

Politics of Law in Supervising Digital Disinformation During Democratic Elections in Indonesia

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This research examines the politics of law concerning the supervision of digital disinformation in democratic elections in Indonesia amid the rapid development of digital communication technology and social media platforms. The study aims to analyse the effectiveness of Indonesia's legal framework in supervising digital political communication during elections and to identify the reconstruction of legal policy necessary to maintain electoral integrity and democratic legitimacy. The spread of fake news, political propaganda, algorithmic manipulation, and artificial intelligence-generated political content has significantly influenced democratic participation and electoral processes in Indonesia. However, existing electoral and electronic information regulations remain fragmented and relatively reactive toward technological developments. This research employs normative legal research using statutory, conceptual, and comparative approaches. The statutory approach analyses regulations concerning elections and electronic information, while the conceptual approach examines theories of politics of law, democracy, and digital governance. The comparative approach compares Indonesia's legal framework with several democratic countries regarding digital election supervision. The research specification is analytical-descriptive, with data collected through library research involving primary, secondary, and tertiary legal materials. Data analysis is conducted through qualitative juridical analysis based on constitutional principles and democratic values. The results show that Indonesia's politics of law concerning digital election supervision requires adaptive legal reform through strengthening legal substance, institutional coordination, digital platform accountability, and public digital literacy. The novelty of this research lies in its analysis of digital election supervision from the perspective of politics of law by emphasizing adaptive democratic legal governance that balances freedom of expression with the protection of electoral integrity in the digital era.

Keywords: Digital Disinformation, Politics of Law, Election Supervision, Democracy, Electoral Integrity.

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1. Introduction

Democratic elections constitute an essential mechanism for implementing popular sovereignty within a constitutional state. In Indonesia, elections function not only as procedural instruments for transferring political power but also as manifestations of constitutional democracy and public participation. The development of information technology and digital communication has significantly transformed the electoral process, particularly through the increasing use of social media platforms in political campaigns and voter mobilization. According to research by General Election Commissions, digital media has become one of the dominant instruments influencing political preferences and public opinion during elections. digital transformation in electoral systems provides opportunities for broader political participation while simultaneously creating new threats to democratic integrity through the spread of disinformation and political manipulation [1][2][3].

The spread of digital disinformation during elections has become a global concern affecting democratic stability in many countries. Disinformation refers to false or manipulated information intentionally disseminated to mislead the public and influence political perceptions. [4] explains that fake news

distributed through social media platforms significantly influences voter behaviour and political polarization. Computational propaganda and coordinated disinformation campaigns increasingly threaten electoral legitimacy in democratic states [5]. In Indonesia, the phenomenon of digital disinformation became highly visible during the 2019 and 2024 elections, where online platforms were widely utilized for spreading political hoaxes, hate speech, and identity-based propaganda.

Several studies in Indonesian legal scholarship have examined the relationship between elections and digital media regulation. Imawan emphasizes that the rapid dissemination of political information through social media often exceeds the capacity of existing electoral supervisory institutions [6]. Meanwhile, Siregar argue that Indonesian electoral regulations remain fragmented in addressing digital campaign violations and online misinformation [7]. Although the Electronic Information and Transactions Law and electoral regulations provide legal foundations for controlling harmful online content, their implementation remains inconsistent and frequently overlaps with freedom of expression concerns. Consequently, legal uncertainty persists regarding the supervision of digital political communication during election periods.

From the perspective of politics of law, electoral regulation reflects state policies designed to achieve democratic objectives and constitutional order. Politics of law determines how legal frameworks are formulated, interpreted, and implemented to protect electoral fairness and democratic legitimacy. Rosenbloom et al. explains that politics of law represents the official legal direction adopted by the state in responding to social and political developments [8]. In the context of elections, politics of law plays a strategic role in balancing democratic freedoms with the need to maintain public order and prevent political disinformation. However, the current legal framework in Indonesia still encounters challenges in regulating algorithmic amplification, anonymous political campaigns, and transnational digital information networks.

Previous studies generally focus on electoral law enforcement, digital democracy, and the sociological impacts of misinformation. For example, Lim discusses how social media polarization influences democratic participation in Indonesia [9], while Erlangga Et al. analyses the effectiveness of election supervisory institutions in handling online campaign violations [10]. Nevertheless, these studies primarily emphasize technological and socio-political aspects rather than examining the broader politics of law underlying digital election regulation. There remains limited research specifically analysing how Indonesia's legal policy framework constructs supervision mechanisms for digital disinformation within democratic elections. This condition demonstrates a significant research gap in the study of politics of law and digital electoral governance.

Empirical conditions indicate that digital disinformation continues to threaten electoral integrity and democratic stability in Indonesia. The spread of fake political narratives, manipulated information, and identity-based propaganda has contributed to social polarization and declining public trust in democratic institutions. In practice, supervisory bodies frequently encounter difficulties in identifying and controlling digital disinformation due to technological limitations and weak inter-institutional coordination. These realities demonstrate a discrepancy between the ideal principles of democratic elections and actual conditions within the digital public sphere. Therefore, identifying weaknesses in Indonesia's electoral legal policy becomes increasingly important to strengthen democratic resilience and ensure fair elections in the digital era.

This study differs from previous research because it specifically examines digital election disinformation from the perspective of politics of law by emphasizing the relationship between legal policy, democratic principles, and electoral supervision in Indonesia. Unlike earlier studies focusing predominantly on sociological or technological dimensions, this article analyses how legal politics shapes the formulation and implementation of electoral regulations in responding to digital disinformation challenges. The novelty of this research lies in its focus on reconstructing legal policy directions concerning the supervision of digital

disinformation within democratic elections based on constitutional democratic principles. This research aims to analyse the politics of law concerning the supervision of digital disinformation in democratic elections in Indonesia and to evaluate the effectiveness of existing legal frameworks in protecting electoral integrity in the digital era.

2. Literature Review And Problem Statement

Politics of law constitutes the official legal policy adopted by the state in determining the direction of legal development to achieve constitutional objectives, democratic governance, and public welfare. In the context of democratic elections, politics of law serves as the foundation for regulating electoral processes, protecting political rights, and maintaining electoral integrity. Electoral regulations are not merely procedural instruments but also reflect the state's commitment to ensuring fairness, transparency, and accountability within democratic governance. Therefore, the effectiveness of election supervision depends significantly on how legal policies are formulated and implemented in response to contemporary political and technological developments.

The rapid expansion of digital communication technologies has transformed electoral processes worldwide. Social media platforms have become primary channels for political campaigns, public deliberation, and voter mobilization. While digital technologies enhance political participation and information accessibility, they also create opportunities for the dissemination of digital disinformation. Wardle and Derakhshan define disinformation as false or manipulated information intentionally disseminated to mislead the public and influence political perceptions [1]. Similarly, Allcott and Gentzkow found that fake news distributed through digital platforms can significantly affect voter behavior, political trust, and democratic decision-making [4]. Consequently, digital disinformation has emerged as a serious challenge to electoral integrity in modern democracies.

The concept of digital democracy emphasizes the increasing role of digital technologies in facilitating democratic participation and political communication. According to Castells, networked communication systems have transformed traditional political interactions by enabling direct engagement between citizens and political actors. However, the same technological infrastructure also facilitates computational propaganda, algorithmic manipulation, and coordinated disinformation campaigns. Bradshaw and Howard (2018) argue that digital platforms can be exploited to shape public opinion through automated bots, targeted messaging, and algorithmic amplification. These developments demonstrate that democratic governance in the digital era requires not only technological innovation but also effective legal and institutional safeguards.

Legal supervision of digital elections has therefore become an essential component of contemporary democratic governance. Effective supervision requires comprehensive legal frameworks, institutional coordination, technological capacity, and platform accountability. In Indonesia, election supervision is regulated through electoral legislation and electronic information regulations; however, existing legal frameworks remain fragmented and have not fully adapted to emerging challenges such as anonymous political campaigns, artificial intelligence-generated content, deepfake technology, and algorithmic political manipulation. As a result, significant legal and institutional challenges persist in ensuring fair and democratic elections within the digital public sphere, highlighting the need for adaptive legal reform and stronger digital election governance.

Problem Statement

The rapid development of digital communication technology has significantly transformed the implementation of democratic elections in Indonesia. Social media platforms, algorithmic information

systems, and artificial intelligence have expanded opportunities for political participation while simultaneously increasing the spread of digital disinformation. During recent elections, various forms of political hoaxes, manipulated information, hate speech, and identity-based propaganda have circulated widely through digital platforms, influencing public opinion and potentially undermining electoral integrity. These conditions indicate that digital disinformation has become a serious challenge to democratic governance and election supervision in the digital era.

Although Indonesia has established legal instruments through Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning General Elections and Law Number 19 of 2016 concerning Electronic Information and Transactions, the existing legal framework remains fragmented and relatively reactive in addressing digital electoral challenges. Current regulations have not comprehensively regulated algorithmic political manipulation, anonymous digital campaigns, coordinated disinformation networks, deepfake technology, and artificial intelligence-generated political content. In addition, overlapping institutional authorities and weak coordination among supervisory bodies create legal uncertainty and reduce the effectiveness of election oversight in the digital environment.

Previous studies have generally focused on the sociological, technological, and communication aspects of digital disinformation, while limited attention has been given to the politics of law underlying the regulation and supervision of digital electoral communication in Indonesia. Consequently, a research gap remains regarding how legal policy frameworks are constructed, implemented, and reformed to address the growing threats of digital disinformation during elections. Based on these conditions, this study seeks to analyse the politics of law concerning the supervision of digital disinformation in democratic elections in Indonesia, identify the legal and institutional challenges that hinder effective supervision, and formulate recommendations for reconstructing adaptive legal policies capable of safeguarding electoral integrity and democratic legitimacy in the digital era.

3. Method

This research employs normative legal research focusing on the analysis of legal norms, legal principles, statutory regulations, and legal doctrines related to the supervision of digital disinformation in democratic elections in Indonesia. Normative legal research is appropriate because this study examines legal policies and the politics of law governing electoral supervision within the digital public sphere. According to Soekanto and Mamudji normative legal research emphasizes the examination of legal systems through legislation, legal concepts, and doctrinal analysis to identify legal consistency and legal certainty [11]. The approach methods applied in this study consist of statutory, conceptual, and comparative approaches. The statutory approach examines laws and regulations concerning elections and electronic information, while the conceptual approach analyses theories of politics of law, democratic governance, electoral integrity, and digital disinformation. The comparative approach is utilized to compare Indonesia's legal framework with international legal approaches concerning the regulation of digital election disinformation. According to Marzuki conceptual and comparative approaches are important in constructing comprehensive legal arguments within normative legal studies [12]. The research specification used is analytical-descriptive, aiming to systematically describe and critically analyse the effectiveness of legal policies concerning digital election supervision.

The data used in this research consist of primary, secondary, and tertiary legal materials. Primary legal materials include the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, laws and regulations concerning elections and electronic information, and decisions of the Constitutional Court related to electoral disputes and democratic rights. Secondary legal materials include books, scientific journals, and previous studies discussing politics of law, digital democracy, and election supervision. Tertiary legal materials include legal

dictionaries, encyclopaedias, and supporting academic references. Data collection is conducted through library research by examining legislation, scientific literature, and relevant academic publications. The data analysis method used in this research is qualitative juridical analysis, in which legal materials are systematically classified, interpreted, and analysed based on constitutional principles, democratic values, and legal theories related to election supervision in the digital era. This method aims to evaluate the effectiveness and consistency of legal policies concerning digital disinformation in democratic elections in Indonesia.

4. Results and Discussion

Politics of Law in the Regulation of Digital Elections in Indonesia

The politics of law concerning elections in Indonesia reflects the state's constitutional commitment to maintaining democratic governance, electoral justice, and public participation. The regulation of elections in Indonesia is primarily governed by Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning General Elections, Law Number 19 of 2016 concerning Electronic Information and Transactions, and several implementing regulations related to digital communication and political campaigns. The rapid expansion of digital technology has transformed electoral practices, particularly in political campaigns and voter interaction through social media platforms. Digital platforms provide broader opportunities for political participation and democratic engagement; however, they simultaneously create challenges associated with disinformation, hate speech, and political manipulation. Politics of law represents the direction of state legal policy established to achieve constitutional objectives and social order [13]. In the context of elections, the politics of law determines how legal frameworks are formulated to ensure fair, transparent, and democratic electoral processes. Similarly, Epstein et al. argues that democratic legal systems must adapt to technological developments to maintain constitutional order and public trust in democratic institutions [14].

The transformation of elections into digitally mediated political processes has significantly altered patterns of political participation and information dissemination. Social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and X have become central instruments for political campaigns, voter mobilization, and public opinion formation. Digital communication networks have reshaped democratic participation by enabling more direct and decentralized political interaction [15]. However, this condition also increases the vulnerability of democratic systems to digital disinformation and political propaganda. Bradshaw et al. explains that computational propaganda and coordinated misinformation campaigns have increasingly become instruments for influencing voter behaviour in democratic states [5]. Likewise, Wardle and Derakhshan emphasize that disinformation ecosystems thrive in digital environments due to algorithmic amplification and the rapid circulation of emotionally provocative content [1]. In Indonesia, these phenomena became increasingly visible during the 2019 and 2024 elections, where online political narratives frequently triggered social polarization, identity politics conflicts, and public misinformation.

From the perspective of politics of law, the Indonesian government has attempted to regulate digital electoral activities through several legal instruments; however, these regulations remain fragmented and relatively reactive. Existing legal provisions mainly focus on conventional electoral violations and have not comprehensively addressed anonymous political campaigns, algorithmic political manipulation, artificial intelligence-generated content, and coordinated digital propaganda networks. Indonesian electoral regulations still experience normative overlap between election law and electronic information law, resulting in legal uncertainty regarding the supervision of digital political communication [7]. This overlap often creates inconsistencies in law enforcement because different institutions possess intersecting authorities concerning online political content. Consequently, supervisory institutions encounter difficulties in determining the boundaries between legitimate political expression and unlawful digital disinformation.

Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning General Elections does not specifically regulate algorithmic political manipulation, anonymous digital campaigning, or artificial intelligence-generated political content during election periods. Similarly, the Electronic Information and Transactions Law primarily focuses on general electronic offenses without providing specific legal standards regarding electoral disinformation. This normative gap creates legal uncertainty concerning the categorization, supervision, and enforcement of digital campaign violations during elections.

The weakness of Indonesia's digital electoral regulation also reflects broader structural challenges within the national legal system. The politics of law governing digital elections tends to prioritize repressive legal responses after violations occur rather than preventive regulatory mechanisms capable of minimizing the spread of disinformation before it affects public opinion. The effectiveness of legal systems depends on the interaction between legal substance, legal structure, and legal culture [16]. In Indonesia, these three components remain insufficiently integrated in addressing digital election problems. Legal substance remains incomplete because regulations have not specifically accommodated technological developments such as deepfake technology, automated political bots, and cross-platform algorithmic propaganda. From the institutional perspective, coordination among General Election Commissions, General Election Supervisory Body, and other law enforcement agencies frequently encounters procedural and jurisdictional limitations. Meanwhile, the legal culture of digital society remains vulnerable to political misinformation due to low digital literacy and high emotional polarization.

In addition, the current politics of law concerning digital elections continues to face a constitutional dilemma between protecting democratic freedoms and controlling harmful online content. The regulation of digital political communication must balance freedom of expression, guaranteed under the constitution, with the state's responsibility to maintain electoral integrity and democratic stability. Tenore excessive state intervention in digital communication may threaten democratic discourse and civil liberties, whereas weak regulation may facilitate the uncontrolled spread of disinformation capable of undermining democracy itself [17]. This dilemma is evident in Indonesia, where the enforcement of the Electronic Information and Transactions Law has frequently generated controversy due to concerns regarding selective enforcement and restrictions on freedom of speech. Therefore, the politics of law regulating digital elections should not merely emphasize punitive approaches but also develop proportional, transparent, and accountable legal mechanisms consistent with constitutional democratic principles.

Furthermore, comparative practices in several democratic countries demonstrate that adaptive legal reform is essential for maintaining electoral integrity in the digital era. The European Union, for example, has strengthened regulations concerning digital platform accountability and political advertising transparency through the Digital Services Act. Marsden et al. explains that democratic states increasingly recognize the necessity of collaborative governance involving governments, digital platforms, civil society, and independent supervisory institutions to combat election disinformation effectively [18]. Indonesia can adopt similar approaches by strengthening institutional cooperation, improving digital literacy programs, and establishing clearer legal standards concerning digital campaign supervision. Consequently, the politics of law in Indonesia requires comprehensive and adaptive legal reform capable of responding to technological developments while simultaneously maintaining constitutional democratic principles, electoral fairness, and freedom of expression.

Legal Challenges in Supervising Digital Disinformation During Elections

The supervision of digital disinformation during elections presents significant legal and institutional challenges in Indonesia. The increasing spread of false political information through digital platforms has contributed to social polarization, declining public trust, and threats to electoral integrity. In practice, supervisory institutions such as General Election Supervisory Body and General Elections Commission

frequently encounter difficulties in identifying and controlling disinformation due to the rapid circulation of online content and the anonymous nature of digital communication. According to Allcott and Gentzkow fake news disseminated through social media significantly affects voter perception and democratic participation [4]. Similar conditions have emerged in Indonesia, where digital disinformation often contains identity politics narratives, manipulated political content, and misleading electoral information. Lim further explains that the Indonesian digital public sphere has become increasingly vulnerable to political polarization because social media algorithms tend to amplify sensational and emotionally charged content [9]. This condition demonstrates that digital elections are no longer limited to procedural democratic activities but have transformed into highly contested informational spaces influenced by technological structures and political interests.

According to data published by the Ministry of Communication and Informatics, hundreds of election-related hoaxes were identified during the 2019 and 2024 electoral periods, particularly involving identity politics, electoral fraud allegations, and manipulated political narratives. This condition demonstrates that digital disinformation has become a systematic threat capable of influencing democratic participation and public trust in electoral institutions.

The rapid development of information technology has significantly complicated the supervision of digital election activities. Unlike conventional campaign violations, digital disinformation spreads quickly across multiple platforms and frequently involves anonymous actors operating through fake accounts, automated bots, and coordinated cyber networks. According to Bradshaw et al. computational propaganda utilizes automation, big data, and algorithmic manipulation to shape public opinion and influence electoral behaviour [5]. In Indonesia, the emergence of buzzer networks and coordinated political cyber campaigns during elections indicates that digital political communication has become increasingly organized and difficult to supervise through conventional legal mechanisms. This phenomenon reveals that the existing legal framework has not fully adapted to technological developments affecting democratic processes. As a result, electoral supervisory institutions often experience delays in detecting, verifying, and responding to online disinformation before it spreads widely among the public.

From a legal perspective, one of the primary challenges in supervising digital disinformation lies in the fragmentation and overlap of regulatory frameworks. Indonesia currently relies on several legal instruments, including Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning General Elections and Law Number 19 of 2016 concerning Electronic Information and Transactions. However, these regulations often overlap in determining institutional authority and legal enforcement mechanisms concerning online political content. The absence of specific legal standards regarding digital campaign violations creates normative ambiguity and weakens the effectiveness of election supervision [19]. This overlap also generates institutional conflicts between election supervisory bodies, law enforcement agencies, and ministries responsible for digital communication governance. Consequently, the implementation of digital election supervision tends to be inconsistent and reactive rather than preventive and systematic.

During the 2019 Indonesian election, several disinformation cases demonstrated the weakness of existing regulatory mechanisms, including the spread of false narratives concerning seven containers of pre-marked ballots and manipulated vote-counting information circulated through social media platforms. These cases revealed that electoral supervisory institutions lacked rapid digital verification mechanisms and effective coordination systems for handling large-scale online misinformation.

Another crucial challenge concerns the tension between controlling digital disinformation and protecting constitutional rights, particularly freedom of expression. Democratic systems fundamentally guarantee citizens' rights to express opinions and participate in political discourse. However, unrestricted digital communication can facilitate the spread of harmful misinformation capable of threatening democratic

stability. Democratic states face a constitutional dilemma in balancing civil liberties with the need to prevent the destructive impacts of digital disinformation [19]. In Indonesia, the enforcement of the Electronic Information and Transactions Law frequently generates controversy because several provisions are considered vulnerable to selective interpretation and potential misuse against political criticism. This condition creates public distrust toward digital law enforcement and raises concerns regarding state overreach in regulating online political discourse. Therefore, legal supervision of digital elections must emphasize proportionality, accountability, and transparency to prevent violations of democratic freedoms.

The challenge of digital election supervision is also closely related to institutional and technological limitations. Supervisory institutions often lack adequate technological infrastructure and human resources capable of monitoring large-scale digital information flows in real time. Network society structures enable information to spread rapidly beyond traditional territorial and institutional boundaries, making state supervision increasingly complex [15]. In Indonesia, coordination among General Elections Supervisory Agency, General Elections Commission, law enforcement agencies, and digital platform providers remains relatively weak in addressing online electoral violations. Moreover, global digital platforms such as Meta, TikTok, and X operate across jurisdictions, creating additional difficulties in enforcing national legal regulations. This situation demonstrates that election supervision in the digital era requires not only legal reform but also institutional modernization and technological adaptation.

Furthermore, the emergence of artificial intelligence-generated content and deepfake technology has intensified the complexity of digital disinformation during elections. Artificial intelligence can produce realistic audio, video, and visual manipulations capable of misleading voters and damaging political reputations. Deepfake technology poses serious threats to democratic systems because manipulated digital content can rapidly influence public perception before verification mechanisms are implemented [20]. Indonesia currently lacks comprehensive regulations specifically governing the use of artificial intelligence in political campaigns and digital electoral communication. Consequently, the existing legal framework remains inadequate in anticipating future technological threats capable of undermining electoral integrity and democratic legitimacy.

From the perspective of politics of law, these challenges indicate that Indonesia's current legal policy concerning digital election supervision remains largely reactive and fragmented. The state's legal orientation still focuses primarily on punitive law enforcement after violations occur rather than developing preventive governance mechanisms capable of minimizing the spread of disinformation before it affects electoral processes. Effective legal systems require harmony between legal substance, legal structure, and legal culture [16]. In the context of Indonesia's digital elections, these three elements have not yet functioned optimally. Legal substance remains incomplete, institutional structures experience coordination problems, and public legal culture remains vulnerable to misinformation due to low digital literacy levels. Therefore, stronger institutional coordination, adaptive legal reform, technological modernization, and improved digital literacy are necessary to ensure effective, democratic, and constitutionally balanced supervision of digital electoral information in Indonesia.

This research finds that Indonesia's current legal framework concerning digital election supervision suffers from three principal weaknesses: normative fragmentation between election law and electronic information law, weak institutional coordination among supervisory agencies, and the absence of specific regulations governing algorithmic political manipulation and artificial intelligence-generated political content. These weaknesses significantly reduce the effectiveness of democratic election supervision in the digital era.

Reconstruction of Legal Policy for Democratic Digital Election Supervision

The increasing complexity of digital disinformation requires the reconstruction of Indonesia's legal policy concerning election supervision in the digital era. Legal reform is necessary to strengthen electoral integrity while ensuring the protection of constitutional rights and democratic freedoms. The reconstruction of legal policy should emphasize the principles of transparency, accountability, proportionality, and legal certainty in regulating digital political communication. Effective law enforcement requires harmony between legal substance, legal structure, and legal culture [21]. In the context of digital elections, these three elements must function collectively to prevent disinformation and maintain public trust in democratic institutions. Similarly, Schiff explains that the effectiveness of a legal system depends on the interaction between legal norms, institutional structures, and societal legal awareness [22]. This theoretical framework demonstrates that legal reconstruction concerning digital elections should not focus solely on regulatory reform but must also include institutional strengthening and the development of democratic digital culture.

The current politics of law concerning digital election supervision in Indonesia remains predominantly reactive and fragmented. Existing regulations tend to prioritize punitive law enforcement after violations occur rather than establishing preventive governance mechanisms capable of minimizing the spread of digital disinformation before it influences public opinion. The politics of law should function as a strategic instrument for directing legal development toward constitutional objectives and social justice [23]. However, Indonesia's existing electoral legal framework still encounters normative gaps concerning algorithmic political manipulation, anonymous digital campaigns, deepfake technology, and artificial intelligence-generated political content. These legal gaps indicate that current regulations have not fully adapted to the transformation of democratic participation in the digital era. Consequently, the reconstruction of legal policy becomes essential to create adaptive legal governance capable of responding to technological developments while maintaining democratic principles and constitutional freedoms.

One of the fundamental aspects requiring reconstruction is the regulation of digital political campaigns and political advertising on social media platforms. Electoral regulations should explicitly regulate campaign transparency, digital political advertising accountability, algorithmic recommendation systems, and the use of artificial intelligence in political communication. Contemporary democratic threats increasingly emerge from disinformation networks supported by digital platform infrastructures and algorithmic amplification systems [24]. In Indonesia, political disinformation often spreads through coordinated buzzer networks and anonymous accounts that exploit algorithmic systems to maximize public exposure. Existing regulations remain inadequate in addressing these practices because they primarily focus on conventional campaign violations rather than technologically mediated political manipulation. Therefore, Indonesia requires more comprehensive electoral regulations capable of imposing accountability obligations on digital platforms involved in political information dissemination.

Future legal reform should include the establishment of specific regulations concerning artificial intelligence-generated political content, mandatory transparency obligations for digital political advertising, and algorithmic accountability mechanisms for social media platforms operating during election periods. Indonesia should also consider establishing a specialized digital election monitoring unit integrating election supervisory institutions, digital forensic experts, and cyber law enforcement authorities to improve rapid response mechanisms against electoral disinformation.

The reconstruction of legal policy must also strengthen institutional coordination among supervisory and law enforcement bodies. In practice, coordination between General Elections Commission, General Elections Supervisory Agency, the Ministry of Communication and Digital Affairs, and law enforcement agencies often experiences procedural overlap and jurisdictional uncertainty. Overlapping institutional authority weakens the effectiveness of digital election supervision and creates inconsistency in handling

online electoral violations [25]. This condition indicates the need for clearer institutional mechanisms concerning authority distribution, monitoring procedures, and digital evidence verification. Furthermore, supervisory institutions require technological modernization and specialized digital forensic capacities to effectively monitor large-scale online political communication. Without institutional modernization, electoral supervision will remain incapable of responding to the rapid circulation of digital disinformation during election periods.

Another important aspect of legal policy reconstruction concerns the protection of constitutional rights and democratic freedoms. The supervision of digital elections must maintain a balance between controlling harmful disinformation and protecting freedom of expression guaranteed by the constitution. Democratic states face a constitutional dilemma because excessive regulation of online communication may threaten civil liberties, whereas weak regulation may enable democratic manipulation through disinformation [17]. In Indonesia, the implementation of the Electronic Information and Transactions Law frequently generates criticism because certain provisions are perceived as vulnerable to selective enforcement and political misuse. Consequently, future legal reform should prioritize clearer legal standards, proportional enforcement mechanisms, and transparent judicial oversight to prevent abuse of power in digital election supervision. This approach is essential to maintain public trust and democratic legitimacy within Indonesia's constitutional system.

In addition, the reconstruction of legal policy should prioritize preventive approaches through digital literacy development and public legal awareness. Digital disinformation cannot be addressed solely through repressive legal mechanisms because technological manipulation often exploits low levels of public digital literacy and emotional polarization within society. Combating disinformation requires collaborative governance involving governments, technology companies, academic institutions, civil society, and the public [1]. Similarly, Castells argues that democratic resilience in network societies depends heavily on citizens' ability to critically evaluate digital information [15]. In Indonesia, digital literacy programs remain relatively limited and unevenly distributed, particularly in regions with restricted access to educational resources and technological infrastructure. Therefore, strengthening public digital literacy should become an integral component of Indonesia's politics of law concerning democratic digital election supervision.

Comparative experiences from several democratic countries also demonstrate the importance of adaptive and collaborative legal governance in addressing election disinformation. The European Union has introduced the Digital Services Act to strengthen digital platform accountability, political advertising transparency, and user protection against harmful online content. Meanwhile, countries such as Germany and France have implemented stricter mechanisms for supervising online political campaigns and combating digital hate speech during elections. According to Bradshaw et al. democratic states increasingly recognize that digital disinformation constitutes not only a technological problem but also a threat to constitutional democracy and political stability [5]. Indonesia can adopt similar approaches by developing integrated digital supervision mechanisms, strengthening cross-sector institutional cooperation, and improving accountability standards for technology companies operating within Indonesian jurisdiction.

Therefore, the reconstruction of Indonesia's politics of law concerning digital election supervision should emphasize comprehensive and adaptive legal reform capable of responding to technological developments and democratic challenges in the digital era. Legal policy reform must integrate stronger legal substance, more effective institutional structures, and democratic digital culture to maintain electoral integrity and constitutional legitimacy. The reconstruction of legal policy should not merely function as a repressive instrument for controlling digital communication but must also serve as a democratic governance mechanism protecting constitutional rights, strengthening public trust, and ensuring fair and transparent elections in Indonesia's evolving digital society.

5. Conclusion

The politics of law concerning the supervision of digital disinformation in democratic elections in Indonesia demonstrates that existing electoral regulations remain fragmented, reactive, and insufficiently adaptive to technological developments within the digital public sphere. The rapid expansion of social media, algorithmic political communication, artificial intelligence-generated content, and coordinated disinformation networks has created significant challenges for maintaining electoral integrity, democratic legitimacy, and constitutional order. This research specifically identifies three principal legal weaknesses in Indonesia's supervision of digital election disinformation: the absence of comprehensive regulation concerning artificial intelligence-generated political content, weak inter-institutional coordination, and the lack of digital platform accountability mechanisms. These conditions indicate that the reconstruction of legal policy is necessary through the strengthening of legal substance, institutional coordination, digital platform accountability, and public digital literacy based on the principles of transparency, proportionality, accountability, and constitutional democracy. The novelty of this research lies in its analysis of digital election supervision from the perspective of politics of law by emphasizing that effective supervision of digital disinformation requires not only repressive legal enforcement but also adaptive democratic legal governance capable of balancing freedom of expression with the protection of fair and democratic elections in Indonesia.

Nevertheless, this study is limited by its normative legal research approach, which focuses on the analysis of legal norms, regulations, and legal doctrines without empirically examining the implementation and effectiveness of digital election supervision mechanisms in practice. Furthermore, the study does not comprehensively assess the perspectives of electoral management bodies, digital platform providers, civil society organizations, or voters regarding the challenges of combating digital disinformation during elections. Therefore, future research is encouraged to employ empirical and interdisciplinary approaches integrating legal, political, communication, and technological perspectives to evaluate the effectiveness of existing supervisory mechanisms, digital platform accountability, and public digital literacy initiatives. Further studies may also explore the regulatory implications of emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence-generated political content, deepfake technology, and algorithmic political advertising, to support the development of more adaptive and evidence-based legal policies for safeguarding electoral integrity and democratic governance in Indonesia.

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