



Understanding Democracy in the National Interest Amidst the Dynamics of the Strategic Environment is VUCA

Rizqi Hidayat, Deni D.A.R., Sutrimo Sumarlan



Open Access



2022 Strategi
Perang Semesta



Published at
31 July 2022

How to cite this article:

Hidayat, R., Deni D.A.R., & Sumarlan, S. (2022). Understanding democracy in the national interest amidst the dynamics of the strategic environment is VUCA. *Strategi Perang Semesta*, 8(1), 83-90.
<https://doi.org/10.56555/sps.v8i1.1194>

To link to this article: <https://doi.org/10.56555/sps.v8i1.1194>



UNDERSTANDING DEMOCRACY IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST AMIDST THE DYNAMICS OF THE STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT IS VUCA

Rizqi Hidayat*

DPPKAD Kabupaten Ponorogo

Deni D. A. R.

Republic of Indonesia Defense University
INDONESIA

Sutrimo

Republic of Indonesia Defense University
INDONESIA

Abstract

The dynamics of the development of the strategic environment is very rapid by experiencing VUCA conditions which are heavily influenced by Volatility, Uncertainty, Complexity, and Ambiguity that occur in almost every country, therefore the need for tactics from a country through understanding in order to create interests that will be achieved by a country, understanding Democracy is an understanding that is highly appreciated by the world, because with democracy humans prioritize their rights, like a double-edged knife that has benefits for human life, the development of democracy can also be used for crimes, such as the development of radicalism, proxy wars and crime using high technology, including the current global problem of the Covid-19 outbreak that can change the pattern of a country's strategic environmental system, the research method used is descriptive qualitative method, using data sources from reports, print media, and online media. The results of research on Democracy in achieving national interests in the midst of the dynamics of the VUCA strategic environment are very wary of because they can change the stability of a country's defense and security.

Article history:

Received : May 31, 2022

Revised : July 6, 2022

Accepted : July 28, 2022

Published : July 31, 2022

Keywords:

Democracy

Strategic environment

VUCA

Introduction

VUCA is an acronym for Volatility, Uncertainty, Complexity, and Ambiguity. If translated clearly, VUCA is anomaly, uncertainty, complexity, and also obscurity. The US Army War College first introduced VUCA to describe the geopolitical situation in Afghanistan and Iraq after the cold war. Like its acronym, VUCA is an analytical process in making decisions, planning, managing risks, and solving problems driven by these four factors; anomalies, uncertainties, complexities, and obscurity. VUCA is also based on a fairly strong disruption, especially from changes in consumer behavior based on the speed of technology. Kasali (2017) explains that disruption exists because of more practical offering practices and lower prices than existing services, so many people switch to these services.

After the crisis in COVID-19, VUCA became even more intense and very influential on world developments in the face of an outbreak that has killed more than 3 million people and plunged the country into recession. Currently, countries' future is becoming increasingly uncertain (Juaningsih et al., n.d.). In the VUCA era, many changes occurred accompanied by uncertainty, an uncertain level of complexity, and ambiguity that was not easily explained. Departing from these elements in the VUCA era, technological developments have also become the main influence of these changes. This is a challenge and a new threat in the development of the times that are faced now. It is no longer a real threat with weapons, but the challenge is the potential for attacks on the ideology and understanding that is being embraced. This change will certainly affect society as the main driver of nationalism and the



realization of democracy. In response to this, the development by the Indonesian government with the ideology of Pancasila and known as a democratic state as well as the empowerment of technology as a medium for debriefing, inculcating and educating national values needs to be carried out as a form of response to this challenge.

In Indonesia, the acceleration of digital transformation into everyday life began to run officially and massively when in 2018, the Indonesian government made a commitment to implementing the Industrial Revolution 4.0 by launching "Making Indonesia 4.0" (Soraya et al., 2022) which is an initiative the Indonesian government in implementing the strategy and roadmap of the Industrial Revolution 4.0 in Indonesia which is guided by the values of Pancasila and implements a democratic attitude in making a policy. In relation to achieving the ideals of a country to achieve a national interest faced with the challenges of the strategic environment that has been influenced by VUCA, the volatility of very fast changes that are influenced by access to easy information, Uncertainty about what will happen in the next minute which is complex. The problem is multi-dimensional with ambiguity influenced by real and unreal threats that occur in a country, this also happens to the State of Indonesia which adheres to the Pancasila democratic system. This understanding explains that humans are essentially free and independent beings.

In addition to providing freedom of religion, the democratic understanding of Pancasila provides freedom of assembly, association and association. In Indonesia, freedom is regulated in Article 28 of the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, it is stated that freedom is responsible and acts to express opinions in public. Likewise, with other countries. They formulate democracy and freedom based on the constitution of their respective countries and cultures. Because democracy is not an easy concept to understand, democracy has many connotations and meanings, is varied and dynamic (Wuryanta, 2018). If people do not understand the terms of democracy, then democracy will not be directed. As a result, freedom becomes wild and uncontrolled, disrupting stability in achieving national goals. Including freedom of income, expressing opinions is no longer based on facts, but based on personal or group interests, where these interests often conflict with the interests of the community and the state, as a result, democracy looks fragile, and corruption is increasingly rampant and hijacks the policy formulation process that should involve the people. Politicians maintain power by manipulating regulations, limiting freedom of expression, and changing the constitution to expand and extend the powers of power that are exercised within a democratic framework. Moreover, in cyberspace, there are widespread rumors of hoaxes that can provoke people to become uncomfortable with the current government.

Method

Research is a scientific way to obtain data with specific purposes and uses. In this paper, the researcher uses a qualitative method with a descriptive approach. Qualitative research relies on various schools, traditions or theoretical orientations, all of which emphasize the importance of developing and compiling theories that are characterized by empirical inductiveness. Characteristics in the level of scientific thinking through research must be a clear object of study, with the use of certain systems and methods (Koentjaraningrat, 2007) (Hardani et al., 2020).

This approach aims to describe the case descriptively by observing people, institutions or research objects that interact in a social environment. Descriptive research will make a systematic, factual, and accurate description of an object's facts and properties. Qualitative research relies on various schools, traditions, or theoretical orientations, all of which emphasize the importance of developing and compiling theories that are characterized by



empirical inductive (Suyanto, 2010). From this description, the author describes the notion of democracy in achieving national interests in the midst of the dynamics of the VUCA strategic environment.

The researcher focuses on the dynamics of the strategic environment that is VUCA in understanding a democratic state that occurs in Indonesia by being faced with the dynamics of the strategic environment that is VUCA and the problems of democracy. One of the problems is that there are still individuals/groups who prioritize personal/group interests and are influenced by community activities worldwide. cyberspace that can affect the stability of national security.

Results And Discussion

Threat of Democracy

Departing from the history of the implementation of democracy in Athens, especially after the defeat of Athens to Sparta, which was marked by the decline of the city, the deterioration of morality and leadership, Plato saw democracy as 'rule by the poor'. People can do whatever they want and have nothing to do with authority (Sorensen, 2014: 3). However, some people are more ideal. Aristotle, for example, was of the view that democracy is a form of government that is implemented only to support the majority of the people, especially the poor (Sorensen, 2014: 5). A similar understanding is held by Marxist-Leninists (Communists), which is defined through the illustration of a question "whether politics is carried out in the interests of the main people, or to serve the interests of minorities, especially the owners of capital (Ebenstein, 2006: 162). has been accepted by almost all governments in the world. Even authoritarian governments embellish the attributes of democracy to describe a ruler. Democracy is basically a set of ideas and principles about freedom but also includes a set of rules and procedures that are formed through local culture and processes. In 431 BC, Pericles, a prominent Athenian statesman, defined democracy by setting forth several criteria:

1. government by the people with the full and direct participation of the people;
2. equality before the law;
3. pluralism, namely respect for all talents, interests, desires and views; and
4. respect for a separation and personal territory to fulfill and express individual personality [Roy C Macridis, 1983:19-20).

In this world, there are many kinds of democracy adopted by various countries. Among them are Constitutional Democracy, Parliamentary Democracy, Guided Democracy, Pancasila Democracy, People's Democracy, Soviet Democracy, National Democracy, and so on. All these concepts use the term democracy, which according to the origin of the word, means "the people are in power" or "government rule by the people" (Sunarso, 2015), Indonesia adheres to Pancasila democracy. Pancasila democracy is based on the personality and philosophy of life of the Indonesian nation, the characteristics of Pancasila democracy, namely the existence of elections, conducting deliberation to reach consensus, and human rights. According to Dardji Darmodihardjo, the meaning of Pancasila democracy is the understanding of democracy from the Indonesian people's personality and philosophy of life. The embodiment of this democracy is in the Preamble to the 1945 Constitution 'The Definition of Pancasila Democracy, Katadata.Co.Id'[accessed 16 January 2022]. As a manifestation of Pancasila democracy which reflects the original culture of Indonesia's ancestors and at the

same time, the identity politics of all Indonesian people. Pancasila democracy is marked by deliberation (Futanu, M, & Gunawan, 2020).

The term Pancasila Democracy was born as a reaction to Guided Democracy under Sukarno's government. The idea of Guided Democracy, as it is known, has been legally standardized in the form of MPRS Decree No. VIII/MPRS/1965 concerning Principles of Deliberation for Consensus in Guided Democracy as Guidelines for Deliberative/Representative Institutions. According to Hariyono (2014: 100), the development of democracy in Indonesia seems to have found its momentum in the Reformation Era. After the fall of the Suharto regime as President, the bureaucracy and the military became the initial targets for not engaging in practical politics.

The Ministry of Home Affairs no longer handles the implementation of general elections, but the authority is taken by the independent General Election Commission (KPU). This has a great impact on community participation in determining the desired direction of the destination, but new problems arise when every community is given freedom of speech, people tend to be uncontrolled in expressing their opinions in cyberspace, with information data that is not yet clear, according to Constitutional Justice Wahiduddin Adams, as a country, Indonesia has an obligation to protect, promote, uphold, and fulfill the rights to freedom of opinion and expression, as a part of human rights, as mandated in Article 28I paragraph (4) of the 1945 Constitution. However, even though it is fundamental in nature, the right to freedom of opinion and expression is not an absolute right. Even in the United States, one of the countries with the strongest constitutional protection for freedom of opinion or speech in any country in the world, there are still limitations. ("Provisions on Freedom of Expression in the Constitution, the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Indonesia," n.d.). Based on research conducted on Tidar University students taken from 110 respondents. This research was conducted within one week in 2020 using the quota sampling research method, namely by distributing questionnaires to students via Google Docs (Google Forms). The questionnaire asks for knowledge of information about problems that exist in the government (Rahmawati, Muslichatun, & Marizal, 2021).

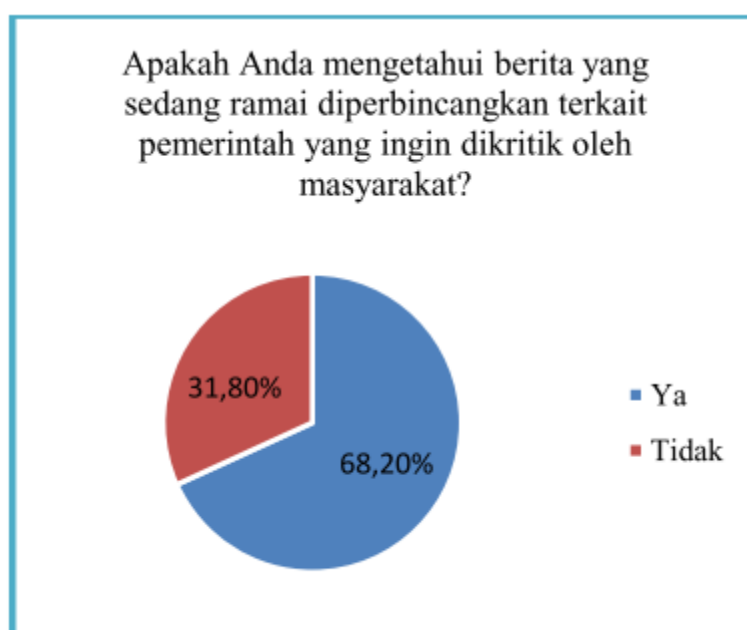


Figure 1. Students' knowledge of the news that is being discussed about the government that the public wants to criticize



Based on the diagram above, 75 respondents who know the news being discussed about the government that the public wants to criticize and 35 respondents do not know, show that the net of information disclosure and public curiosity is still not very good. In its development, Pancasila democracy implemented by Indonesia went well, and even became a model in Asian countries, Indonesia was able to control everything that threatens national stability in maintaining territorial integrity and the unity of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia, this was proven when the 2019 election Indonesia was able to carry out safely without any riots that resulted in division, even though at that time the situation was tense due to differences in choices, but as the government went on, many things were highlighted in relation to democratic issues that benefited certain parties, and resulted in rampant corruption in the current government body, in addition to hoax news on social media related to the weakening of the KPK institution, it is used to disrupt the ongoing government and can weaken democracy in Indonesia, the anti-corruption non-governmental organization Indonesia Corruption Watch (ICW) released a Report T ren Enforcement of Corruption Cases Semester 1 2021. Based on data collected by ICW, the number of corruption cases prosecuted during the first six months of 2021 reached 209 cases. This number increased compared to the same period in the previous year of 169 cases. 'ICW: Number of Corruption Cases in Semester 1 2021 Increases Compared to the Previous Year - Data - Tempo.Co'[accessed 16 January 2022].

From these data, it proves that there is still the use of the wealth of resources in Indonesia for the benefit of groups, which triggers the disruption of national stabilization carried out by several officials who carry out their duties based on a mandate from the people. Proxy crimes in cyberspace are increasingly making data manipulation swampy, which results in disrupted democracy in Indonesia and tends to damage the government in Indonesia. This must be a concern for the government in the midst of the rapid flow of information, and also the need for the government to take action quickly so that institutional security data are not easily hacked and used for politicization purposes, it can be a factor in creating a conducive democracy, and securing national interests amidst the rapid development of the times and the uncertainty of all threats. Based on the patrolsiber.id website, there were 15,152 cybercrime complaints reported through the Patrolisiber portal from January to September 2021, with a total loss of 3.88 trillion. It was noted that the most reported fraudulent content was 4,601 cases ("Losses Due to Cybercrime Reaches Rp. 3.88 Trillion, What Are the Forms? | Databoks," n.d.)

From the data presented, we can see that there are security vulnerabilities in the community, especially cases of fraud, which are very high, allowing trust in high state institutions to decrease, which has an impact on the destruction of democratic understanding that prioritizes freedom and peace, equality of rights in law.

Dynamics of The Strategic Environment in National Interest

National interest refers to the goals and ideals of a country in achieving prosperity both in the economy and in national security" (Oppenheim, 1987). The dynamics of the development of the strategic environment will always have directly or indirectly positive or negative implications. This can affect the course of national development that is currently being implemented. In 2021, the government will begin to design the National Priority Program which will be carried out in accordance with the National Medium-Term Development Plan (RPJMN) for 2020-2024. There are 7 (seven) National Priority Programs consisting of: Economic Resilience, Regional Development, Qualified and Competitive Human Resources, Mental Revolution and Cultural Development, Strengthening Infrastructure, environmental development, as well as legal, political stability, and transformation of the



public. Minister of National Development Planning/Bappenas Suharso Monoarfa explained that there are seven national priority programs in the government work plan (RKP) 2022. Utilization of the budget ceiling to support national priority programs in 2022 reaches IDR 367 trillion, according to Suharso's achievements. West, Human Development Index, Economic Infrastructure, Urban Infrastructure, Basic services, electricity, and digital transformation. In order to achieve the development goals. This figure is the aggregation and agreement of various parties. For example, the growth rate of GRDP in the eastern and western regions, the Human Development Index, economic infrastructure, urban infrastructure, basic services, electricity, and digital transformation. To achieve the development goals. This figure is the aggregation and agreement of various parties. The development targets also follow each respective province, looking at economic growth, poverty, and unemployment rates in that area. As for the strategic challenges of development in 2022, starting from industry, tourism, MSME food security, and digital transformation ("Jokowi's Priority Program," n.d.)

With the government's openness to the people who have the right to information on the work program and its achievements, it completely shows that democracy is running well according to the criteria designed by Pericles, a well-known Athenian statesman, namely the participation and supervision of the implementation of government operations by the DPR and supported by the Inspectorate. Democracy is very influential on the success of Indonesia's national interests, which have been planned by representatives of the people who were previously elected directly by the Indonesian people from the data and descriptive showing the achievements that the Indonesian government has made in realizing the national goals that have been mandated in the fourth paragraph of the Preamble to the 1945 Constitution, namely the national goals, namely: protect the entire Indonesian nation and the entire homeland of Indonesia, promote public welfare, educate the nation's life; and participate in carrying out world order based on freedom, eternal peace, and social justice.

Conclusion

The US Army War College first introduced VUCA to describe the geopolitical situation in Afghanistan and Iraq after the cold war. Like the acronym. Based on the data, that students who know the news that is being discussed related to the government that the public wants to criticize as many as 75 respondents and 35 respondents do not know it, it shows the net of information disclosure and public curiosity is still not too good but in its development Pancasila democracy is implemented by Indonesia went well, even became a model in Asian countries, Indonesia is able to control everything that threatens national stability in maintaining territorial integrity and the unity of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia, this was proven when the 2019 election Indonesia was able to carry out safely without riots that resulted in division, The notion of democracy is an understanding adopted by many countries, including Indonesia which adheres to the notion of Pancasila democracy in its government system, it makes the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia prioritize values that have been born from local culture that contained in Pancasila, in realizing its mission of creating a safe strategic environment and achieving the goals of the national interest that are VUCA, Indonesia is able to overcome threats that can weaken territorial integrity and unity, as evidenced by the 2019 elections which ran smoothly, safely and under control, but were still high. Politicization in the name of democracy for the benefit of its groups results in high cases of corruption and tends to increase compared to the previous quarter. Many cyber-crimes still undermine democratic values, as evidenced by the increasing number of cyber-crimes in cyberspace.

References

- Databoks. (2021). Kerugian akibat kejahatan siber capai Rp 3,88 Triliun, Apa Saja Bentuknya? <https://databoks.katadata.co.id/datapublish/2021/10/07/kerugian-akibat-kejahatan-siber-capai-rp-388-triliun-apa-saja-bentuknya>
- Dwi Latifatul Fajri. (2021). *Pengertian Demokrasi Pancasila, Ciri-ciri dan Prinsipnya*. Katadata.id. <https://katadata.co.id/intan/berita/61b9eb1f361c8/pengertian-demokrasi-pancasila-ciri-ciri-dan-prinsipnya>
- Emir Yanwardhana. (2021). *Ini program prioritas Jokowi di tahun depan, cek saja!* <https://www.cnbcindonesia.com/news/20210816183644-4-268925/ini-program-prioritas-jokowi-di-tahun-depan-cek-apa-saja>
- Fautanu, I., M. B., & Gunawan, H. (2020). Politik identitas dalam pilkada DKI Jakarta Tahun 2017 : Perspektif pemikiran politik Nurcholish Madjid political identity in DKI Jakarta election 2017 : Perspective of Nurcholish Madjid political thinking. *Politicon*, 2(2), 87–112.
- Hardani, H., Medica, P., Husada, F., Andriani, H., Sukmana, D. J., Mada, U. G., & Fardani, R. (2020). *Buku metode penelitian kualitatif & kuantitatif* (Issue March).
- Juaningsih, I. N., Consuello, Y., & Tarmidzi, A. (2020). Optimalisasi kebijakan pemerintah dalam penanganan Covid-19 terhadap masyarakat Indonesia. *Salam: Jurnal Sosial dan Budaya Syar-i*, 7(6), 509–518. <https://doi.org/10.15408/sjsbs.v7i6.15363>
- Mahkamah Konstitusi Republik Indonesia. (2020). *Ketentuan Kebebasan Berpendapat Dalam UUD*. <https://www.mkri.id/index.php?page=web.Berita&id=16828>
- Nadia Aurora Soraya, Salsa Ayuning Tyas, & Virgin Kristina Ayu. (2022). Nasionalisme bangsa di era VUCA (Volatility , Uncertainty , Complexity dan Ambiguity). *Jurnal Kewargaan*, 6(1), 1238–1243.
- Rahmawati, N., Muslichatun, M., & Marizal, M. (2021). Kebebasan berpendapat terhadap pemerintah melalui media sosial dalam perspektif UU ITE. *Widya Pranata Hukum : Jurnal Kajian Dan Penelitian Hukum*, 3(1), 62–75. <https://doi.org/10.37631/widyapranata.v3i1.270>
- Sunarso. (2015). *Membedah demokrasi (Sejarah, konsep, dan Implementasinya di Indonesia)*. (Ibnu Santoso (ed.)) UNY Press
- Suyanto, B. (2010). *Metode penelitian sosial berbagai alternatif pendekatan*. (Sutinah (ed.)). Kencana.
- Tempo.co. (2021). *ICW: Angka Penindakan Kasus Korupsi Semester 1 2021 Naik Jika Dibandingkan Tahun Sebelumnya - Data - Tempo.co*. <https://data.tempo.co/data/1208/icw-angka-penindakan-kasus-korupsi-semester-1-2021-naik-jika-dibandingkan-tahun-sebelumnya>
- Wuryanta, A. (2018). *Post-truth, cyber identity dan defisit demokrasi*. 1–12. <https://doi.org/10.31219/osf.io/up96m>

