Maintaining Voting Rights Outside the Election Period: Evidence of Continuous Voter Data Updating (DPB) Riau Province, Indonesia

Alexsander Yandra[1*], Sudaryanto[1], Eddy Asnawi[1], Hernimawati[1], Husni Setiawan[2], Junior Hendri Wijaya[3], John Monday Etebom[4]

[1] Department of Administrative Science, Faculty of Administrative Science, Universitas Lancang Kuning, Indonesia
[2] Department of Government Studies, Sekolah Tinggi Ilmu Sosial dan Ilmu Politik (STISIP) Imam Bonjol Padang, Indonesia
[3] Department of Government Studies, Sekolah Tinggi Pembangunan Masyarakat Desa "APMD", Indonesia
[4] Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Alabama, United States of America, USA
Corresponding Author: alexsy@unilak.ac.id

Article Info

Abstract: This study examines the continuous updating of voter data by the General Elections Commission (KPU) based on data self-sufficiency. While previous research has emphasized multi-stakeholder approaches, limited attention has been given to the potential collaboration between the KPU and the Department of Population and Civil Registration *(Disdukcapil)*. Addressing this gap, the study analyzes mechanisms for strengthening inter-agency collaboration to ensure sustainable voter data management. Voting rights are fundamental to political participation and the quality of elections. However, significant gaps persist, as seen in Riau Province where 7,375 citizens were excluded from the voter list before the 2024 Election. This underscores the need for electoral organizers to continuously evaluate and update voter data beyond the election period. Using a qualitative method with an empirical case study approach, the study applies theories of democracy and voters' political rights, complemented by an ethical–emic analysis. Findings reveal that the KPU remains largely passive in updating sustainable voter data, creating risks of regressive records. Furthermore, coordination with *Disdukcapil* is one-directional, restricting open access to population data. The novelty of this research lies in highlighting the underexplored institutional collaboration between the KPU and *Disdukcapil*. Unlike previous studies that focus on broad multi-stakeholder dynamics, this study shows how a targeted inter-agency partnership can directly address voter registration gaps and improve electoral accountability. Strengthening institutional relations through high-level collaboration, routine synchronization, and establishing a dedicated institution for voter data management is therefore essential.

Keywords: *Democracy; Political rights; Continuous voter list*

INTRODUCTION

This article discusses the updating of voter data outside the election stage by the KPU, which is considered to be less than optimal and tends to be the same as updating voter data at the election stage. In fact, updating outside the election stage is substantially aimed at covering the gaps in updating voter data at the election stage (Yandra et al., 2023). It is less an optimal updating of voter

data, which becomes a new problem in general elections in updating voter data (Kenett et al., 2018). In addition, the KPU policy for the 2024 election includes residents who do not yet have an e-KTP into the DPT, with the provision that they are 17 years old on February 14, 2023. This phenomenon then becomes the basis for the discussion in this article. Data shows that the 2024 General Election Potential Population List (DP4) reached 206 million people as of June 29, 2022, but not all of them could be verified because they were not found in the field. There are many reasons why the KPU cannot detect these potential voters, such as their high mobility in work, education, and so on, so they have not been registered as voters.

Research related to the Continuous Voter List (DPB) has been studied by several people, such as Sabilah & Nurjaman (2023) and Setiawan (2024). then Achmad (2020) and Ointu et al. (2022). These four studies focus on the DPB as an effort to guarantee the political rights of citizens that have been guaranteed by law. Ointu et al. (2022) found that the Manado City KPU made efforts to update continuous voter data by involving several partner institutions. However, the problem was that communication between partner institutions was ineffective, so the update did not go well.

Furthermore, Yandra et al. (2023) showed that the lack of sufficient human resources to assist in the process of updating continuous voter data caused the continuous voter list to be ineffective. Subsequent research from S. Wijaya et al. (2023) showed that updating continuous voter data was ineffective because community participation was still quite low. Likewise, the findings of Hazamuddin et al. (2023) also showed that the lack of human resources and active community participation caused continuous voter data updating to experience technical obstacles in the field. The four studies above have shown the weak side of continuous voter data updating as mandated by Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning elections.

The four findings showed that the role of institutions and communities outside the KPU is a very important factor in the success of continuous voter data updates outside the election stages. The importance of the role of partner institutions that collaborate with the KPU in updating voter data is emphasized by PKPU No. 6 of 2021 concerning Continuous Voter Data Updates (Salsabila, 2018; Setiawan, 2024). This regulation contains a collaboration system between government institutions, including the police, *TNI*, agencies, village officials, and RT/RW (Datu, 2018). The four studies that have been explained have not discussed how collaboration should be carried out in updating voter data.

This study builds upon the findings of previous researchers by addressing the analytical gap regarding the ideal form of collaboration between the General Elections Commission (KPU) and other institutions. Earlier studies have not sufficiently examined the relationship between population data and the specific requirements of voter data. In contrast, this research explores the specific voter data needed by the KPU to establish an official voter list. Furthermore, it highlights the potential for collaboration between the KPU, the Civil Registry Office *(Disdukcapil)*, and village heads as primary sources for continuous voter data updating. These two areas of focus, data specification and collaboration mechanisms, have not been adequately addressed in earlier literature, making this study distinct from previous research.

Many studies have concluded that countries whose citizens express higher levels of satisfaction with democracy tend to show higher levels of voter participation in general elections (Ezrow & Xezonakis, 2016; Kostelka & Blais, 2018; Quaranta & Martini, 2016). The logical consequence of democracy in national and state life is that every citizen has the right to actively participate in the political process, both being elected and voting in elections that are regularly carried out, being free, direct, general, and secret (van Gunsteren, 2018). However, the involvement of citizens in democracy is also hampered by not being registered as voters due to the inaccurate data matching and research (*coklitan*) process by the organizers because despite the large number of voters participating in the election, there many who are not registered on the Permanent Voter List (DPT) or Additional Permanent Voter List (DPTb), so these voters who come to the TPS only using electronic KTP or other identification are the ones who experience a shortage of ballots and cannot vote.

Democracy from the perspective of political science is known in two types: normative and empirical understanding. In normative understanding, democracy is something that ideally wants to be done or organized by a country, such as we know the phrase "*Government of the people, by the people, and for the people*" (Kosmas & Mauritsius, 2009). This normative phrase is usually translated in the constitution of each country. However, we must also note that what is normative

cannot necessarily be seen in the context of daily political life in a country. Therefore, it is necessary to see what democracy means empirically, namely, democracy in its manifestation in practical political life (Gaffar, 2005).

Complementing that, Dahl (2020) said that democracy produces consequences in the political life of a country, such as: 1) Avoiding government tyranny; 2). Giving birth to recognition of human existence; 3). Guaranteeing general freedom; 4). Respecting humans to act according to their wishes; 5). Strengthening moral autonomy; 6). Guaranteeing the process of human development; 7). Respecting personal interests; 8). Guaranteeing political equality; 9). Bringing forth a more harmonious and peaceful life; 10). Producing prosperity and welfare. Democracy is also understood as a system of government that places the people as the sole voters through the election process. Talking about democracy certainly cannot be separated from politics, because to realize a democratic country requires active political participation from citizens (Gaffar, 2005). Political participation is an activity of citizens that aims to influence decision-making by the government (Samuel, 2021; Budiardjo, 2009).

The above issues need serious attention because they have the potential to cause citizens to lose their political rights (Yandra et al., 2023) and are categorized as human rights violations. The government and election organizers should be responsible for ensuring that every citizen who meets the requirements as a voter gets their rights in politics (Simamora, 2013). The voter list is an important variable in assessing whether the state protects an individual's political rights or not. Although the state guarantees the use of these political rights, the fact is that not all citizens can exercise their political rights when the election is held (Bwalya & Healy, 2010; Dedi, 2019). The KPU, as the organizer (Yandra et al., 2023), has made maximum efforts to register individual citizens who meet the requirements as voters into the Permanent Voter List, but the problem is not that simple; there are still many voters who meet the requirements but are not registered (Bawaslu, 2020). The process and synchronization of population data issued by the Director General of Population and Civil Registration of the Ministry of Home Affairs with the KPU is often problematic. For the KPU, the Potential Voter Population List (DP4) for the 2024 Election reached 206 million people as of June 29, 2022, but not all of them could be verified because they were not found.

There are many reasons why the KPU cannot detect the existence of these prospective voters, such as their high mobility in work, education, and so on, causing them to be unregistered as voters. The problem of inaccurate voter data has an impact on the loss of citizens' political rights, which has implications for the decline in political participation rates (Asshiddiqie, 2005; Rosanvallon & DeBevoise, 2018). Therefore, it is necessary to manage voter data continuously with a more measurable and systematic system outside the election period. Through PKPU No. 6 of 2021 concerning Updating Voter Data, the KPU seeks to update voter data outside the election stages continuously. This PKPU has differences related to the work steps for updating voter data, which were previously regulated in PKPU No. 2 of 2017 (Menger & Stein, 2020). The following are the differences in updating the two regulations in Table 1.

Table 1. Differences in Updating Voter Data

No	Category	PKPU No. 2 of 2017	PKPU No. 6 of 2021
1	Work philosophy	KPU relies on DP4 data from the Ministry of Home Affairs	KPU has independent voter data
2	Data acquisition sources	DP4 Ministry of Home Affairs	Regional government institutions (Services, Police, TNI, District Government, and Village/Sub-district Government
3	Update periodicity	In the Election Stages	Every 3 months outside the election stage
4	Update officers	Election Ad Hoc Team	KPU Regency/City
5	Nature of work	Internal Instructions of KPU-PPDP	Cross-agency coordination
6	Data recency	Ahead of the Election	All the time
7	Data legality	Plenary Meeting of the Ad Hoc Team to the Central KPU	Plenary Meeting of KPU Regency/City to Central KPU

Source: Researcher's Processing based on the results of the 2021 continuous voter list research report

The technical differences in updating this data will have a significant impact on the accuracy of the permanent voter list (DPT). With DPB data, the KPU has good enough data to find out the development of the number of voters without having to wait for DP4 data from the Ministry of Home Affairs (Zukni et al., 2023). When the synchronization process between DP4 data and the latest DPT from the KPU is carried out, anomalous data can be identified quickly because the KPU already has basic data related to voter identity (Boediningsih & Cahyono, 2022). It will have a good impact on the quality of voter data in Indonesia. However, the DPB concept still has shortcomings in terms of implementation. These shortcomings occur in the aspect of cooperation/coordination with multi-government institutions (Izzaty & Nugraha, 2019). The KPU has not collaborated with government institutions in the form of an agreement (MoU), resulting in the KPU not being able to carry out continuous voter data updates optimally.

This phenomenon is the main basis for thinking, so this article discusses the issue of improving more effective continuous voter data updates. The main purpose of this article is to analyze the implementation of continuous voter data updates and provide recommendations for improving the shortcomings that have occurred in the voter data update process. It will have implications for the DPB as a solution to voter data problems in elections and regional elections.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK
Collaborative Governance
Based on the description above, the main problem in updating the continuous voter list lies not only in the technical aspect but also in the aspect of governance and coordination between institutions. The KPU often faces obstacles in coordinating with the *Disdukcapil*, village officials, and other government agencies because of the pattern of cooperation that tends to be one-way and has not been built within the framework of systematic collaboration. Therefore, this study used collaborative governance as a theoretical foundation.

Collaborative governance, as stated by Bachtiar et al. (2022), is a governance mechanism in which government agencies involve various other actors from both the government, private, and community sectors in the decision-making process in a formal, deliberative, and consensus-based decision-making process. This approach is relevant to explain and evaluate the KPU's efforts in managing voter data sustainably, because the success of data updates is highly determined by horizontal coordination, information transparency, and trust between institutions.

Thus, the use of collaborative governance theory in this study is intended to assess the extent to which the KPU is able to build a mechanism of cross-agency cooperation more effectively, so as to strengthen the quality of the continuous voter list and ultimately ensure the fulfillment of citizens' political rights.

To see how the government's efforts through the Ministry of Home Affairs, *Disdukcapil*, and KPUD Riau in increasing political participation (government effort) for the community, the researcher looked at it through the five levels of political participation proposed by Breinkerhoff (Yandra, 2017).

Electoral Governance Theory
Electoral governance refers to the structure, institutions, and processes that ensure the integrity, legitimacy, and efficiency of the electoral system. Gorwa (2021) and Rahman (2022) Within this broader framework, the management of voter data is an important pillar that supports inclusivity, fairness, and accuracy in elections. Electoral governance theory divides this process into three main dimensions: 1) Rule-making, that is, the legal and normative framework that governs elections. 2) Rule application, i.e., the implementation and administration of election law. 3) Rule-adjudication, which is a dispute resolution and rule enforcement mechanism.

This research focuses on the implementation aspect of the rules, where institutions such as the KPU at the provincial and district/city levels are responsible for updating voter data on an ongoing basis, in collaboration with other government agencies (such as the Population and Civil Registration Office), civil society organizations, and the community itself. The success of the DPB is highly dependent on a number of governance indicators, including transparency, data integrity, inter-institutional coordination, and citizen participation.

Election governance theory, this research positions the DPB not solely as a technical administrative activity, but as a function of democratic governance that supports citizens' political rights. The updating of voter data is seen as a mechanism for consolidating democracy, which ensures that all eligible citizens, especially those who have changed their domicile, changed their civil status, or have just entered voting age, do not lose their right to vote. In addition, this practice also contributes to building or can even risk undermining public trust in the election process.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research was carried out using a descriptive qualitative method, namely a research method that collects and analyzes data in the form of words (oral and written) and human actions (Afrizal, 2014). Data collection was conducted by conducting interviews with informants, namely the chairman and members of the Pelalawan, Kampar, and Indragiri Hilir KPUs. As a comparison, this research uses triangulation of sources, namely the Chairman and Members of the Provincial KPU and 3 academics who are experts in the field of elections in Riau.

This study used a qualitative single case study approach Creswell & Poth (2018) to describe and analyze data on continuous voter data updates in Riau Province. To unravel this problem, researchers use the theory of democracy and political rights as citizens (van Gunsteren, 2018). The study was conducted for 4 months (June-September) in 2023 against 3 institutions, namely the Kampar Regency KPU, Pelalawan Regency KPU, and Indragiri Hilir Regency KPU, with two stages of data collection. The first stage of data collection was by distributing open questions to informants via Google Form for 10 days. A total of 12 informants answered the interview questions from KPU members throughout Riau Province, 12 Regencies/Cities in the Planning and Data Division. The collected data was then analyzed so that a general pattern or model was found from the research questions. The following flow can describe the process of collecting research data from start to finish, as shown in Figure 1.
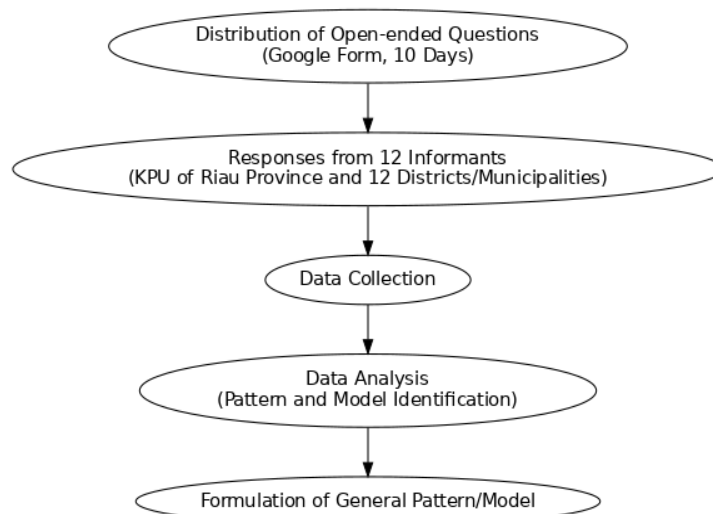

Figure 1. Process of Collecting Research Data

The second stage was to conduct in-depth interviews with members of the Kampar Regency KPU. Kampar, Pelalawan, and Indragiri Hilir (these three KPUs received the best DPB submission award), and data triangulation at the Riau Province KPU Planning and Data Division to find out the technical steps for updating continuous voter data that have been carried out by each region (Mulyaningsih et al., 2020). The selected interviews were then analyzed through an ethical and emic analysis approach, and then interpreted and combined with the first data for a comprehensive and in-depth analysis.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The findings, obtained based on data collection from 2021 to 2022, indicated that continuous voter data updates in three districts in Riau have been ongoing, but have not obtained the expected

results. The movement of voter data is volatile, and there is a large shift in certain months. The shift in data with a large amount is influenced by the moment of synchronization between voter data and population data owned by the Civil Registration Office. Meanwhile, in the months that did not experience synchronization with the civil registration, there were no significant changes, as shown in Table 2.

Kampar Regency

Table 2. Voter Data Movement in Kampar Regency in 2021

No	Month	Voter Data	Movement		Percentage	
			Increase	Decrease	Increase	Decrease
1	February	478,966				
2	March	478,961		5		0.10%
3	April	478,924		37		0.90%
4	May	478,955	31		3%	
5	June	478,991	36		3%	
6	July	479,088		97		2%
7	August	479,179	91		8%	
8	September	479,222	43		4%	
9	October	475,142		4,080		97%
10	November	475,888	746		68%	
11	December	476,044	156		14%	
	Total		1,103	4,219	100%	100%

Source: Researcher Processing based on the results of the KPU coordination meeting

Based on Table 2, voter movement data in Kampar Regency in 2021, it can be seen that voter data updates are carried out continuously throughout the year. However, the results are still fluctuating and have not shown the expected stability. Cumulatively, there were 1,103 new voters (additions) and 4,219 voters who were expelled (reduction) during the period from February to December 2021. These findings are in line with the arguments of (Peters, 2023) in governing without government, where the effectiveness of governance (in this case, the governance of updating voter data) is greatly influenced by the quality of coordination between institutions, not only by the available legal or procedural instruments. In the context of Kampar, it appears that the update of voter data is not fully effective when carried out sectorally by the KPU alone, without active involvement and real-time data from *Dukcapil*.

Furthermore, from a governability perspective (the government's ability to manage the system adaptively), these fluctuations reflect limitations in the integration of digital systems between agencies. If left unchecked, this has the potential to weaken the legitimacy of the permanent voter list in future political contests, because the accuracy of voter data is an essential component of electoral justice.
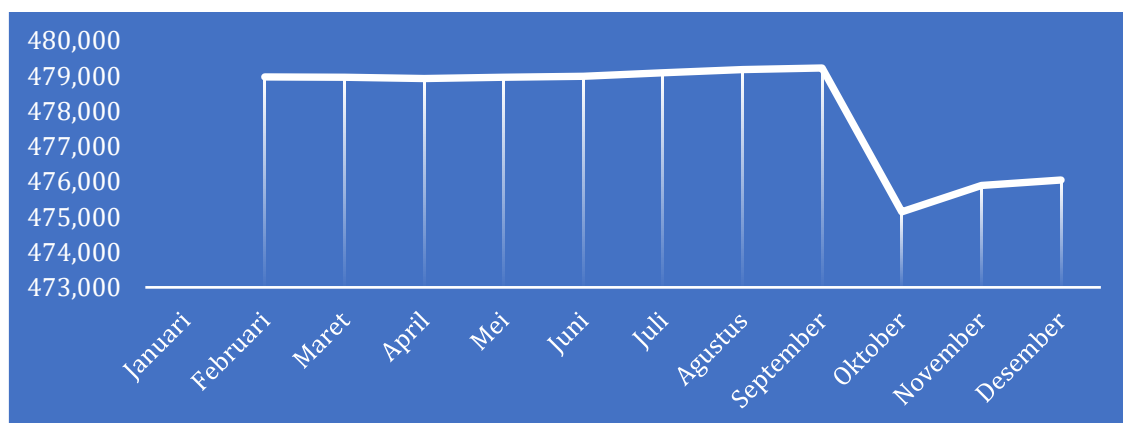

Figure 2. Voter Data Movement in Kampar Regency in 2021

Based on Figure 2, the movement of voter data above, the continuous updating of voter data in Kampar Regency is classified as dynamic, where there is an increase and a decrease in voter data. The decrease and increase in this data were caused by changes in population data, such as residents who are married or have reached the age of 17, have moved domicile, changed status, died, and so on. Changes in population data affect voter data.

In October, there was a very significant decrease, namely 4,080 voter data that were moved to become ineligible (TMS) because the KPU received a population data report from the Civil Registry Service regarding data changes. The results of the synchronization between the DPB and population data detected voters who no longer had the right to vote in Kampar Regency.
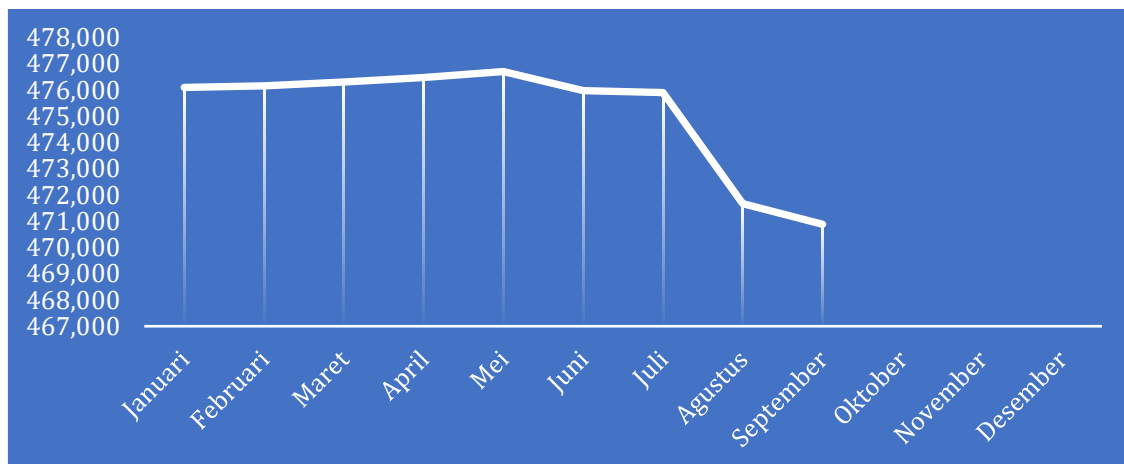

Figure 3. Voter Data Movement in Kampar Regency in 2022

Based on Figure 3, there is a decrease in the number of voters, which was also caused by the synchronization of population data from the Kampar Regency Civil Registration Office. From the movement of this data, it can be understood that the KPU is still dependent on population data held by the Regency Civil Registration Office. Without population data from Civil Registration, the KPU cannot identify changes in population data independently.

Pelalawan Regency

Table 3. Voter Data Movement in Pelalawan Regency in 2021

No	Month	Voter Data	Movement		Percentage	
			Increase	**Decrease**	**Increase**	**Decrease**
1	May	223,176				
2	June	223,144		32		3%
3	July	223,148	4		100%	
4	August	223,098		50		55%
5	September	223,071		27		30%
6	October	223,066		5		4%
7	November	223,064		2		1%
8	December	223,020		7		7%
	Total		4	91	100%	100%

Source: Researcher Processing based on the results of the KPU coordination meeting

Based on Table 3, the availability of continuous voter data began in May 2021. The Pelalawan Regency KPU did not have the data because there was a technical error in the computer, so the data could not be found. Then the hard copy could not be found either. Based on the graph above, there is a decrease in voter data from May to December 2021. The death and change of domicile of voters influenced this decrease in the number of voters.
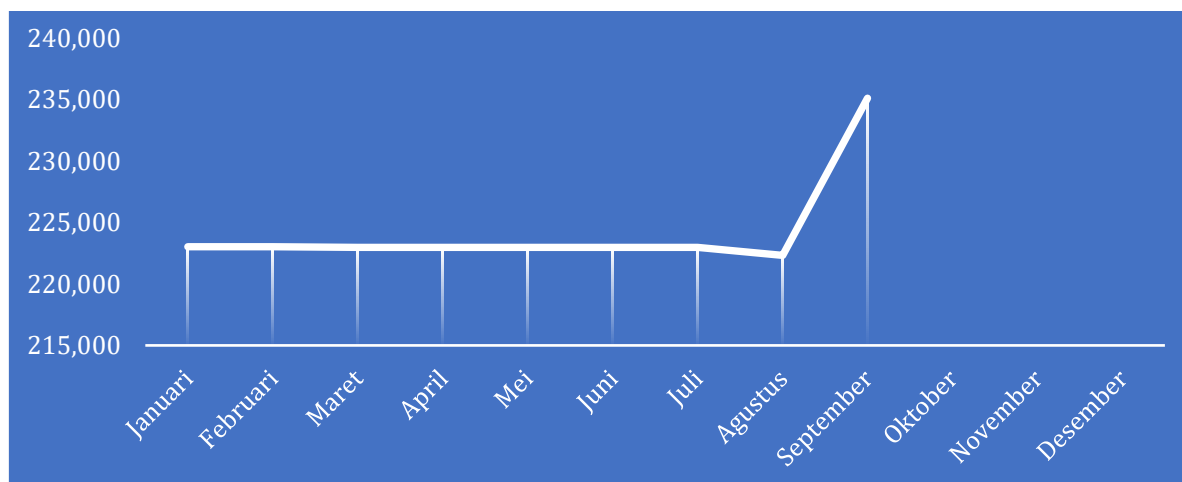
Figure 4. Voter Data Movement in Pelalawan Regency in 2022

Figure 4 shows an increase in the number of voters in September after the KPU received a report on changes in population data from the Pelalawan Regency Civil Registry Office. After the Civil Registry Office submitted the population data report related to voters, there was a significant increase in the number of voters, namely 12,807 voters. This fact also shows that the KPU is still very dependent on the data held by the Civil Registry Office.
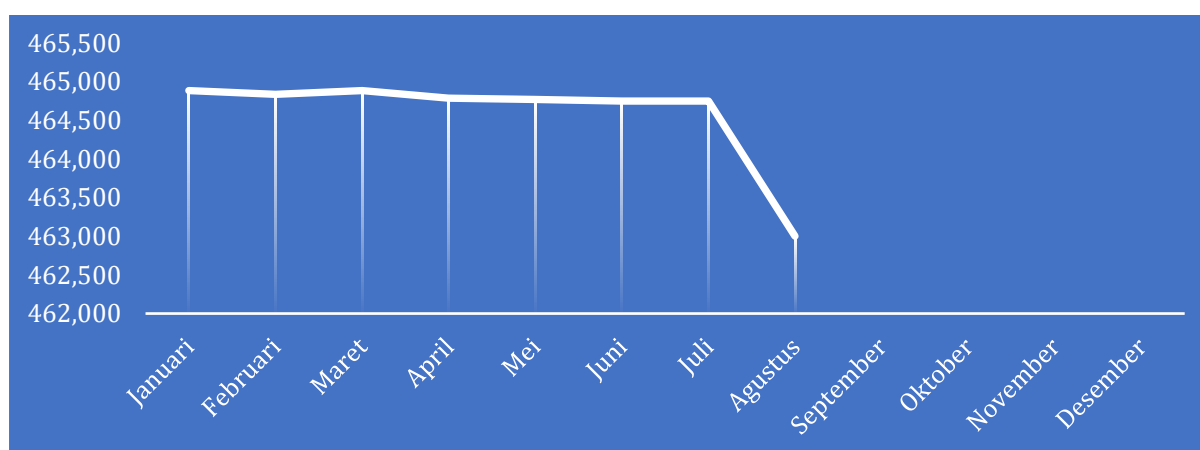
Indragiri Hilir Regency

Figure 5. Voter data movement in Pelalawan Regency in 2022

Figure 5 reveals a very significant decrease in voter data in August due to the influence of population data submitted by the Regency Civil Registration Office. After synchronization, 1,749 voter data were detected that were no longer eligible to vote due to death, change of domicile, or change of status. This process must be intensified by the KPU organizers so that the updating process outside of that stage is essential; in fact, this will reduce the cost of the matching and research process during the stages of both the election and the regional elections.

The movement of data collected from three regencies indicates a noticeable shift in certain months, coinciding with the periods when the Civil Registry Office *(Disdukcapil)* provides updated data to the General Elections Commission (KPU). Policy collaboration is therefore imperative for the KPU moving forward. Joint decision-making is a collaboration where there is a division of control over the decisions made. This distributed control of decision-making or policy will be increasingly useful when the knowledge, capacity, and experience of external actors are felt to be very critical in achieving policy objectives. Empowerment is the transfer of control over policy-making, resources, and activities from the initiator to other stakeholders.

This point encourages DPT to be one of the most important parts for citizens to exercise their rights in organizing elections. Some parameters that determine DPT for the implementation of

democratic elections must include complete citizen data or fulfill the requirements to become voters, so they must be included in the DPT and provide correct information related to the implementation of elections. Nine regencies/cities hold regional elections in 2020; there are 8,356 polling stations in 1,290 villages in 116 sub-districts. Before the DPT was determined, the KPU had carried out several activities, such as Matching and Research *(Coklit)*, determining the DPS to conduct a public test by receiving complaints from the public if there were errors.

The cause of poor voter data comes from the list of potential voters (DP4) provided by the Ministry of Home Affairs to the KPU. Many voters are found to be Unqualified (TMS) in DP4, even though the data had been deleted in the previous election. Efforts to improve the quality of voter data in Indonesia are relevant to PKPU No. 6 of 2021 concerning Continuous Voter Data Updating. However, the implementation is still half-hearted, and coordination between stakeholders is a formal routine, but not in totality, in updating voter data. Proactive stakeholder involvement is very important, although during the DPB updating process, this involvement still needs to be optimized and intensively solidified.

From the five ways to participate above, it can be seen to what extent the community, *Disdukcapil*, and Riau KPUD are trying to increase community participation. The theoretical approach to democracy and participation is an analytical tool for deeply examining the preservation of citizens' voting rights in elections and, neatly, examining the empowerment of citizens' voting rights (Yandra, 2017). In terms of technical usability standards, the voter list must have 4 standard areas, namely, ease of access for voters, ease of use when voting, ease of updating, and accuracy (Surbakti et al., 2011). Several factors that make general elections prone to problems are non-comprehensive voter data (Wijaya & Permatasari, 2023), incomplete population administration processes, and cross-sector communication problems between the Population and Civil Registry Service and the KPU in the regions are dominant factors that make elections prone to violations in the context of holding free and fair elections (Bawaslu, 2020).

The experience of past elections has shown that the accuracy of voter data contained in the Provisional Voters List (DPS) as the basis for determining the Permanent Voters List (DPT) has not been able to accommodate all voters. Several findings confirm that the causes of elections prone to problems are non-comprehensive voter data, incomplete population administration processes, and cross-sector communication problems between the Population and Civil Registry Office and the KPU in the regions are the dominant factors that make elections prone to violations in the context of organizing free and fair elections.

Implementation of Continuous Voter Data Updates Outside the Election Stage

Continuous Voter Data (DPB) implemented in accordance with the mandate of Law Number 7 of 2017 (Election Law), in essence, maintains data so that it continues to be updated periodically, assuming that the data becomes valid when used as a reference and for the accuracy of voter data, in the next election. Voter data, which is often the subject of discussion and problems from election to election, is expected to be able to eliminate the level of error with DPB (Surbakti et al., 2011). The data that is updated periodically is coordinated with the Directorate General of Population and Civil Registration of the Ministry of Home Affairs *(Dirjen Dukcapil Kemendagri)*, then at the next stage, to the local Dukcapil (KPU, 2017).

In KPU Regulation No. 6 of 2021 concerning Continuous Voter Data Updates, Article 10 states that the KPU must hold a coordination meeting at least once every 3 months with partner institutions, namely Bawaslu, Civil Registration Service, Correctional Institutions, TNI, *Polri*, District Government, Village Government, RT/RW, Community Organizations, and other related agencies. Based on this, the district/city KPU holds a cross-agency coordination meeting and discusses the direction of policy, program indicators, technical implementation, activity time, data synchronization, PDPB capitulation, evaluation, recommendations, and follow-up plans. The main focus of the voter data movement that is of particular concern is residents (citizens) aged 17 years or older, married at the time of the election, status (TNI/*Polri)*, death, and change of domicile. These four types of data are the most important things in changing voter data. These changes have consequences or impacts on the use of voting rights (voting rights) in the election. Poor recording of changes to this data can result in someone not being able to exercise their voting rights in the election, and this is a category of violation. For this reason, the KPU must pay serious attention to this problem and take priority steps.

2021-2022 Voter Data Movement

The realization of people's sovereignty, as voters, has the right to speak directly according to their own wishes, without intermediaries. General elections are the implementation of the supervisory function, conveying the general aspirations of all citizens, without distinguishing religion, ethnicity, social status, and so on (Bagijo, 2010). Weaknesses in the preparation and determination of the DPT, which result in the exclusion of citizens who should have the right to vote, are fatal in the voting process but often occur (Surbakti et al., 2011). Not only that, some weaknesses are also in the form of multiple voter lists or voters who are registered more than once in the DPT (Yandra, 2017). The realization of people's sovereignty as voters has the right to vote directly according to their will without intermediaries (Karlina et al., 2015). General elections contain the meaning of carrying out a supervisory function, channeling comprehensive aspirations for all citizens, without discrimination based on ethnicity, religion, race, class, gender, occupation, and social status in life (Bagijo, 2010). The correlation between the implementation of elections and the validity of the Permanent Voter List can be examined through the principles of Luber and Jurdil, which are an inseparable unity. The implementation of elections that are Luber Jurdil is seen as a process of legitimizing democratic instruments (Sari, 2019). The legitimacy in question is the methods of implementing elections. Meanwhile, the process of determining the Permanent Voter List can be categorized as one of the methods in organizing elections (Zainal & Putra, 2022).

Problems that arise in determining the Permanent Voter List include citizens who have met the requirements as voters but are not registered as voters, citizens who have not/do not meet the requirements as voters but are registered as voters, citizens who are registered more than once on the voter list, and citizens who are not registered as voters but use the right to vote for others. To overcome this, a supervisory mechanism has been carried out by the KPU and Bawaslu to support the validity of the Permanent Voter List. In addition, political parties can help check the Permanent Voter List (Bawaslu, 2020). The Constitutional Court's decision applies to citizens who meet the requirements as voters but are not registered in the Permanent Voter List, so that elections can run in accordance with the principles of LUBER JURDIL in order to achieve democracy (Izzaty & Nugraha, 2019).

In relation to this, Ramlan Surbakti provides 3 (three) parameters to assess whether a Permanent Voter List (DPT) meets the requirements of a democratic election. The parameters are as follows (Ramlan Surbakti in Kosmas & Mauritsius, 2009).
1. The voter list is comprehensive, meaning that all citizens who are entitled to vote are registered as voters in the Permanent Voter List.
2. The voter list is up-to-date in the sense that the Permanent Voter List has been adjusted to the latest developments.
3. The voter list is compiled accurately in the sense that the writing of identity and other information about voters is done accurately, so that citizens who are not entitled to vote are not included in the Permanent Voter List.

The three indicators above are a reference for election organizers in order to guarantee the political rights of the community to elect representatives and leaders. In a democratic framework that places the community as the highest sovereign, it will be damaged if the determination of the DPT is inaccurate. In addition, the KPU also collaborates with the *Polres/Polresta* and the TNI to find out changes in the status of new members or those who have retired. With this collaboration, the KPU can continuously recapitulate voter data every 3 months. With the data collection, the movement of voter data can be known quickly and more accurately. Updating voter data will occur continuously, which can strengthen the voter database. Each provincial KPU and district/city KPU is only given access to process and update data in their respective work areas when the voter data updating stage takes place (Fauzi, 1999). Continuous Voter Data (DPB), which is implemented according to the mandate of Law Number 7 of 2017 (Election Law), in essence, maintains data so that it continues to be updated periodically. The movement of voter data is recorded to experience fluctuations up and down according to the development of voter data or population dynamics. Changes include voters who have died, moved in and out, turned 17, and changed status. The following is the movement of voter data from 2021 to 2022 in 3 districts, namely Kampar, Pelalawan, and Inhil.

Voter Data Independence is Not Yet Maximized

The main objective of continuous voter data updating is to create voter data independence by the KPU and not depend on DP4 data issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs. However, the KPU was not able to carry out maximum updates without the participation of the Regency Civil Registration Office, which is structurally under the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Based on the movement of voter data in the three regencies above, there was an increase and a decrease in the number of voters in August and September. This month, the Civil Registry Office reported changes in population data in semester 2, which were reported to the Ministry of Home Affairs. This data was then given to the district KPU based on a request by the KPU to the Civil Registry Office. The district Civil Registry Office has no administrative obligation to provide changes to population data if the KPU does not request them due to the lack of cooperation between the district Civil Registry institution and the regional KPU. The cooperation carried out by the Central KPU with the Ministry of Home Affairs is not strong enough to be the basis for the district Civil Registry Office to submit changes to population data to the KPU actively. This condition is a problem that ultimately results in the DPB update not running as it should. The Regency/City KPU should also follow up by conducting an implementation agreement (IA) with the Civil Registry Office institution.

The district KPU can carry out continuous voter data updates for only 50 to 100 voters. So far, the district KPU has only been able to monitor voters who have died to be transferred to TMS voters; of course, this is not effective. The basis for the KPU to transfer the status of these voters is a death certificate issued by the local village/sub-district government. Meanwhile, for data on changes of domicile and new voters, the KPU can only wait for data issued by the respective district Civil Registry Offices.

This condition shows that the ideal of voter data independence through continuous voter data updates outside the election stages has not been achieved, as proven by the involvement of the Civil Registry Office, which is still very large in the process of updating voter data. The KPU has not optimally implemented voter data updates in the Regency/City.

Strengthening Institutional Relations

The very complex and dynamic population data recording makes the KPU seem helpless. Updating voter data has not been given adequate funds and workforce, so that efforts to update the DPB are still on a small scale. For this reason, good cooperation is needed between the district/city KPU and the local Civil Registration Office. This step is the most logical and more effective effort considering the limited resources owned by the KPU. The strengthening of the relationship in question is the synchronization of population data with voter data through an online application platform. The Civil Registration Office has a Digital Population Identity (IKD) application that provides online population registration services. Then the KPU also has a SIDALIH application, which is also used to manage voter data online. These two applications are very likely to be synchronized so that voter data can automatically change along with changes in population data.

Based on KPU regulations, Article 1 point 46 states, "The voter data information system, hereinafter referred to as Sidalih, is an electronic system and information technology used to assist officers in compiling, coordinating, announcing, and maintaining voter lists." The voter data information system is a computer technology-based information system used by the KPU to assist officers in the process of updating and compiling the voter list (Habibah & Safuan, 2022).

Although the KPU has succeeded in collecting some voter data, such as new voters and voters who have moved residence properly, if it is not supported by good population data, anomalous voter data will be found again; for this reason, good voter data must be supported by good population data (Oki Endrata Wijaya, 2023). The data that the KPU has successfully collected is then submitted to the Ministry of Home Affairs, and vice versa, population data related to voters is submitted to the KPU. To do this, of course, good media/applications are needed so that the data can be connected automatically within a certain time. In this case, the KPU and the Ministry of Home Affairs can help each other in their respective institutions. The Gorontalo Provincial KPU has carried out good cooperation between the KPU and the Ministry of Home Affairs with *Disdukcapi*l of Gorontalo Province. In the 2019 election, the Gorontalo KPU collaborated with the Gorontalo *Disdukcapil* to record e-KTP for people who had not yet recorded.

This cooperation benefits both institutions, where, through the election period, *Disdukcapil* is assisted in recording population data, and the KPU is assisted in improving the quality of voter data. It can be done in all regions in Indonesia. The Gorontalo KPU has proven that this cooperation produces good voter data. In one election moment, two mutually beneficial outcomes are obtained. Population data becomes better, and voter data becomes more accurate. It is important for data connectivity between the KPU and the Ministry of Home Affairs.

CONCLUSION

The main argument of this study is that voter participation is highly dependent on the quality of accurate and up-to-date voter data. The continuous voter data updating process conducted by the General Elections Commission (KPU) plays a crucial role in ensuring the fulfillment of citizens' political rights during elections. In continuous updating, the KPU remains heavily reliant on population data provided by the Civil Registry Office *(Disdukcapil)*. Therefore, a more robust form of collaboration is needed—beyond the limited coordination that has been carried out thus far.

The main argument of this study is that the KPU has not been able to manage continuous voter data (DPB) independently due to limited access to population data. The involvement of the Regency Civil Registration Office is still much needed by the KPU in updating continuous voter data both in and outside the election stages. The KPU cannot yet collect information on voter data movements comprehensively, and tends not to be proactive in the data collection process, which causes voter data regression. Changes in voter data are greatly influenced by the Civil Registration Office's report to the KPU every semester. Good and collaborative cooperation is needed between the Regency/City KPU and the local Civil Registration Office to update voter data. The KPU and Civil Registration Office must be able to maximize service applications by synchronizing data online. This step is considered the most likely to be done so that voter data movements can be detected accurately and quickly in order to encourage integrated voter data digitization.

This research affirms that updating voter data outside the stages is a mandate that must be carried out with totality. The research recommends the use of online applications to link voter data with population data. Stronger cooperation between the KPU and partner institutions, especially local governments, is also needed to ensure the availability of the necessary data. Strengthening cooperation between the KPU and *Disdukcapil* in integrating population data with voter data online. The SIDALIH and IKD applications can be used to support the accuracy of voter data. This research argument shows the importance of collaboration between government institutions in updating sustainable voter data. With the use of online technology and strong cooperation, the accuracy of voter data can be improved, so that elections can be held more transparently and accountably.

This study has not yet explored in depth the potential for collaboration between the General Elections Commission (KPU) and the Civil Registry Office *(Disdukcapil)*. This issue involves two major institutions: the Ministry of Home Affairs and the KPU, which operates as a non-ministerial body. Further analysis is needed to strengthen inter-institutional cooperation in the process of continuous voter data updating. Therefore, it is recommended that future research address this gap by examining the institutional dynamics and opportunities for enhanced collaboration.

REFERENCES

Achmad, A. F. (2020). *Menelaah Ketahanan dan Kedaulatan Pangan di Masa Pandemi*. https://jombang.nu.or.id/berita/menelaah-ketahanan-dan-kedaulatan-pangan-di-masa-pandemi

Afrizal, A. (2014). *Metode Penelitian Kualitatif: Sebuah Upaya Mendukung Penggunaan Penelitian Kualitatif dalam Berbagai Disiplin Ilmu*. PT RajaGrafindo Persada.

Asshiddiqie, J. (2005). *Hukum Tata Negara dan Pilar-Pilar Demokrasi*. Konstitusi Press.

Bachtiar, N., Tamrin, S. H., Pauzi, R., Prilasandi, A. D., & Rafliansyah, M. (2022). Collaborative Process dalam Pengelolaan Desa Wisata. *Jurnal Administrasi Negara*, *28*(3), 340–364. https://doi.org/10.33509/jan.v28i3.1723

Bagijo, H. E. (2010). Daftar Pemilih Tetap dan Perlindungan Hak Pilih (Kajian Perundang-Undangan dan Keputusan Mahkamah Konstitusi). *Perspektif*, *15*(4), 335. https://doi.org/10.30742/perspektif.v15i4.59

Bawaslu. (2020). *Bawaslu Riau Rilis Hasil Pengawasan Kampanye Pilkada 2020, Satu Calon Walikota dan Dua Pejabat ASN Jadi Tersangka*. https://www.bawaslu.go.id/id/berita/bawaslu-riau-rilis-hasil-pengawasan-kampanye-pilkada-2020-satu-calon-walikota-dan-dua-pejabat

Boediningsih, W., & Cahyono, S. B. (2022). Kerjasama Antara Kelembagaan Bawaslu dan KPU dalam Penyelenggaraan Pemilu Tahun 2024 di Tinjau dari Hukum Tata Negara di Indonesia. *Jurnal Locus Penelitian Dan Pengabdian*, *1*(4), 288–301. https://doi.org/10.58344/locus.v1i4.48

Budiardjo, M. (2009). *Dasar-dasar Ilmu Politik*. Gramedia Pustaka Utama.

Bwalya, K. J., & Healy, M. (2010). Harnessing e-Government Adoption in the SADC Region: a Conceptual Underpinning. *Electronic Journal of E-Government*, *8*(1), 13–22. https://academic-publishing.org/index.php/ejeg/article/view/522

Creswell, J. W., & Poth, C. N. (2018). *Qualitative Inquiry and Research Design: Choosing Among Five Approaches*. SAGE Publications.

Dahl, R. A. (2020). *On Democracy*. Yale University Press. https://doi.org/10.2307/j.ctv18zhcs4

Datu, A. M. A. B. (2018). The Formulation of The Norm On Handling The Violation of Local Election. *Mulawarman Law Review*, 15–29. https://doi.org/10.30872/mulrev.v3i1.27

Dedi, A. (2019). Analisis Sistem Pemilihan Umum Serentak 2019. *Moderat: Jurnal Ilmiah Ilmu Pemerintahan*, *5*(3), 213–226. https://doi.org/10.25147/MODERAT.V5I3.2676

Ezrow, L., & Xezonakis, G. (2016). Satisfaction with democracy and voter turnout. *Party Politics*, *22*(1), 3–14. https://doi.org/10.1177/1354068814549335

Fauzi, N. (1999). *Petani & Penguasa: Dinamika Perjalanan Politik Agraria Indonesia*. INSIST, KPA bekerjasama dengan Pustaka Pelajar.

Gaffar, A. (2005). *Politik Indonesia: Transisi Menuju Demokrasi*. Pustaka Pelajar.

Gorwa, R. (2021). Elections, institutions, and the regulatory politics of platform governance: The case of the German NetzDG. *Telecommunications Policy*, *45*(6), 102145. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.telpol.2021.102145

Habibah, I. N., & Safuan, S. (2022). Penggunaan Aplikasi Sistem Informasi Data Pemilih (SIDALIH) Berkelanjutan untuk Mewujudkan Daftar Pemilih yang Akurat dan Mutakhir. *Syntax Literate ; Jurnal Ilmiah Indonesia*, *7*(2), 782. https://doi.org/10.36418/syntax-literate.v7i2.6322

Hazamuddin, La Ode Bariun, & La Ode Munawir. (2023). Implementasi Kewenangan Bawaslu Pada Pengawasan Pemutakhiran Daftar Pemilih Dalam Daftar Pemilih Berkelanjutan. *Journal Publicuho*, *6*(1). https://doi.org/10.35817/publicuho.v6i1.99

Izzaty, R., & Nugraha, X. (2019). Perwujudan Pemilu yang Luberjurdil melalui Validitas Daftar Pemilih Tetap. *Jurnal Suara Hukum*, *1*(2), 155. https://doi.org/10.26740/jsh.v1n2.p155-171

Karlina, N. M. D., Pascaran, N. N. D., & Purnamaningsih, P. E. (2015). Evaluasi Kinerja Komisi Pemilihan Umum Kabupaten Badung Dalam Proses Pemutakhiran Daftar Pemilih Tetap (Dpt) Desa Dalung Pada Pemilihan Bupati Dan Wakil Bupati Kabupaten Badung Tahun 2015. *Citizen Charter*, *1*(1), 165249.

Kenett, R. S., Pfeffermann, D., & Steinberg, D. M. (2018). Election Polls—A Survey, A Critique, and Proposals. *Annual Review of Statistics and Its Application*, *5*(1), 1–24. https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev-statistics-031017-100204

Kosmas, E., & Mauritsius, D. (2009). Pelaksanaan Asas Pemilu: Analisis Masalah Daftar Pemilih Tetap dalam Pemilu 2009. *Konstitusi Jurnal*, *2*(1), 93.

Kostelka, F., & Blais, A. (2018). The Chicken and Egg Question: Satisfaction with Democracy and Voter Turnout. *PS: Political Science & Politics*, *51*(02), 370–376. https://doi.org/10.1017/S1049096517002050

KPU. (2017). *Peraturan Komisi Pemilihan Umum Nomor 2 Tahun 2017 tentang Pemutakhiran Data Pemilih*. Database Peraturan | Jaringan Dokumentasi dan Informasi Hukum (JDIH) BPK.

Menger, A., & Stein, R. M. (2020). Choosing the Less Convenient Way to Vote: An Anomaly in Vote by Mail Elections. *Political Research Quarterly*, *73*(1), 196–207. https://doi.org/10.1177/1065912919890009

Mulyaningsih, H., Hertanto, H., & Wibisono, D. (2020). Validitas Data Pemilih Potensial Pemilu (DP4) pada Pemilu Serentak 2019 di Lampung (Studi di Kabupaten Pesawaran). *SOSIOLOGI: Jurnal Ilmiah Kajian Ilmu Sosial Dan Budaya*, *22*(1), 64–78. https://doi.org/10.23960/sosiologi.v22i1.48

Ointu, L. A., N.J. Rotty, V., & H Mamonto, F. (2022). Implementasi Program Pemutakhiran Data Pemilih Berkelanjutan Di Kota Manado. *SIBATIK JOURNAL: Jurnal Ilmiah Bidang Sosial, Ekonomi, Budaya, Teknologi, Dan Pendidikan*, *1*(12), 2969–2976. https://doi.org/10.54443/sibatik.v1i12.478

Oki Endrata Wijaya. (2023). Kinerja Komisi Pemilihan Umum Dalam Penetapan Data Daftar Pemilih Tetap. *Jurnal Ilmu Pemerintahan*, *2*(1).

Quaranta, M., & Martini, S. (2016). Does the economy really matter for satisfaction with democracy? Longitudinal and cross-country evidence from the European Union. *Electoral Studies*, *42*, 164–174. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.electstud.2016.02.015

Peters, B. G. (2023). Governance and Comparative Politics. In *Debating Governance: Authority, Steering, and Democracy*. https://doi.org/10.1093/oso/9780198295143.003.0003

Rahman, M. (2022). Electoral Governance. In *Global Encyclopedia of Public Administration, Public Policy, and Governance* (pp. 3758–3764). Springer International Publishing. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-66252-3_3404

Rosanvallon, P., & DeBevoise, M. (2018). *Good Government*. Harvard University Press. https://doi.org/10.4159/9780674986312

Sabilah, A., & Nurjaman, A. (2023). KPU's Strategy in Overcoming Double Data Issues in the Registration of 2024 Electoral Participants in Mojokerto City. *ARISTO*, *12*(2), 371–394. https://doi.org/10.24269/ars.v12i2.7922

Salsabila, F. (2018). Inovasi Program Elektronik Tilang (E-Tilang) Dalam Meningkatkan Pelayanan Publik Di Kepolisian Resort (Polres) Kediri. *Publika*, *6*(2).

Samuel, C. A. (2021). *Capaian, Peluang, dan Tantangan Implementasi e-Government di Indonesia*. Center for Digital Society, FISIPOL UGM. https://cfds.fisipol.ugm.ac.id/

Sari, D. N. (2019). *HUBUNGAN MANAJEMEN LABA DENGAN PERGANTIAN CEO (STUDI EMPIRIS PADA PERUSAHAAN MANUFAKTUR YANG TERDAFTAR DI BURSA EFEK INDONESIA)*. STIE Indonesia Banjarmasin.

Setiawan, M. D. (2024). Juridical Analysis of Voter Data Access Rights Based on Law Number 27 of 2022 Concerning Personal Data Protection. *In-Prolegurit*, *3*(1), 1–22. https://in-prolegurit.upnjatim.ac.id/index.php/in-prolegurit/article/view/42

Simamora, J. (2013). Perlindungan Hak Memilih Sebagai Hak Konstitusional Warga Negara. *Jurnal Yudisial*, *6*(2), 123–142.

Surbakti, R., Supriyanto, D., & Asy'ari, H. (2011). *Menjaga Integritas Pemungutan dan Penghitungan Suara*. Kemitraan bagi Pembaruan Tata Pemerintahan. http://safaat.lecture.ub.ac.id/files/2017/02/SERI-DEMOKRASI-ELEKTORAL-NO.-13-MENJAGA-INTEGRITAS-PEMUNGUTAN-DAN-PENGHITUNGAN-SUARA.pdf

van Gunsteren, H. (2018). *A Theory of Citizenship*. Routledge. https://doi.org/10.4324/9780429502583

Wijaya, J. H., & Permatasari, I. A. (2023). Dismantling Mafias and Oligarchs in the 2019 Elections 'A New Approach to the 2019 Elections and Its Implications for Election Administration and Governance' : Book Review. *SSRN Electronic Journal*. https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4453883

Wijaya, S., Amiruddin, S., & Budiati, A. (2023). Strategi Komisi Pemilihan Umum Kabupaten Pandeglang Untuk Meningkatkan Partisipasi Pemilih Dalam Pilkada Serentak Di Kabupaten Pandeglang Tahun 2020. *Jurnal Cahaya Mandalika*, *4*(3).

Yandra, A. (2017). Penyelamatan Hak Pilih Warga Perbatasan Jelang Pilkada. *POLITIK*, *13*(1).

Yandra, A., Faridhi, A., Andrizal, A., Ferizko, A., & Melani Puteri, T. I. (2023). Understanding the Voter Data Information System (SIDALIH): The Need for Sustainable Voter Data Accuracy (DPB) Ahead of the 2024 General Election. *KnE Social Sciences*. https://doi.org/10.18502/kss.v8i5.13012

Zainal, Z., & Putra, R. N. (2022). Implementation Of Update Voter Data On Election Of Governor And Vice Governor Of Riau In Bengkalis Regency. *Jurnal Kajian Pemerintah: Journal of Government, Social and Politics*, *8*(2), 1–15. https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.25299/jkp.2022.vol8(1).9693

Zukni, S. D., Atmaja, S., & Dila, D. (2023). Problematika Proses Pemutakhiran Data Pemilih pada Pemilu Tahun 2024. *Aufklarung: Jurnal Pendidikan, Sosial Dan Humaniora*, *3*(3), 201–206. https://pijarpemikiran.com/index.php/Aufklarung/article/view/549