate Pairs' Supporters.

The code of ethics for organizing elections, namely violations of the code of ethics, the direction of handling is handed over to the DKPP (Election Organizer Honorary Council) with the decision being final and binding. Except for the handling of the code of ethics which is carried out by the organizers at the sub-district and sub-district/village levels, the handling of violations is carried out by the KPU or Bawaslu at the upper level. (Hajiji, 2020)

Based on the results of the data described above, it can be concluded that the monitoring theory of inspection indicators in this research is in accordance with the Pasaribu (2011) theory which has been accompanied by evidence of violations discovered by the Barru Regency Bawaslu and every act of violation has been followed up by the Barru Regency Bawaslu.

Guidance and direction function

Supervision is part of law enforcement. Law enforcement is part of the power to govern (Albanese, 2017; Cath, 2018). Supervision itself is very necessary in managing an organization. Through supervision, it is hoped that we can maximize the policies that have been prepared to achieve planned results effectively and efficiently. Apart from that, supervision is also useful for detecting the extent of possible irregularities that have occurred. This research uses the supervisory function theory as one of the indicators. In it, guidance and direction are activities carried out by leaders in providing advice and direction regarding the implementation of tasks. In this research, guidance and direction is the guidance and direction carried out by Bawaslu in the election of regional heads in Barru Regency.

The variables listed in Pasaribu's (2011) supervisory function theory are applicable to Bawaslu's role in Barru district. Beyond prospective candidates, guidance and direction are given to the community and voters. This complete strategy reduces irregularities in the Barru district regional head election for fairness and transparency. Pasaribu's view presumably emphasises proactive efforts to resolve potential concerns and improve electoral integrity. Bawaslu in Barru district promotes informed voters and ethical conduct throughout the political cycle by advising candidates, the community, and voters. Data shows a dedication to supervisory inclusion. Guidance to the community and voters shows common responsibility for democratic process. This strategy aims to inform electoral participants to reduce irregularities and ensure a more legitimate regional head election in Barru district. Bawaslu's practical implementation matches Pasaribu's theoretical framework, suggesting a deliberate integration of academic findings into real-world applications. This shows the supervisory body's professionalism and deliberate use of known theories to improve supervision. These metrics' reduction of irregularities can be used by other regions to improve electoral monitoring processes.

Disciplinary action function

Bawaslu has the authority to supervise every stage of the election and prevent and take action against election violations. Bawaslu even has the authority to adjudicate election process disputes between the KPU and participants, as well as between participants and participants. Disciplinary action in the pasaribu theory. Disciplinary action is a leadership decision in order to provide sanctions for subordinates who violate applicable provisions. In this research, disciplinary action is the action taken by Bawaslu in following up discovery of violations in the implementation of regional head elections in Barru Regency.

Disciplinary Actions are all efforts made by leaders towards subordinates in order to provide sanctions for those who violate the provisions applicable to this indicator, actions taken by Bawaslu in following up discovery of violations in the implementation of regional head elections.

Based on the results of research conducted, the Disciplinary Action indicators conveyed by Pasaribu in the theory of supervisory function are in accordance with the supervisory function of Bawaslu in Barru district. In carrying out the disciplinary actions referred to in this research, namely the actions carried out by Bawaslu in following up on findings of violations during the regional head election in Barru district.

Corrective action function

General elections/elections are a logical consequence of a democratic state, and democracy is a safe way to maintain control over the rule of law. Article 1 paragraph (2) and paragraph (3) of the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia explains that Indonesia is a democratic legal state. The election supervisory body (Bawaslu) as a state institution responsible for supervising regional head elections also has the task of encouraging the growth and development of participatory supervision, including accrediting regional head election monitoring institutions.

Regional Head Election is the only democratic procedure that legitimizes the authority and actions of the people's representatives to carry out certain actions. Regional Head Election is a mechanism for the circulation and regeneration of power. Through regional elections, the people can determine their political attitude to continue to believe in the old government, or replace it with a new government. In this indicator, Pasaribu stated that corrective action is an effort made by leaders to correct mistakes or deviations made by subordinates in this research. Corrective action is an evaluation carried out by Bawaslu of Barru Regency in the regional head election. Corrective Action is any effort made by the leadership to correct errors or deviations made by subordinates. In this research, the corrective action intended is the evaluation carried out by Bawaslu in the regional head election in Barru Regency in order to improve the quality of the regional head election in the following year.

Based on the research results, the Corrective Action indicators conveyed by Pasaribu in the supervisory function theory are in accordance with the supervisory function of Bawaslu in Barru district. In carrying out Corrective Action, Bawaslu carries out evaluations in order to improve Bawaslu's performance in the next regional elections in Barru district.

Inhibiting and Supporting Factors for Holding Regional Head Elections in Barru Regency

In the implementation of the Regional Head Election in Barru Regency, there are a number of factors that influence the supervision carried out by Bawaslu of Barru Regency. These factors can be divided into barriers and supporters of supervision.

First of all, a significant inhibiting factor is the Covid-19 pandemic. The 2020 election will be different from regional head elections in previous years, because it will be held in the midst of a pandemic. Apart from the task of supervising the election process, Bawaslu must also pay attention to the health protocols set by the government. This shows that there is an additional burden for Bawaslu in carrying out their duties, considering that they need to ensure that the election process takes place safely and in accordance with applicable health protocols. On the other hand, there are supporting factors that also influence the course of supervision. One of them is the quality of Human Resources (HR). The good quality of human resources in Bawaslu Barru Regency is a supporting factor that ensures the effectiveness of supervision in regional head elections. Trained and competent human resources have an important role in ensuring transparency, sustainability and integrity of the entire election process.

Regulations or rules are also a supporting factor that influences Bawaslu's supervision. In carrying out supervision, the existence of regulations or rules provides a legal basis for Bawaslu to carry out its duties. With clear rules, Bawaslu can carry out supervision in a more structured manner and in accordance with applicable regulations. Apart from that, community participation is also a significant supporting factor in implementing supervision. The community has a key role, especially in detecting and reporting violations that

occurred during the regional head elections in Barru Regency. With active participation from the community, Bawaslu can obtain broader and more accurate information regarding potential violations, so that supervision can be carried out more effectively. Overall, this data analysis shows that in facing various challenges, Barru Regency Bawaslu needs to consider adaptive and collaborative monitoring strategies. Improving the quality of human resources, implementing effective regulations, and strengthening community participation can be important steps in ensuring the integrity and success of the implementation of Regional Head Elections amidst dynamic conditions.

Conclusion

This research emphasised that the implementation of the Regional Head Election in Barru Regency encounters various substantial hurdles. The supervision conducted by Bawaslu of Barru Regency is influenced by crucial factors such as the Covid-19 epidemic, the calibre of human resources, legislation, and community participation. The Covid-19 pandemic has not only increased the demands on Bawaslu's responsibilities in supervising election execution, but also underscored the significance of guaranteeing adherence to health norms. The calibre of human resources in Bawaslu plays a crucial role in minimising the adverse effects of the pandemic condition. Proficient and skilled personnel are essential for efficiently conducting supervision. Precise norms or rules serve as a crucial foundation for Bawaslu in executing their supervisory responsibilities. Adequate regulations are essential for conducting supervision in a systematic and compliant manner, based on the appropriate legal framework. In addition, community participation serves as an essential means of detecting and reporting breaches that may arise during regional head elections. By taking into account these aspects, it can be inferred that a comprehensive and cooperative approach is necessary to address the issues of monitoring the Regional Head Election in Barru Regency. To ensure the success and integrity of future democratic processes, it is crucial to enhance the quality of human resources, adapt monitoring systems to the pandemic situation, enhance regulations, and foster greater community participation.

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