

Summary

The political system that is used in this reform era, tend to be called as democratized-participatory political system. Participation which mentioned here includes political participation in the processes of planning, taking, implementing, and monitoring of decisions or policies. Public participation may form as acceptance, acceptance with conditions, support, rejection, or giving alternative. The implementation of General Election in this reform era, which consists of Regional Head Election, Legislative Elections and the Presidential Election, were a decision-making processes through voting with a very large scale, which is called the democracy party.

Direct General Election by the people is the means of the embodiment of popular sovereignty, in order to produce a democratic state government. The implementation of the General Election by means of direct, general, free, confidential, honest, and fair, are the principles of the backrest in the realization and the learning of democracy. In the implementation of the General Election in this reform era, there are various issues that need an intensified attention, notably the tendency of the declining degree of participation in General Election, but still there are violations of law and political ethics that join it.

Learning from the experience of previous General Elections, the Legislative Elections of 1955, Indonesia's first elections in the period of parliamentary democracy, of the old order period, voters who used their voting rights were amounting to 91.41% and 98.90% of valid votes. In the new order period, the Legislative Elections had been executed six times; voters that used their voting rights and legal vote's average were above 90%. In the reform era has been held several times of General Elections. In the 1999's Legislative Election early on the reform era, voters who used their voting rights were amounting to 92.74% and 96.61% of valid votes. In the Legislative Election of 2004, declining participation rates began to appear, voters who used their voting rights were amounting to 84.07% and 91.19% of valid votes. In the 2009's Legislative Election, the degree of voter participation declined again, voters who used their voting rights were amounting to 70.96% and 85.53% of valid votes. Meanwhile, the Presidential and Vice-President Election of 2004 1st round, voters who used their voting rights were amounting to 78.23% and 97.83% of valid votes, and in the second round, voters who used their

voting rights were amounting to 76.63% and 97.94% of valid votes. The decline continues to occurred in the 2009's Presidential Election, which only lasted for one round, voters who used their voting rights were amounting to 72.56% and 94.94% of valid votes.

The reduced degree of participation in the 2004's General Elections and 2009's General Elections, both Presidential Elections and Legislative Elections, because of two factors, first, **saturation** and second, **apathy**. Public, especially voters felt bored, because of there were a lot of governance elections directly, with the same pattern, since the "Pilkades", Regional Head Elections (governors, regents, and mayors), Legislative Elections, and the Presidential Election. The emergence of voter apathy in the community especially, because some voters thought that the existing election system has not been able to create a pattern of leadership in accordance with the aspirations of the people. They acknowledged that direct General Elections are efforts to improve the appearance of leadership, in accordance with the aspirations of the people, but in the reality have not been able to run optimally. Patterns of leadership in accordance with the aspirations of the people, was the leadership that can protect and improve the life of its people, including community economic empowerment. The reduced degree of participation in elections means increasing the number (percentage) of "Golput" (non-voting).

Therefore, the public wants a change in the General Election system, so, the process and the effect of the General Election implementation is more efficient-to-use, in realizing the life of the nation-state that is democratic-participatory. Therefore, the public desired a General Election format, as follows:

- a. **First**, the implementation of Central and Regional Legislative Elections, and further the merging of Central and Regional Executive Elections. Legislative Election consists of DPR, DPD, and DPRD (provincial, district, city) such as which are already running. Then followed by the Presidential Election and Regional Head Elections (governors, regents, mayors), which is only one round.
- b. **Second**, the separation of the National General Elections (Central) and Regional General Elections. The National General Election is a combination of the Central Legislative Elections (DPR and DPD) and the Presidential Election. Regional General Elections is a combination of Legislative Elections (DPRD province, district, and

city) and the Regional Executive Election (governors, regents, mayors). National General Elections held first and then followed by the Regional General Election with a two-year time span. Those two years, were used for the preparation of the next General Election, evaluates the results of the General Elections which are already running, and reduce the saturation level of the public.

The results of the triangulation and crystallization in the 1st year study (2009), the 2nd year (2010), and the 3rd year (2011), the public tend to prefer the second model of implementation of the General elections, the separation of National General Election (Central) with Local General Elections as we have mentioned above.