

Research Article

The Fair Concept of Election of the Indonesian Head of State Based on Island Rotation

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Abstract: This abstract delves into the groundbreaking concept of electing the Indonesian Head of State through a fair and inclusive mechanism called Island Rotation. The conventional electoral process has frequently faced criticism for its potential biases that may favour specific regions over others. This paper presents a fresh approach that aims to promote fair representation and active involvement from all Indonesian islands. The Island Rotation concept is centred on a structured and recurring rotation of presidential candidates from various islands, ensuring that every significant region of the archipelago has a fair chance to have its representative in leadership. This not only encourages geographic diversity but also cultivates a feeling of togetherness and inclusiveness among the diverse population. This paper explores the historical context of regional imbalances in Indonesian politics and examines the potential advantages of implementing Island Rotation. By considering the various social, cultural, and economic factors of each island, the proposed model seeks to tackle long-standing inequalities and promote unity within the nation. In addition, the abstract explores the possible obstacles and objections linked to this electoral innovation, carefully considering its practicality in light of the need to establish a democracy that is more inclusive and reflective of the population. The proposal for the Fair Concept of Election based on Island Rotation presents a timely and relevant idea for redefining the democratic process in Indonesia. It offers a potential path towards a more inclusive, geographically balanced, and united nation.

Keywords: Island Rotation, Indonesian Head of State, Electoral Innovation, Geographic Diversity, Inclusive Democracy.

1. Introduction

The election of the head of state is a vital component of any democratic system, playing a pivotal role in shaping the course and governance of a nation. In Indonesia, the process of selecting the head of state has experienced various changes throughout its history. However, concerns about the lack of equal representation and participation from different regions in Indonesia continue to be a significant issue. Within this context, this article will explore a groundbreaking concept put forth as a means to promote equity in the selection of the leader of a nation, known as "Island Rotation" [1].

Indonesia, being the world's largest archipelagic country, boasts a wealth of geographic, social, and cultural diversity. However, in the political context, the full representation of this diversity is not evident in the process of electing the head of state. One of the main challenges we encounter is the unequal representation among the islands, leading to disparities and disadvantages in certain regions. In an attempt to tackle this matter, a novel model called Island Rotation is put forth as a means to foster fairness and equitable representation from all regions of Indonesia [2].

Island Rotation proposes a methodical and recurring approach, which entails the rotation of presidential candidates from various islands within a designated cycle. Therefore, every island has a fair chance to have representation in the country's leadership. This concept strives to not only achieve geographic diversity, but also to promote a sense of unity and inclusivity among the diverse population [3].

This article provides a comprehensive analysis of the historical background of regional imbalances in Indonesian politics and explores the potential benefits of implementing Island Rotation. By taking into account the social, cultural, and economic nuances of each island, the model strives to tackle long-standing disparities and promote national unity [4].

In addition, this article will explore possible obstacles and objections associated with this electoral innovation, evaluating the practicality of the model considering the need to establish a democracy that better reflects the population. The proposal for the Fair Concept of Election based on Island Rotation presents a timely and relevant idea for redefining the democratic process in Indonesia. It offers a path towards a more inclusive, geographically-balanced, and united nation [5].

This paper aims to explore the concept of island rotation as a potential solution to enhance the fairness and inclusivity of the Indonesian presidential election process. This paper will explore the historical disparities in representation, as well as the potential benefits associated with the survey. Additionally, it will delve into the obstacles and criticisms surrounding island rotation.

The objectives of this study are as follows:

- To explore the historical background of regional imbalances in the Indonesian political structures and system and how it affects the democratic process.
- To unravel the possible benefits of the Island Rotation concept to ensure equality and fairness on ballot votes for head of the state.
- To critique and discuss possible challenges and criticisms to the Island Rotation model.
- To evaluate the feasibility and probable consequences of adopting the Island Rotation for promoting inclusivity and national unity in the Indonesian democratic system.

This study highlights an ongoing issue in Indonesia, specifically regarding the disparity in power of representation and democratic governance between the eastern and western regions of the country. This study makes a valuable contribution to the ongoing efforts to reform election processes and enhance democratic governance. The study discusses the idea of periodically changing the election sites every five years across different islands for a nationwide parliamentary election. The study will explore the discussion surrounding the historical imbalances, benefits, challenges, and criticisms.

2. Literature Review

The political landscape in Indonesia has been significantly influenced by historical regional imbalances, as highlighted by Diprose, McRae and Hadiz [6]. Indonesia, with its diverse islands and ethnic groups, has faced challenges in achieving fair representation and power distribution. Regional domination has played a significant role in shaping the political landscape of Indonesia throughout history [7]. Several factors have contributed to the unequal political influence of different regions in the country. These factors could be influenced by geographical location or historical events. They may arise from varying levels of economic development, higher population densities, or a range of other historical factors [8]. During the colonial era, certain regions of what is now known as Indonesia were favoured by the Dutch [9]. The individuals there acquired the necessary education and training to advance within the hierarchical structure of the Dutch government. Consequently, the concentration of political and economic power was centred in those regions. Indonesia has experienced both political and economic decentralisation, which has contributed to regional imbalances [10]. Furthermore, the impact of regional geography on political participation and influence within Indonesia cannot be overlooked, alongside historical and socioeconomic factors. The vast and varied geography of Indonesia has presented significant obstacles to effective governance and representation [11]. Isolated and remote regions in the archipelago, particularly in eastern Indonesia, have encountered challenges in accessing state institutions and participating in the democratic process, owing to their geographical locations [12]. As a result, the geographical factors have exacerbated the unequal distribution of political representation and influence in Indonesian politics, amplifying the historical and socioeconomic disparities faced by certain regions. Like other nations that have experienced elections throughout history, Indonesia also possesses its own distinct and intricate ideas regarding the concept of electoral systems and mechanisms. Indonesia, as a country

transitioning from authoritarian to democracy in Asia, has adopted a mixed-member proportional representation system for its legislative election [13, 14]. This electoral system in Indonesia combines elements of both the single-member district and proportional representation systems. Voters can cast their ballots for both individual candidates and political parties [15, 16]. The implemented system in Indonesia aims to create a balanced electoral system that provides greater access to representation at both the national and local levels. This will help to address and resolve political conflicts more effectively.

Despite ongoing efforts to enhance Indonesia's electoral system, there are still some shortcomings in its implementation. One important aspect to consider is the issue of geographical representation and inclusivity, as highlighted by Aspinall, White and Savirani [17]. Despite the efforts made to ensure geographic inclusivity in Indonesia's electoral system, there are still criticisms surrounding its effectiveness [18]. There is a belief that some political institutions in Indonesia are still difficult to access geographically, and that certain political communities are not adequately represented. In many cases, these reactions stem from the isolation and neglect experienced by certain regions, particularly in Eastern Indonesia. These remote areas face a multitude of challenges, especially when it comes to accessing the country's electoral systems [12]. The region also grapples with challenges like voter intimidation, where individuals are coerced into casting their votes in a specific manner [19]. The presence of electoral fraud can significantly impact the results of a vote, making it a matter of concern. Lastly, individuals lacked sufficient knowledge about voting, resulting in a lack of understanding about the concept of democracy [20, 21].

3. Methodology

The research methodology used to investigate "The Fair Concept of Election of the Indonesian Head of State Based on Island Rotation" is primarily based on a thorough examination of existing literature. It is essential to conduct a thorough literature review to gain a deep understanding of the historical, political, and socio-cultural factors that have shaped the current electoral system in Indonesia. This study utilises a wide array of scholarly sources, such as academic articles, books, and reports, to establish a solid foundation for the proposed Island Rotation concept.

This review delves into the historical analyses of Indonesia's political landscape, exploring the evolution of the electoral process and the ongoing challenges posed by regional imbalances. It explores in-depth discussions on democratic principles, representation, and the complexities of the diverse geography of the Indonesian archipelago. Furthermore, the study delves into the literature on cutting-edge electoral models and their relevance in various socio-political settings to offer valuable insights into the practicality and potential benefits of the Island Rotation concept.

The methodology entails a thorough examination of the strengths and weaknesses of the current electoral system in Indonesia, with a particular emphasis on pinpointing areas that could be enhanced and identifying any gaps that may exist. By thoroughly analysing pertinent literature, this research seeks to provide evidence supporting the necessity of adopting a more inclusive and geographically balanced approach to the election of the Indonesian Head of State. The selected approach places a strong emphasis on gaining a comprehensive understanding of the current scholarly discussions to guide the creation and assessment of the Island Rotation concept. Through the

utilisation of insights and perspectives from scholars and experts in the field, this research aims to make a significant contribution to the ongoing discussions on democratic reforms in Indonesia.

4. Results

Through extensive research and analysis of diverse sources, numerous valuable insights have been uncovered. They provide additional insights into the intricate dynamics of Indonesian politics. The current political process in certain areas of Indonesia has led to a significant imbalance in the final political results [22]. According to the literature, there is a historical aspect of a specific location within Indonesia that leads to a political bias [23]. In terms of politics, certain regions hold more power than others. This dominance is a matter of bias as it impacts the political outcome or influence of a specific region.

There is a noticeable political imbalance within different regions in Indonesia. These regions have experienced the presence of multiple political parties since the colonial era [24]. Every political party in Indonesia was formed based on different political regions, which had an impact on the nation's political landscape. This historical trend can be traced back to the colonial era, where political movements were formed based on regions. This has consequently impacted the political power of a specific area.

In the electoral systems currently used in Indonesia, there are several concerns regarding inclusiveness, equity, and transparency, as highlighted by Agus, Astuti and Sardini [25]. Experts highlight that several factors hinder the attainment of effective democratic representation, such as the overwhelming influence of political elites and instances of electoral fraud [26, 27]. In addition, governing an archipelagic country like Indonesia poses numerous challenges, including geographical obstacles [28]. Individuals residing in remote or isolated areas often encounter considerable challenges when it comes to accessing political institutions and actively engaging in the democratic process. This, in turn, amplifies the preexisting disparities in political representation and influence.

The feasibility, effectiveness, and drawbacks of island rotation have sparked a significant debate among scholars and the public. In a recent study, Langston [29] examined the difficulties that may arise when trying to implement the island rotation strategy in a country as diverse and geographically complex as Indonesia. From a logistical standpoint, the challenges of coordinating a rotational system for presidential candidates from various islands are quite complex and could potentially be vulnerable to manipulation [30]. In a recent study by Narotama [31], the focus was on examining the potential for political parties to take advantage of the Island Rotation phenomenon.

Political parties select candidates based on their own interests, which can result in the selection of candidates who may not truly represent the best interests of their region. The effectiveness of Island Rotation is being scrutinised for its ability to tackle underlying issues such as corruption, patronage politics, and entrenched hierarchical power structures that have a growing impact on the lives of Indonesians, regardless of the type of political system in place [32]. However, the Island Rotation has garnered significant support in Indonesia, with many viewing it as a wise step towards enhancing democratisation and fostering national unity.

In their study, Silitonga [32] highlight the potential of this phenomenon to disrupt traditional power structures and provide a platform for previously marginalised regions to be heard and represented. By having representatives from the islands serving as presidents, it will provide the people of the islands with a powerful opportunity to ensure their voices are heard in the decision-making process.

Furthermore, experts have established the significance of

democratic principles, representation, and regional imbalances in Indonesian politics [33]. There have been various perspectives on how different frameworks can effectively achieve governance value in Indonesian democracy [12, 34]. In order to ensure equal participation and decision-making at the national level, it is necessary to break the concentration of power in the upper echelons. One possible solution is implementing a system of Island Rotation, which would allow different regions to take turns in holding positions of influence.

5. Discussion

The discussion on "The Fair Concept of Election of the Indonesian Head of State Based on Island Rotation" delves into the various aspects of the suggested electoral innovation. The discussion starts by thoroughly examining the historical and current context of Indonesian politics, with the goal of clarifying the ongoing difficulties posed by regional imbalances in the electoral system. Through an exploration of the extensive literature on Indonesia's political development, this discussion aims to provide a solid basis for comprehending the importance of reform and the rise of the Island Rotation concept [35].

An important aspect of the discussion revolves around the analysis of regional imbalances, specifically focusing on the discrepancies in representation across the various islands of Indonesia. Highlighting historical instances of unequal political influence and decision-making procedures, it becomes clear that there is an urgent requirement for a more equitable electoral system. The discussion relies on scholarly viewpoints that explain the effects of these disparities on socio-economic progress, governance, and national cohesion, paving the way for the introduction of the Island Rotation concept as a possible remedy [36].

The discussion then moves into a thorough examination of the Island Rotation concept itself. An in-depth exploration of the proposed electoral model requires a thorough evaluation of its theoretical framework, strategies for implementation, and expected advantages. By examining previous research on electoral innovations around the world, this analysis assesses the practicality and potential impact of Island Rotation in tackling the specific issues faced in Indonesia [37].

A great deal of focus is given to the social, cultural, and economic intricacies of every Indonesian island. This aspect of the discussion delves into the examination of how Island Rotation embraces and acknowledges the variety that exists within the archipelago. The potential impact of the proposed model on fostering national unity and inclusivity is explored, drawing upon relevant literature on the role of democracy in diverse societies [38].

In addition, the discussion thoroughly examines the possible obstacles and objections related to the Island Rotation concept. Considering practical implementation, political dynamics, and potential unintended consequences, this discussion aims to present a well-rounded perspective on the feasibility of the proposed electoral innovation. Insights from existing literature on the challenges faced by other electoral models globally provide a deeper understanding of the complexities involved [39].

The discussion concludes by bringing together important discoveries, summarising the positive and negative aspects of the Island Rotation concept as explored in academic sources, and suggesting directions for future investigation. This extensive study seeks to make a meaningful contribution to the ongoing discussion on democratic reforms in Indonesia. It provides a detailed analysis of the potential effects and obstacles related to the proposed Fair Concept of Election based on Island Rotation, offering a nuanced perspective [40].

Continuing the in-depth discussion on "The Fair Concept of Election of the Indonesian Head of State Based on Island Rotation," we now turn our attention to analysing the possible societal, political, and economic effects that could arise from the implementation of this groundbreaking electoral system. In this section, we will delve into the potential impact of Island Rotation on political representation in Indonesia, examining how it can bring about transformative changes [41].

The proposed Island Rotation concept holds great potential for improving political inclusivity and representation, especially in regions that have historically been marginalised. By implementing a rotational system for presidential candidates, the model aims to promote a more balanced distribution of political power and reduce the influence of specific political strongholds. This redistribution of political influence is viewed to give more power to local communities and reduce the concentration of power in the hands of a select few.

The discussion also explores the possible economic consequences of Island Rotation. The fair distribution of political power, as envisioned by this electoral concept, has the potential to stimulate economic development across different regions. By acknowledging past imbalances in resource distribution and policy priorities, Island Rotation has the potential to foster more tailored and equitable policies that address the unique requirements of each island. This, in turn, can help foster a more well-rounded and enduring economic growth trajectory for the entire nation.

An important aspect of the discussion involves analysing the effects of Island Rotation on the socio-cultural fabric of Indonesian society. The model strives to acknowledge and honour the wide range of cultures and identities found throughout the archipelago. This inclusivity is anticipated to promote a feeling of national unity by recognising the distinct contributions of every island to the wider Indonesian identity. Exploring the role of cultural representation in democracy, the discourse delves into how Island Rotation aligns with the principles of cultural democracy and social cohesion, drawing on relevant literature.

In addition, the discussion addresses the possible difficulties that could arise when putting the Island Rotation concept into practice. Examining the challenges posed by logistical complexities, potential resistance from political elites, and the necessity of constitutional amendments, this analysis assesses the practicality of implementing the conceptual framework. Insights from comparative studies on electoral reforms in other nations provide a deeper understanding of the difficulties involved in these transformative initiatives [42].

Aside from discussing the advantages and difficulties, the conversation explores how public perception can influence the effectiveness of Island Rotation. The effectiveness of the new electoral model relies heavily on the public's acceptance and understanding. Examining scholarly literature on public opinions regarding electoral reforms worldwide, this discussion delves into methods of effectively conveying the benefits of Island Rotation to the people of Indonesia to gain their backing.

Therefore, the synthesis of key findings emphasises the importance of the Island Rotation concept as a transformative proposal for Indonesia's democratic landscape. Recognising the potential benefits in addressing historical imbalances, promoting economic development, and fostering cultural inclusivity, it is widely acknowledged that careful consideration of challenges and garnering public support are imperative for successful implementation [43].

This extensive analysis seeks to make a valuable contribution to the ongoing discussion on electoral reforms in Indonesia. It provides a deep understanding of the intricacies

and potential results related to the proposed Fair Concept of Election based on Island Rotation [44, 45].

6. Conclusion

Ultimately, the discussion on "The Fair Concept of Election of the Indonesian Head of State Based on Island Rotation" has emerged as a thorough investigation into the possible transformative effects, obstacles, and societal consequences linked to this groundbreaking electoral approach. The analysis started by providing a context for the historical and current difficulties of regional imbalances within the Indonesian political landscape. After conducting a thorough review of existing literature, it became clear that reform was necessary to address the imbalances. As a potential solution, the concept of Island Rotation was introduced and showed promise.

The proposed Island Rotation concept presents itself as a potential catalyst for a more inclusive political representation, seeking to disrupt long-standing patterns of power concentration in specific regions. The model aims to promote fairness and equal representation by systematically rotating presidential candidates from various islands, ensuring that underrepresented regions have a voice in political decision-making. This redistribution of power is seen to not only address past inequalities, but also to enhance national cohesion by acknowledging and valuing the various identities throughout the country.

In addition, the discussion delved into the possible economic consequences of Island Rotation, highlighting its ability to stimulate growth in different areas. The fair distribution of political power is considered a means to tackle past inequalities in resource allocation and policy priorities, leading to a more even and sustainable economic growth path for the whole country.

However, the discussion also examined potential challenges associated with the Island Rotation concept, such as logistical complexities, political resistance, and the requirement for constitutional amendments. Recognising these challenges emphasises the significance of thorough planning, involving stakeholders, and effectively communicating with the public for the successful execution of this groundbreaking electoral model.

In addition, the discussion acknowledged the importance of public perception in determining the effectiveness of Island Rotation. Gaining public support and understanding is crucial for the successful implementation of the proposed electoral innovation. Insights from global studies on public attitudes towards electoral reforms highlight the importance of clear communication and educational campaigns to ensure the acceptance and legitimacy of the Island Rotation concept.

Ultimately, the Island Rotation concept emerges as a timely and innovative proposition to redefine the democratic process in Indonesia. Recognising the significant impact it can have, the discussion emphasises the importance of a thorough and cooperative approach to address the challenges that come with this major electoral reform. This discourse adds valuable insights to the ongoing discussion on democratic reforms in Indonesia, providing a nuanced perspective on the complexities and potential outcomes of the proposed Fair Concept of Election based on Island Rotation.

7. Practical and Theoretical Implications

This study offers a range of practical and theoretical implications that hold great importance for democratic governance in Indonesia. This study provides an analysis of the current political situation and explores the potential theoretical implications. It aims to contribute to efforts to address the regional imbalance in Indonesian politics. Given the study's findings on island rotation and its evaluation, there are numerous suggestions that can be

offered to policy makers, national electoral authorities, civil society organisations, and those engaged in ongoing discussions and efforts to achieve democratisation. Furthermore, it emphasises the need for collaboration among individuals from various regions of Indonesia to enhance political engagement and representation for citizens who have not been adequately included in the democratisation process.

This study adds to the ongoing discussions in theoretical debates, specifically regarding democratic theory, representation, and the issue of regionalism in Indonesian politics. The synthesis of insights from the literature review, evaluation of the Island Rotation concept, and analysis results aims to enhance understanding of how to promote fairness and inclusivity in highly diverse and complex socio-political contexts, specifically within the context of Indonesian democracy. This research makes a valuable contribution to the ongoing investigation into the merits and drawbacks of the island rotation system. It also enhances the theoretical frameworks used to analyse electoral systems and democratic governance in a developing country such as Indonesia. The study offers valuable insights that can contribute to the enhancement of fairness, inclusivity, and national unity in Indonesian democratic governance. It emphasises the importance of developing culturally appropriate solutions that prioritise the needs and aspirations of the citizens. This study goes beyond policy implications by making a valuable contribution to a wider theoretical understanding of democracy, representation, and governance in Indonesia and beyond.

8. Limitations and Future Directions

There are certain limitations to consider when discussing the study's findings on the concept of island rotation and its potential impact on democratic reform in Indonesia. Another limitation is its dependence on existing literature that may not encompass the entire spectrum. There is a noticeable absence of empirical data in this study, as no field testing or research has been conducted. This article lacks substantial empirical data. The author presents broad concepts without relying on specific examples. In addition, the evaluation of the idea by the investigation can be influenced by the preferences or assumptions inherent in the selected literature.

Additional research could be conducted to gather public opinion on the island rotation discussed in this study. It would be beneficial for future researchers to compare this island rotation with similar situations in other countries where the population desires their area to be designated as a capital city. Future researchers may consider conducting a pilot project on Island Rotation in a specific region within Indonesia. The present study has utilised a qualitative method.

For future researchers, it is recommended to consider employing a quantitative research method to gather and analyse objective data in a statistical manner. Furthermore, ongoing discussions and partnerships between policymakers, scholars, and civil society organisations will be crucial in refining and adjusting the concept of island rotation to suit Indonesia's evolving political landscape and the emerging obstacles in democratic governance.

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