Democratic Elections in Baubau City

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A B S T R A C T

The objectives study is about the role of the Election Commission(KPU) and the Election Supervisory Agency(BAWASLU) in the supporting post-conflict local elections in Baubau city. The reason are the BauBau City KPU as the official organizer of the General Election and has a role in nominating administration matters so that support exhibited. Maintaining the Quality of Regional Election of Baubau City Election Commission increases the Political Participation of Society in the implementation of the 2018 Baubau City Election through Socialization of Regional Election, Forming Democratic Volunteers, promoting education for elections, and the Role of Mass Media. Likewise, with the role of the Election Supervisory Agency of Baubau city as the local elections monitoring institution in saving the way of the Pemilukada in 2018. The method used in this study is a qualitative method with the type of literature study. The results of this study are the role of the Election Commission and the Election Supervisory Agency of Baubau City in supporting the approved post-conflict local elections. Behind the success of the Local Election in BauBau City there is Election Commission that organize BauBau City Election and Election Supervisory Agency which provides guidance and supervision of implementation of post-conflict local elections.

Key word: Regional Election, Democracy, Regional Election Commission, Regional Election Supervisory Agency

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1.   Introduction

The political system that provides space for justice and equality for all citizens is Democracy. Democracy is a political method mechanize for choosing political leaders. Citizens allowed to choose one of the political leaders who compete for votes (Nugroho, 2012) .

The fundamental characteristic of democratic countries is the existence of general elections. Even though it is not the only aspect of democracy, elections are a very important part, because elections play a role as a mechanism of political change regarding the pattern and direction of public policy or regarding elite circulation in a periodic and orderly manner (Surbakti, 2008).

The implementation of elections is democracy, which means of determining the people's aspirations. The role in determining their aspirations is inseparable from political parties.

Indonesia has experienced in an election since a couple of years ago. It was developing election in scopes of organizer and supervision institutions. They are the General Election Commission (*KPU*) and the Election Supervisory Agency (*Bawaslu*) that has an important role in the election.

The aims of them are to make sure the implementation of elections in Indonesia runs well in order to create clean, honest, fair, and transparent elections.

On June 27, 2018, Indonesia held a simultaneous election and became the world's spotlight because as many as 171 regions participated in the regional elections. 171 regions consist of 17 provinces, 39 cities, and 115 districts that hold elections.

Election of Governor and Deputy Governor, Regent and Deputy Regent, and Mayor and Deputy Mayor, commonly called as Regional Head Election *(Pemilukada).* It is the exercise of people's sovereignty in provincial and district/city areas to vote directly and democratically. One of the implementations of democracy in Indonesia is manifested in direct Regional Election (Febriadi et al., 2018).

Regional Head Election is the manifestation of democracy in the region, which means the area can determine the regional head and deputy regional head in a pair of candidates by the community directly, public, free without intervention, confidential, honest, and fair.

One of the regions which participated in a simultaneous local election on June 27, 2018, was Baubau City. Based on the candidate registration process carried out following the stages, the General Election Commission of the City of Baubau established five pairs of candidates for Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Baubau, First pairs candidate is Hj. Roslina - La Ode Yasin Hanura and PKB party, Second, DR. H. U.S. Tamrin, M.H - La Ode Ahmad Monianse the party carrying PAN, PDIP, Nasdem and Golkar, Third, Hj. Wa Ode Maasra Manarfa, S. Sos., M.Sc - Ikhsan Ismail, the party carrying the United Nations and Gerindra, Fourth, H. Yusran Fahim, SE - Drs. H. Ahmad, MM Democrats, PPP and PKS party, Fifth, Drs. H. Ibrahim Marsela, M.M - Ilyas, S.Sos. Individual candidates with total support of 11,642 KTPs (Sa'ban, Sadat, & Nastia, 2019).

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To propose the candidates in Regional elections can be done by political parties or a combination of political parties that have seats in the house of the regional representative with certain requirements from candidates themselves with certain conditions as well.

One of the supporting factors of the Regional election (*Pemilukada)* is the level of participation. Participant increases will indicate community awareness about the importance of the General Election. Even if, in the end, the low level of community participation does not affect canceling the results of the Regional Election, it shows the political awareness of the community in positioning itself as a central element of a region. The community, as the main actor, demands to be more participatory in all stages of Regional Election.

Public political participation is the realization of a democratic state, where the citizens are directly involved in General Election. In this case, citizens play an important role in selecting state officials who will later govern the government and the actions they will take later (Suryadi, 2007).

Political participation is an individual desire to have a role in political life through administrative involvement in exercising their voice, engaging himself in various organizations, discussing various political issues with others. Then it also has a role to participate in carrying out various actions and movements, joining parties or organizations independent, participate in awareness campaigns, provide awareness, provide services to the environment with their abilities (Muhaling, 2014).

Political participation can be useful to (1) provide support to the authorities and government to send representatives or supporters, making statements containing the contents of supporting the government, and selecting candidates proposed by political organizations; (2) shows the weaknesses of government with their hope that the government will review, correct or change the weaknesses; (3) participation as a challenge to the authorities so they will changes a structural in government and political system(Haris, 2014).

Citizens have the same opportunities in evaluating and determining their leaders. The participation of citizens in a regional election is important. On the same side, a good understanding of the strategic roles of citizens will also encourage the quality of democracy.

As we know, the election organizers consist of the General Election Commission (*KPU*) and the Election Supervisory Agency (*Bawaslu*) that run with the principle of fairness and equality. Then General Election Commission should escort each stage to it.

In elections, there will be various kinds of election violations. In a democracy, the violations can undermine the democratization and integrity of elections. The violations also depend on the quality of a country's democracy (Solihah, et al. 2018). Surely it will have an impact on the election results. When participants and implementers join in cheating the election, then directly, there will be born leaders who are not credible and have no integrity.

Based on the *Bawaslu* report cited by rri.co.id, the Election Supervisory Agency of the

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Southeast Sulawesi Baubau City (Southeast Sulawesi) has so far received five reports regarding alleged money politics for the election of the Mayor of Baubau city.

The case above is an Integrity portrait of the election, whose supervisors and law enforcement of the election have been strengthened. It will be an interesting discussion when we talk about how to guard the current election process to avoid violations so that will be greater elections in the context of direct, public, free, secret, honest, and fair.

2. Method

This study is library research, using descriptive approaches and qualitative methods (Creswell, 2016). Data collection techniques are carried out by utilizing online literature and data tracking, as well as interviews.

The research data were analyzed using qualitative data analysis techniques, the stages of which consisted of data reduction; data presentation or data display; and drawing conclusions or conclusion drawing (M Bloor, 1997).

3. Findings and Discussion

Maintaining the Quality of the Regional Head Election of Baubau City

1. Political Participation of the Community in the Implementation of the 2018 Baubau City Election

The role of the BauBau City *KPU* in maintaining democratic elections in addition to regulating the administration process of the BauBau City KPU must also stimulate the public to participate in elections.

One of the supporting factors of regional election is the level of participation. Participation will indicate public awareness about the importance of the regional election. In this case, citizens have an important role in selecting state officials who will later govern the government and action later (Suryadi, 2007). Even if, in the end, the low participation cannot cancel the results of the election, it shows the political awareness of the community as a central element of the region.

Cityzen, as the main actor in the election, is demanded to be more participation in all stages of the implementation of the General Election. The number of Baubau City voters can be seen in the following table:

Table 1 Recapitulation of voter data

No	Sub-district	Voter	Level of participation
1	Betoambari	12.979	9.325
2	Batupoaro	20.495	14.248
3	Murhum	13.656	10.462
4	Wolio	30.722	20.258
5	Bungi	5.206	4.540
6	Sorawolio	5.220	3.829
7	Kokalukuna	13.308	9.997
8	Lea-Lea	5.368	4.162
Total		106.954	76.821

Sources: KPU BauBau City, 2018

In achieving a democracy, political participation is an important element that must be present in every Regional Head election. The percentage of voter participation in the Baubau Regional Head Election reached 69.87%, and the remaining 30.13% were people who did not exercise their right to vote.

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From the research findings, the efforts of the Baubau City *KPU* to increase public participation in the BauBau City Regional Election in 2018 are:

1) Socialization of Regional Head Election

Not only the technical socialization of the holding of elections, but also they maximized the socialization process about the importance of elections in a democratic country. Although the law state that socialization is carried out in the technical election, but socialize the background election is important to be done.

2) Forming Democratic Volunteers

The volunteer democracy program is a social movement intended to increase the participation and quality of voters in exercising their voting rights. This program involves the broadest participation of the community. They are the vanguard of democracy then become *KPUD* partners in educational event agenda about the election. This form of community participation is expected to encourage the growth of high awareness and full responsibility of the community to use their rights in elections optimally.

3) Providing education for voters

Voter education needs to get a clear focus. It is related to the education segmentation process. Beginner voters are an important segmentation in efforts to educate voters and it is is not only done when entering the voting age.

In addition, education for beginners should be done soon, so their understanding will raise sand when they reach the age of voters, novice voters ready to use their voting rights intelligently.

4) The Role of Mass Media

Creating the community to follow the development of the election process through mass media, it has a form to socialize to public, so they know about the election process.

Increasing a performance, it is not only related to technical performance of the implementation but also in terms of raising awareness about the importance of community participation. So the public can understand what participation can be done and what the outputs from such participation are.

2. **Supervision of Baubau City Election in 2018**

Three indicators can be considered qualified to encourage democracy are the issue, process, and the administration of election results. Thus, maintaining the quality of local elections is carried out by enforcing election regulations and processes according to the stages of the election and ensuring that each stage of the election democratically.

The rules of regional elections in Indonesia regulate in Article Number 10 of 2016 concerning the second amendment to Article Number 1 of 2015 concerning the stipulation of government regulations in line of Article Number 1 of 2014 concerning the election of governors, regents and mayors.

Both of participant and committee in regional elections must obey the rule of regional election to provide legal certainty in the implementation of local elections and social order. In this regulation, several important points regulate election organizers and the prohibition of money politics.

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The implementation of direct and simultaneous Regional Elections in Indonesia is held by the Regional Election Commission *(KPUD)* and overseen by the Provincial Election Supervisory Board and the Regency / City Election Supervisory Committee for the Regency / City level (Sianturi & Wisnaeni, 2017).

These two regional election organizers have an important role in maintaining regional elections. *KPU* has the task of organizing the elections, both primarily related to technical and administrative issues ranging from the preparatory each stage of determining election results. In contrast, the election supervisory committee has a vital role in taking action against election violations and ensures that each stage of the election run in an honest, fair, and democratic manner. The selection of the membership of the two institutions is carried out in stages. It hoped that the elected members would later be figures who have adequate capacity as *KPU* and *Bawaslu* members both from the academic and technical sides. Then they are expected to be far from political issues to maintain neutrality as a member of election organizers. So the members of *KPU* and *Bawaslu* are able to carry out their duties properly and independently of any influence and interests.

The Baubau City Election in 2018 was colored with various kinds of violences. Violence is the process of manipulation that occurs in every whole process of organizing elections aimed at the interests of individuals, groups or political parties by mortgaging public interests (Solihah, Bainus, & Rosyidin, 2018).

Based on the Bawaslu report by rri.co.id, the Election Supervisory Board *(Bawaslu)* of the Southeast Sulawesi Baubau City (Southeast Sulawesi) so far has received five reports regarding violations in money politics for money-giving ahead of the election of the Mayor of Baubau Mayor.

The monitoring report must fulfill the 5 W requirements (who, why, where, what, when) means knowing who did, why, where it happened, what kind of violation and when it happened, also 1 H (how) means how chronologically the event happened. The report will then be examined and reviewed again by the BauBau City *Bawaslu*, whether the requirements have been met as a complaint offense. This then becomes one of the democratic parameters of elections in terms of supervision.

Some of the cases above are one of the portraits for the integrity of the BauBau City Election. Certainly, it will be an interesting discussion when we think about how to guard so that the election process that is already good at the moment is not tainted by fraud.

One crucial aspect of the success of the BauBau City elections in 2018 is the supervision and handling of violations to maximize these elections into fair elections following the provisions of applicable law.

Bawaslu BauBau city seeks to socialize various regulations related to the General Election and increase the active role of the community in overseeing the election, with the hope that election violations will diminish due to the awareness of the public and election participants not to commit violations

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One of the challenges related to supervision is to increase the willingness of the community to report any violations or fraud encountered. This, of course, is the hard work of the BauBau City Bawaslu to conduct socialization of one of the obligations as a community to oversee every stage of holding elections, not just the responsibility to participate politically in terms of voting. Thus, Bawaslu usually known as an aid agency, changed its perspective as an institution that proactively socialized voter education to decrease violations.

This is a positive development because, with the involvement of the public to the election, the public will more trust results. So they will tolerate accepting the determination of election results, both in terms of political parties, candidates and voters.

In addition to oversight from the public, political parties also supervises the election and they must also have the awareness to become an election participant with integrity where they do not violate the election. Maintain and supervise their cadres to become cadres who have political knowledge that they are also part of the community who must participate in guarding the integrity of the process and the results of the elections.

Political parties must also be aware of their function as a political socialization tool that should participate in building trust in the creation of honest elections in the community as their political responsibilities to society. In addition, the Election Commission as the organizing body of the General Election, also participates in overseeing each stage of elections.

It accommodated by holding socialization of all provisions in each stage of the election.

Bawaslu in monitoring the elections should be independent and not side with one of the candidates or political parties participating in the elections, so that elections can be held fairly and honestly without discrimination and run well.

4. Conclusion

The role of the BauBau City *KPU* and the BauBau City Bawaslu is very important to create a democratic Regional Election because the BauBau City *KPU* as the official organizer of the *Pemilukada* and has an important role both in nominating administration matters and increasing voter participation.

With the active role of the BauBau City *Bawaslu* as the Election Monitoring Institution in overseeing the General Election, it has provided awareness for political actors. It will remain on track in accordance with their respective portions and with the participation of all stakeholders in the supervision of the regional election implementation stage. Which ultimately gave birth to a democratic election, both in the process and outcome.

Suggestion

Based on the conclusions above, the author suggest: (1) The public expect to more often follow information either from the mass media or take part in socialization held by the Election Commission and also assisted by Volunteer Democracy, to grow awareness of the importance of participating in the Regional Head Election. (2) The Regional Election Commission expects to be more aggressive in disseminating information to

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the public, especially the novice voter. It has a purpose to reduce abstentions often reduced by the public and novice voters. (3) There is a need for cooperation between institutions that hold Regional Head Elections, namely the BauBau City Election Commission, political parties, and social organizations, to improve education to the community related to regional election understanding. (4) BauBau City Bawaslu must further increase its socialization to build public awareness that they should to oversee their voting rights. the community must be involved in monitoring each stage of regional election administration. (5) Between the BauBau City *Bawaslu* and the BauBau City Election Commission and related parties in terms of Election Oversight must synergize in carrying out the implementation of regional elections, and must be independent and impartial to one of the candidates or political parties participating in the regional election so that there is no discrimination against anyone.

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