

## Presidential Candidate Figures Towards the Vision of Advanced Indonesia 2045

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### Abstract

Achieving the Vision of Advanced Indonesia 2045 can only be achieved through a quality leadership and development planning process. Therefore, the presidential election in 2024 as part of the development planning process is important to make development implementation successful. This research is quantitative descriptive. Data collection techniques in this research took the form of online surveys and interviews. The respondents in this research were students of the Islamic Economics Study Program, Faculty of Islamic Economics and Business, UIN Walisongo Semarang who had taken the Development Planning Course. The research results show that respondents consider the economic and industrial sectors, as well as human resource development, especially the education sector, to be the main focus in the RPJMN for the 2025-2029 period. Thus, a state leader is needed who has an honest and trustworthy character, as well as being intelligent and innovative in carrying out national development priorities. The majority of respondents view track record as one of the considerations in choosing a presidential candidate. Respondents obtained most of the information regarding presidential candidates from the internet.

### Keywords

Development Planning; Presidential Election; Presidential Figure

### INTRODUCTION

Achieving the Vision of Advanced Indonesia 2045 can only be achieved with a quality development planning process. A quality development planning process is needed so that development can be carried out well, effectively, efficiently, fairly and evenly. In economics, development planning is needed because the resources owned by the government are limited, while the resources needed to carry out development are unlimited (scarcity). Therefore, with the limited resources the country has, the development process must be carried out in accordance with priorities to achieve certain planned goals. Development planning can be interpreted as a comprehensive process of thought and

determination that has been considered in such a way, and arranged systematically to achieve certain goals, at a predetermined time for the future (Soekartawi, 1990).

General elections are an important stage in the development planning process. As stated in the law, there are four approaches to the development planning process, namely political, technocratic, top-down and bottom-up approaches (Undang-Undang Nomor 25 Tahun 2004 Tentang Sistem Perencanaan Pembangunan Nasional, 2004). Based on a political approach, holding elections, both legislative and executive, is part of the development planning process. As a result of amendments to the 1945 Constitution which no longer applies GBHN (Outline of State

Policy), then mandated the president who was directly elected by the people to draw up development plans based on law.

2024 is a political year. In 2024, elections will be held to elect the president, DPR, DPD, DPRD and regional heads. The political approach in development planning sees that presidential election is one of the stages in the process of preparing development plans. In this case, the public participates in determining their choice, based on the vision, mission and development work program offered by each presidential candidate. Thus, the national development plan is ultimately an elaboration or realization of the development agenda offered by the elected president. This conception causes contestation in the election of a national leader (president) to become an important factor in determining the future of national development plans (Wahanu, 2007).

The success of implementing national development can be determined by the leadership figure and character of the president as head of government. Leadership is everything about how to influence other people, subordinates or followers to achieve the goals desired by the leader (Suyanto, 2018). Therefore, a government organization will be able to run well if its leaders have a high sense of responsibility for the mandate they receive. The character of a responsible leader is one of the characteristics of ideal leadership. A leader must also be intelligent, so that he can always choose the most appropriate option in solving every problem faced (Sahadi et al., 2020). Apart from being responsible and intelligent, leaders must also have the ability to build good communication, both with subordinates and with other parties.

Research related to the perception of the leadership style of Indonesian presidential candidates has been conducted before, one of which is research entitled "Millennial

Perceptions of the Leadership Style of Presidential Candidates in 2024" conducted by Pramelani and Widyastuti (2021). The results of his research show that the criteria for candidates for state leadership chosen by the millennial generation are having a popular and democratic leadership style, having good interactive communication skills, having the ability to motivate, as well as the ability to analyze problems and make good decisions quickly and have good management skills based on the experience he has (Pramelani & Widyastuti, 2021). Previously, Syugiarto and Mangngasing (2018) conducted research on the leadership style of the Indonesian president. The results of his research show that each elected Indonesian president has his own leadership style (Syugiarto & Mangngasing, 2018). Meanwhile Hermanto et al. (2020) examined the influence of issues, figures, track records and political parties on voter participation. The results of his research show that the variables of issues, figures, track records and political parties have an influence on voter participation (Hermanto et al., 2020). Several studies show different results, where each voter has their own considerations in determining which presidential candidate they will choose.

Referring to this background, researchers are interested in conducting research with the title "Presidential Candidate Figures Towards the Vision of Advanced Indonesia 2045". The aim of this research is to find out how students perceive the criteria for a candidate for President of Indonesia as a leader in implementing national development for the 2024-2029 period. The novelty of previous research is that apart from highlighting the figure of a presidential candidate, this research also focuses on appropriate development policies from the perspective of students who already have scientific knowledge, namely the development planning course.

## RESEARCH METHOD

Based on the data collected, this research is quantitative descriptive research in the form of an online survey. The questionnaire was prepared in Google Form media which was then distributed on October 3 2023 to respondents via the WhatsApp group application media. The respondents in this research were fifth semester students of the Islamic Economics Study Program, Faculty of Islamic Economics and Business, UIN Walisongo Semarang who had taken the Development Planning Course, namely 145 students. The reason for selecting respondents using these criteria was because students had taken Development Planning courses, so they had knowledge related to state development planning and understood the concepts, processes and strategies of development planning (Pambudi, 2022). The survey results obtained are presented in diagram form, then analyzed directly to obtain a general picture, information and hopes for the future of development in Indonesia from the respondent's perspective.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Focus of Indonesian Development Policy for 2025-2029

With greater challenges ahead, the 2025-2045 RPJPN has a higher development target than before. The National Medium Term Development Plan (RPJMN) 2025-2029 is the initial basis for achieving the targets of the National Long Term Development Plan (RPJPN) 2025-2045. The implementation of the 2025-2029 RPJMN led by the elected president in the 2024 election will be the basis or starting point for achieving the target of the Advanced Indonesia Vision 2045.

Based on the results of a survey conducted on respondents, namely students of the Islamic Economics Study Program who have taken the Development Planning

course at the Faculty of Islamic Economics and Business, UIN Walisongo Semarang, respondents have opinions regarding the main emphasis or focus of development carried out by the Indonesian government in 2025-2029 which is summarized in Chart 1.



Based on Chart 1, it can be seen that almost half of the respondents (49 percent) have the same thoughts, namely that they want Indonesia to focus more on development in the economic and industrial sectors. This answer is very reasonable, considering that the respondent is an economics student who understands the importance of developing the economic and industrial sectors for the welfare of society. Based on data obtained by the Badan Pusat Statistik (Indonesian Central Statistics Agency), employment conditions in 2022 show that the trade and industrial sector is the sector that absorbs the most workers, below the agricultural sector. These results are in line with previous research which states that the number of industrial companies has a significant and positive influence on economic growth (Siahaan, 2019).

The second most common answer among respondents was that they want transformation in the education sector. There were 30 percent of respondents who answered that development in the

education sector must be further improved and become the main focus of future development. In the era of open information, respondents can find out and compare that education in Indonesia is relatively behind compared to other countries. The effectiveness of the use of education funds, which has reached 20 percent, needs to be increased to accelerate the development of the education sector. This problem is important to follow up, considering that the quality of human resources is the main capital in implementing national development. This result is different from previous research findings which stated that government spending in the education sector did not strengthen the influence of economic growth on the human development index (Wardana, 2016).

Law enforcement and good governance were chosen by 12 percent of respondents to be the focus of development in the next government period. According to the World Bank, good governance is the implementation of solid and responsible development management, and in line with the principles of democracy and efficient markets, avoiding misallocation of investment funds, and preventing corruption both politically and administratively, implementing budget discipline and creating legal and political framework for the growth of business activities (Isabela, 2022). There are still many cases of corruption, collusion and nepotism in state institutions, poor public services and unfair law enforcement are examples of problems that make respondents consider it important to focus on development in the future.

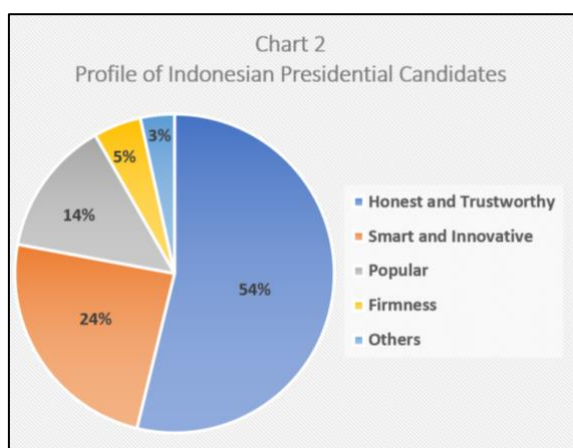
Apart from these three answers, there were still a few respondents who had other answers, namely 9 percent. Respondents, among others, wanted the government to focus more on development in the fields of

health, agriculture, the environment and several other sectors in the future, where all respondents' answers amounted to 9 percent.

With the answers above, it can be interpreted that the respondents are very aware that economic and industrial transformation that applies environmentally friendly concepts in order to achieve the Vision of Advanced Indonesia 2045 must be the main focus in order to realize community welfare and quality human resources, as well as good infrastructure and public services. This is very much in line with the Indonesian Vision 2045 which is directed at realizing Indonesia as a developed, just and prosperous country within the framework of the unity of the Republic of Indonesia (Bappenas/Kementerian PPN, 2019).

### **Figure of Indonesian Presidential Candidate**

In 2024, Indonesia will hold general elections, one of which is the presidential election for the 2024-2029 period. To be able to realize the Vision of Advanced Indonesia 2045, the character and leadership style of a president is needed who is able to lead the course of government in accordance with the nation's conditions in order to carry out the national development process. The profile, character and leadership style of a presidential candidate can be supporting factors for the success of development implementation. Below Chart 2 are the results of a survey regarding the figure of a presidential candidate that Indonesia needs to implement national development from a student perspective.



Based on the survey results, 54 percent of respondents considered an honest and trustworthy president to be what is most needed to lead Indonesia in 2024 - 2029. Honesty and trustworthiness are indicators of religiosity. A leader who has a high level of religiosity will transform into a person who has a high level of faith and devotion, thus making him a person who is devout, honest, trustworthy and responsible in his work. This honest and trustworthy figure can be seen from his track record. Respondents, who in this case are students of the Islamic Economics Study Program, really understand the importance of character which is the main capital of a leader. This is as explained in the Qur'an, Surah Annisa: 58, which means: *"Indeed, Allah commands you to convey trust to those who are entitled to receive it, and (commands you) when you determine a law between people, you must determine it fairly"* (Kementerian Agama RI, 2019).

The second largest respondent's answer, namely 24 percent, was intelligent and innovative character. Respondents assessed that a presidential candidate who is intelligent and has a high level of innovation is a competency that Indonesia needs as a solution to all its problems. State leaders must be intelligent, not only intellectually, but also must have emotional and spiritual intelligence. This is as explained by HR. Bukhari No. 6015, *"If something is not left to*

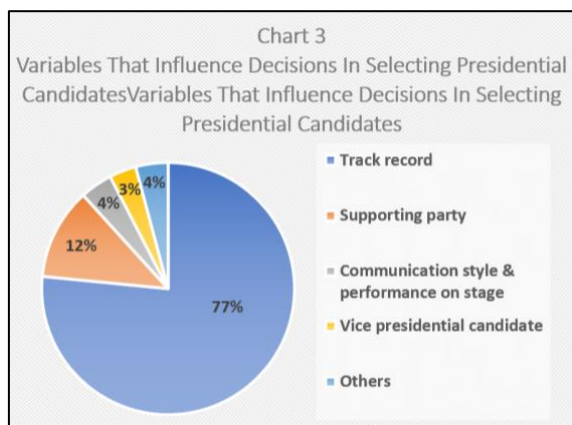
*the experts, then expect destruction"* (Jahari & Rusdiana, 2021). Various unresolved problems such as poverty, unemployment, high inflation, food and energy scarcity, national disintegration, nature conservation and many other problems require high levels of intelligence and innovation to create breakthrough solutions to accelerate problem resolution.

There were only 14 percent of respondents who chose that populist character should remain the leadership style that must be present in the Indonesian president. Popular leadership style can be interpreted as a leader's attitude that is democratic, not anti-criticism, and has good abilities in building communication with the community. In the era of digitalization, a leader's populist attitude can be seen in the style of using social media by presidential candidates.

There are 5 percent of respondents who want a firm leader. The assertiveness of a leader can be seen from his educational background and previous work, as well as his appearance and speaking style. The small number of respondents who chose this answer could be due to respondents' concerns that the president's firm leadership style could turn into an authoritarian leader and not give people freedom to carry out activities or express opinions. Meanwhile, the remaining 3 percent want Indonesia to be led by a president with other criteria in the next period. From some of the respondents' answers above, it can be seen that the situation in the 2024 presidential election will be slightly different from the 2019 presidential election, where in Widiastuti's research (2019) which examined the President's Image on Social Media, the result was that Joko Widodo as the elected president was represented as a simple and popular leader (Widiastuti, 2019).

### Variables that Influence Decisions in Selecting Presidential Candidates

Many variables influence a person in determining their choice of presidential candidate. Different presidential backgrounds such as regional origin, religion, occupation, political party, age, etc. will be taken into consideration by respondents in choosing a presidential candidate. Meanwhile, the vision and mission variables for presidential candidates were not presented for respondents to choose from, because at the time the survey was conducted no vision and mission for presidential candidates had yet been officially announced.



As can be seen in Chart 3, in determining their choice of presidential candidate, 77 percent of respondents based it on the presidential candidate's track record. Respondents considered it important to pay attention to the track record of presidential candidates before deciding to understand the capacity of a presidential candidate. By looking at the track record, respondents can find out the character and competence of the president.

Apart from basing it on track record, there were 12 percent of respondents who based their choice of presidential candidate on their political party. This could indicate that the votes obtained by political parties are not the same as the votes obtained by

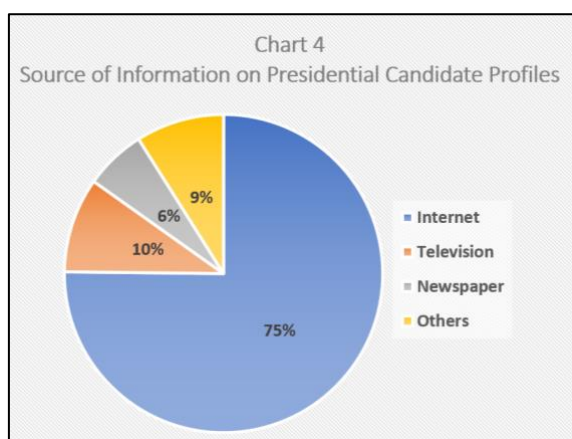
presidential candidates. So the size of the presidential candidate's supporting coalition does not really affect the electability of a presidential candidate. Meanwhile, a small portion of respondents, namely 11 percent of respondents, based their choice of presidential candidate on communication style and appearance, who the vice-presidential partner is, regional origin, age, and other variables.

Based on the answers above, it can be concluded that research respondents can be categorized as rational potential voters. Therefore, these findings support the results of Maulana's (2019) research which examined community political behavior in the 2019 presidential and vice-presidential elections in Cimerak District, Pangandaran Regency. The result is that in Cimerak District, Pangandaran Regency, rational voters are more dominant, namely people who choose candidates based on rational considerations such as vision and mission as well as work programs, candidate work experience and also judging from proven performance results. (Maulana, 2019).

### Source of Information on Presidential Candidate Profiles

Leadership character is built with very diverse variables, giving rise to leadership criteria. The character of a presidential candidate can be seen through his track record, by looking at the way he communicates and makes decisions on various issues published in the media. Sources of respondents' information regarding the character or profile of the 2024 Indonesian presidential candidates can be seen in Chart 4 below.





Based on Chart 4, it can be seen that the majority of respondents (75 percent) obtained information regarding the profile and character of presidential candidates from the internet. In the era of digitalization and the Covid-19 pandemic, the internet is experiencing very rapid development. The rapid development of the internet has made the internet a center for information, ideas and a medium for data exchange. The dynamics that occur in the digital world cause an abundance of information, although not all of it is valid (Savitri, 2015).

In Chart 4, it can be seen that the second largest source of information for respondents in obtaining information regarding the profile and character of presidential candidates came from television, namely 10 percent of respondents. Even though the internet is an information center, television electronic media is still a valid source of information considering that there are still many hoax news appearing on the internet. Easy and cheaper access compared to the internet also means respondents still use television as a source of information. In the midst of advances in the digital era, there are still 6 percent of respondents who use print media as a source of information to find out the biographies, profiles, characters and track records of presidential candidates. Examples of print media are books, journals, magazines, newspapers, tabloids,

etc. The advantage of print media is that there is a review, editing and editorial process in presenting information, so that it is more reliable and free from hoaxes (Nubatonis, 2018).

A small portion of respondents, namely the remaining 9 percent, obtained information regarding the profile of presidential candidates from other sources, namely from campus activities, billboards and other media. Sources of information that come from campus activities can include lecture activities and student extracurricular activities. In this case, it shows that UIN Walisongo Semarang is a campus that is not only a university that transfers academic knowledge, but also functions as a forum for political education, discussion and obtaining information regarding current issues. This culture needs to be preserved and even enhanced to further revive intellectual culture on campus. Intellectual culture is a culture built to foster critical reasoning power, responsiveness and solutions to contemporary problems developing in society. The three things that students must do are first, a culture of reading, a culture of discussion, and a culture of action (Irmanus, 2019).

### Student College Contribution in Elections

Student is the term for individuals who are studying at a university. The number of university students in Indonesia is quite large, in 2022 there will be at least 9.32 million students registered in universities under the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology, as well as the Ministry of Religion (Rizaty, 2023). The number of students is not small, of course it would be a shame if their role was not optimized in the implementation of the 2024 election as one of the stages of development planning.

The contribution of students as an educated community can be further optimized to make the 2024 election a success, including:

- a. Use the right to vote with idealism, knowledge and common sense;
- b. Take part in overseeing the election process in order to create an honest and fair election;
- c. Get involved as a volunteer or on a Voting Committee;
- d. Participate in election-related outreach and pass on this information to the public;
- e. Creating a safe and peaceful election atmosphere.

So that students can contribute more in elections, the government needs to provide wider space and a bigger role for students to contribute at every stage of the election. With its idealism, student involvement can support the realization of a democratic party that is safe and peaceful, as well as honest and fair.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the discussion above, it can be concluded that the development planning process and leadership factors influence the success of national development. In the 2025-2029 RPJMN or the presidential leadership period resulting from the 2024 election, respondents assessed that the economic and industrial sectors, as well as human resource development, especially the education sector, were the main priorities in the 2025-2029 RPJMN. Therefore, a state leader is needed who has an honest and trustworthy character, as well as being intelligent and innovative in carrying out national development priorities. The majority of respondents view track record as a consideration in choosing a presidential candidate. Most respondents obtained information about presidential candidates from the internet.

This conclusion is important as material for study and consideration in preparing the vision, mission and work program, as well as building the personal branding of the presidential candidate. Apart from that, presidential candidates can also optimize the internet and social media in implementing their campaign programs. Community participation is very necessary in the implementation of elections. Students as an educated community must also optimize their role in overseeing elections, as one of the important stages in Indonesia's development planning process. With its idealism, student involvement can support the creation of honest and fair elections.

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