

Analyzing public sentiment on implementing the presidential threshold in Indonesia's presidential election system

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Article History

Submitted : 08-01-2023
Revised : 03-04-2023
Accepted : 10-04-2023
Published : 30-04-2023

Article Link

<https://journal.uny.ac.id/index.php/civics/article/view/57295>

Abstract

The threshold Limits for presidential and vice presidential candidates have been a prominent topic since the introduction of direct presidential elections. Initially, the presidential threshold aimed to determine the candidates competing in the presidential election. However, over time, it has become a subject of prolonged debate, as it was perceived to undermine the rights of individuals in government and impede the principle of equality in democracy. This study utilizes qualitative research methods to gauge public sentiment regarding implementing the presidential threshold in Indonesia's presidential election system after the 2019 election. The research collected data through the Nvivo 12 Plus, utilizing sources such as Twitter (with the hashtag #presidentialthreshold) and online news media outlets, including Kompas, Detik, Tempo, Republika, and TribunNews. The study findings indicate that the percentage requirement is the most frequently discussed topic regarding the presidential threshold. Tempo is the online news media outlet that prominently highlights the issue. The analysis reveals that negative sentiment prevails in public opinion, comprising 63% of responses, while positive sentiment constitutes 37%. Tempo primarily represents positive sentiment, while Republika reflects negative sentiment. Positive public sentiment focuses on parliamentary support, while negative sentiment centers around candidates' opportunities.

Keywords; presidential election presidential threshold; sentiment analysis

Introduction

Thresholds in general elections are widespread in democratic countries (Ansari et al., 2022; Widyana, 2022). A threshold refers to a minimum number or proportion of voters



required to secure representation or seats in parliament within a proportional representation system. The term threshold can also be understood as a minimum limit (Maftuh, 2020). Thresholds are commonly applied in parliamentary and presidential elections (Armia et al., 2016). The parliamentary threshold is governed by Law Number 10 of 2008 concerning General Elections. Article 202 of this law states that political parties participating in the general election must secure at least 2.5 percent of national polls for seats in the parliament (House of Representatives or Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat (DPR) in Indonesia Language).

On the other hand, the presidential threshold pertains to the level of support required from the parliament. Political parties participating in the election must obtain specific seats or votes to meet the criteria for nominating president and vice-president candidates (Mukhtarrija et al., 2017). The presidential threshold is regulated by Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning General Elections, which specifies that the presidential and vice-presidential candidate pairs must secure a minimum of 20% of the valid national votes from the number of seats in the DPR, or 25% of the valid national votes from the previous parliament election (Syahuri & Fahrozi, 2020). However, the presidential nomination threshold has generated debates due to concerns that it contradicts democratic principles that guarantee equal rights and opportunities for all individuals in shaping the nation and society, as well as being a constitutional right (Fuqoha, 2018).

According to a previous study conducted by Ghoffar (2018), the issue of threshold Limits for president and vice-president candidates has consistently emerged since the implementation of direct presidential elections. Initially, the presidential threshold was intended to select candidates for the presidential election. However, the concept of the presidential threshold has since become a long polemic, as it is believed to undermine the rights of individuals in governance and impede the principle of equality in democracy (Anggara, 2019; Wijaya et al., 2020).

Threshold requirements reduce people's right to choose their desired leader (Ghoffar, 2018). On the other hand, the presidential threshold is very important to strengthen the presidential system. The existence of support in parliament through the presidential threshold will make it easier for candidates to implement their programs if elected. It will create a stable government, and a running government will have no difficulty making policies with the legislature (Mausili, 2019).

This study will analyze public sentiment toward the implementation of the presidential threshold. Sentiment analysis, known as opinion mining, is a branch of text mining research that aims to determine the public's perception of a topic, event, or issue. Sentiment analysis is a classification task to classify texts into positive and negative orientations and then explain them in depth (Wijaya et al., 2020).

Text mining can be defined as a process for extracting information in which a user interacts with a set of documents using analysis tools, which are the data component. Text mining aims to obtain helpful information from documents (Nurhadi, 2012). So, the data source used in text mining is a collection of texts with an unstructured or semi-structured format. The specific task of text mining is text categorization and grouping (Nurhuda et al., 2016).

This research uses online media. Hung, L. et al. published one of the first studies in this field, in which the authors tried a new approach to identify sentiments in online media automatically (Hasti et al., 2022). Text mining from online media is divided into three stages: text pre-processing, feature selection, and text analysis. Tokenizing, filtering, stemming, marking, and evaluating are some of the text pre-processing phases. The stop list algorithm will filter words, including pronouns, adverbs, conjunctions, prepositions, and usages.

On the other hand, the word list algorithm will store important words (Pratama & Atmi, 2020). The methods used are Sentiment Analysis and Word Cloud Analysis. The results of word

cloud analysis show that the words that appear are related to the "Presidential Threshold" (Hasti et al., 2022).

From the observations of previous research authors, most researchers discussed the advantages and disadvantages of the presidential threshold and from a legal perspective regarding Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning Elections and Constitutional Court (Mahkamah Konsitusi in Indonesia Language) decisions. The presidential threshold based on Law Number 7 of 2017 has ineffectiveness in its implementation in general elections, namely (1) contrary to amendments to the 1945 Constitution, (2) injustice of new political parties participating in general elections, (3) weakening of the presidential system in Indonesia (Mukhtarrija et al., 2017). In this case, there is a significant difference in emphasizing the urgency and importance of the research conducted by this author. On the other hand, in this study, the authors will analyze public sentiment toward implementing the presidential threshold in the presidential election system in Indonesia after the 2019 presidential election.

Method

The type of research used in this research is qualitative. Qualitative research aims to provide an orderly, realistic, and accurate picture of the population of a particular area. Qualitative research is a research method based on a post-positivist philosophy. Used to study natural objects (as opposed to experiments) where the researcher is the primary tool (Septia & Suswanta, 2022). In this study, the authors used primary data. Primary data sources include Twitter with the hashtag *#presidentialthreshold*, online news media, and previous research related to the presidential threshold to support data from researchers who will show positive and negative sentiments toward implementing the presidential threshold in the presidential election system in Indonesia after the 2019 presidential election.

Sentiment analysis is a branch of text-mining research that evaluates the public interpretation (audience) or subjectivity of a topic, event, debate, or problem (Wahyuni, 2018). Sentiment analysis is a classification task that determines positive and negative sentiments. After collecting and mapping hashtags and related online media through NVivo 12, this research uses Sentiment Analysis and Word Cloud Analysis. Nvivo 12 Plus analyzes and collects data from online media, Twitter, and previous research. Online media and Twitter data, coupled with previous research, are relevant for users to see positive and negative sentiments about implementing the presidential threshold. NVivo can accommodate and assist analysis across a wide range of research questions, data types, perspectives, and methodologies (Brandão, 2015).

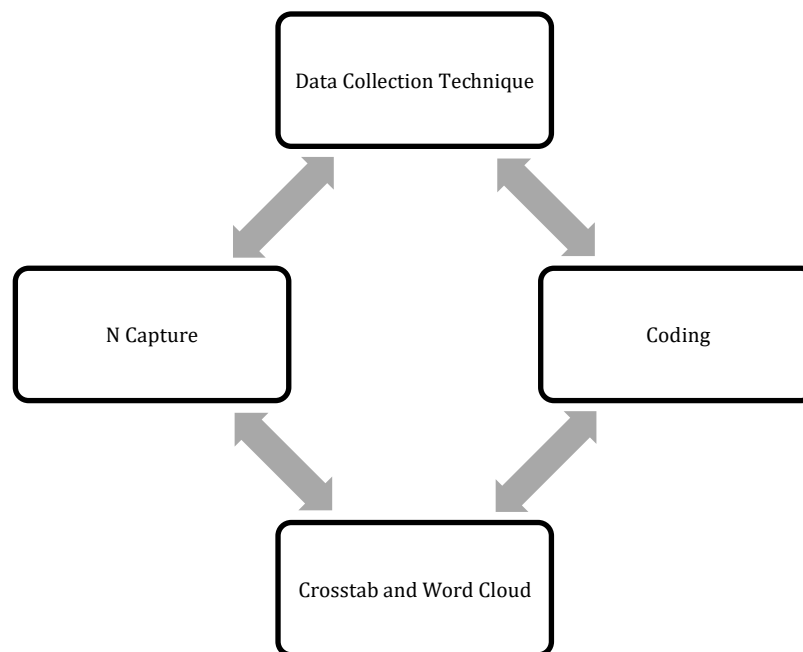
The researcher uses the primary search term "presidential threshold." The online news sources used are Kompas, Detik, Tempo, Republika, and Tribunnews, trusted online media sources captured by N-capture using Nvivo 12 Plus to be classified into positive and negative sentiments. The following is a source of data in this study.

Table 1
Data Sources

Social Media	Website
Kompas	Kompas.com
Detik	Detik.com
Tempo	Tempo.co
Republika	Republika.co.id
Tribunnews	Tribunnews.com

Techniques were carried out by triangulation (observation, documentation, and data collected). Obtained by using the Capture feature on the Nvivo 12 plus, where the N capture feature is a web browser extension developed to capture web content in the form of website content, online media, and other document content such as scientific articles and collections (Septia & Suswanta, 2022).

Figure 1
Data Collection Technique



Result and Discussion

The presidential threshold is the minimum limit used in presidential candidacy in Indonesia. Any party wishing to compete in the presidential election must meet this minimum threshold to participate in the presidential election. To meet the minimum threshold requirements (presidential threshold), any party that does not meet the minimum threshold specified in the presidential threshold must form a coalition with other parties to meet the minimum number in the presidential election, which is 20% of parliamentary seats or 25% of valid votes in the general election.

The presidential threshold in Indonesia has been implemented since the direct election of the president and vice president in 2004. The 2004 to 2014 elections were carried out in two stages and two instruments (Diniyanto, 2018). This condition does not have much impact on the presidential threshold. However, there are still people who conduct material tests related to implementing the presidential threshold. Entering the 2019 election, the conditions are different from the previous elections. The 2019 elections will be held simultaneously. Consequently, there will be parties who are harmed. Political parties that do not have the number of seats according to the presidential threshold can undoubtedly be in a coalition with other parties to nominate the president and vice president.

The new political party suffered more losses. Certainly, new political parties cannot nominate candidates for president and vice president. New political parties can only campaign for presidential and vice-presidential candidates (Diniyanto, 2018). The losses experienced by old or new political parties are the impact of the implementation of the presidential threshold in the 2019 simultaneous elections.

Ahead of the 2024 election, the issue of the presidential threshold has again surfaced in society, according to Refly Harun, an expert on constitutional law. He hopes the presidential threshold in the 2024 election is removed. No longer do the presidential threshold like the last election which led to the emergence of two presidential and vice-presidential candidates. According to Refly Harun, the two pairs of presidential and vice-presidential candidates will trigger a split in support or unhealthy community groups. Politics in the country should be much more fluid (Prawira, 2020).

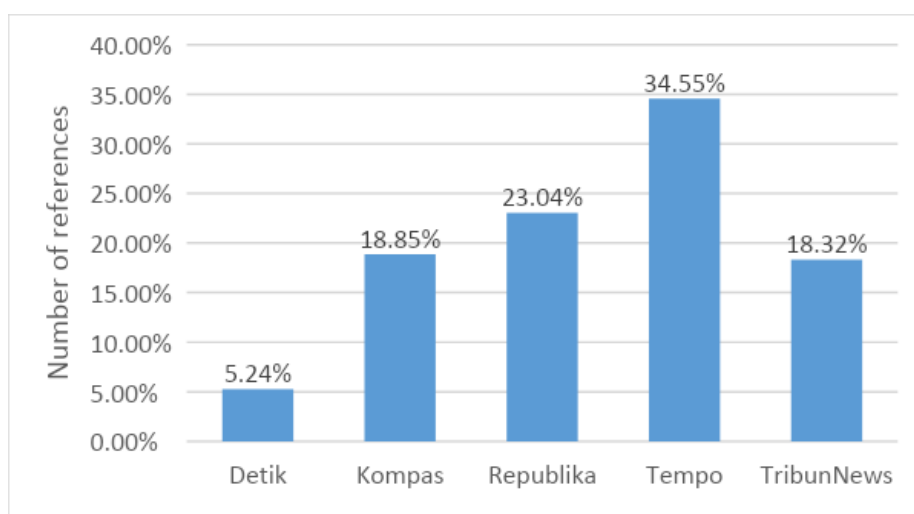
The application of the presidential threshold is inseparable from its pros and cons in it. The data processed using Nvivo below displays the most discussed topics in the presidential threshold.

Figure 2
The most discussed topics in the presidential threshold



From the data above, the results of processing Word Cloud using Nvivo show that the dominant word that appears is Percent. This shows that many people comment on Percent, which is the threshold for implementing the presidential threshold. It can be interpreted that the percentage is in the public spotlight in the presidential threshold. This refers to the presidential threshold figure, which is 20% of parliamentary seats and 25% of valid votes in the previous election, the minimum limit for presidential candidates. The image below shows the online news media that discusses the presidential threshold the most based on the results of the nvivo 12 plus crostabb.

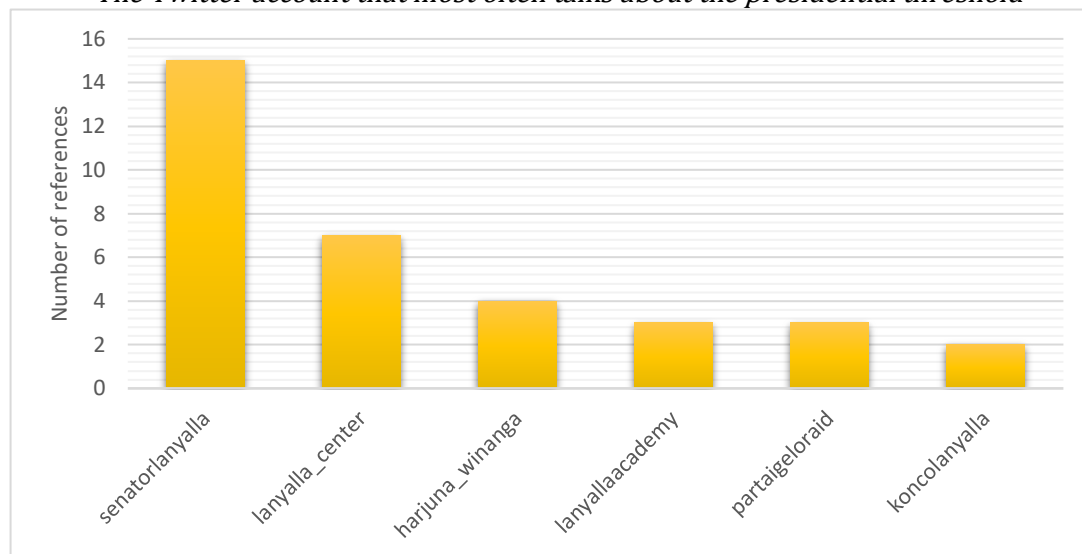
Figure 3
Online news media that mostly discuss the presidential threshold



The data presented above shows that online news media highlight the implementation of the presidential threshold, namely Tempo at 34.55%, Republika at 23.04%, Kompas at 18.85%, TribunNews at 18.32%, and Detik at 5.24%. Based on the data above, Tempo is the most

dominant online news media highlighting the implementation of the presidential threshold. The data below shows the Twitter accounts that most often comment on the Presidential Threshold results from Crostabb via Nvivo 12 Plus.

Figure 4
The Twitter account that most often talks about the presidential threshold



From the data presented above, the results of data processing using Nvivo show that the Twitter accounts that most frequently comment on presidential threshold are accounts named senatorlanyalla, lanyalla_center, harjuna_winanga, lanyallaacademy, partygeloraid, koncolanyalla. From the data cited by several online media, La Nyalla often voiced his disapproval of the implementation of the presidential threshold. According to him, the presidential threshold initially strengthened the presidential system and democracy, but on the ground, it was the opposite.

La Nyalla explained again that this threshold was detrimental because the presidential nomination threshold contributed to sharp polarization in society. The application of the presidential threshold cannot be separated from the pros and cons and public sentiment in its implementation. The existence of the presidential threshold was initially aimed at selecting candidates who would compete in the presidential election, but this concept later became a prolonged polemic that would undermine the rights of everyone in government and was considered to impede the principle of equality in democracy. The following is the public sentiment regarding the implementation of the presidential threshold.

Sentiment Analysis

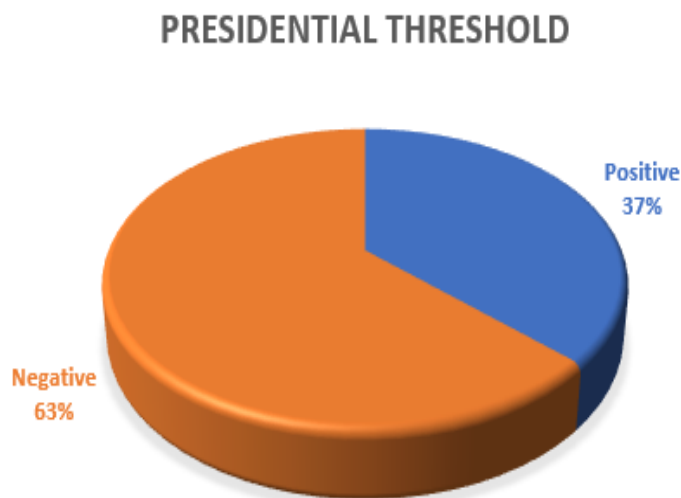
Sentiment analysis is a technique used to determine the emotional tone of a piece of text, such as social media posts or news articles. Sentiment analysis can be used to analyze public opinion and emotional responses related to presidential elections, candidates, and policies. Sentiment analysis of the presidential threshold is still the hottest topic discussed by stakeholders, political figures, and the public.

On the other hand, the presidential threshold is considered important because it will strengthen the presidential system. The data processed below will show the percentage of positive and negative public opinion sentiment in the implementation of the presidential threshold.

Data on Fogure 5 taken from several online media and Twitter users after grouping the results of data processing using Nvivo, shows that positive public sentiment towards the implementation of the presidential threshold is 37%, while negative opinion public by 63%. This shows that the opposing view in the application of the presidential threshold is higher than

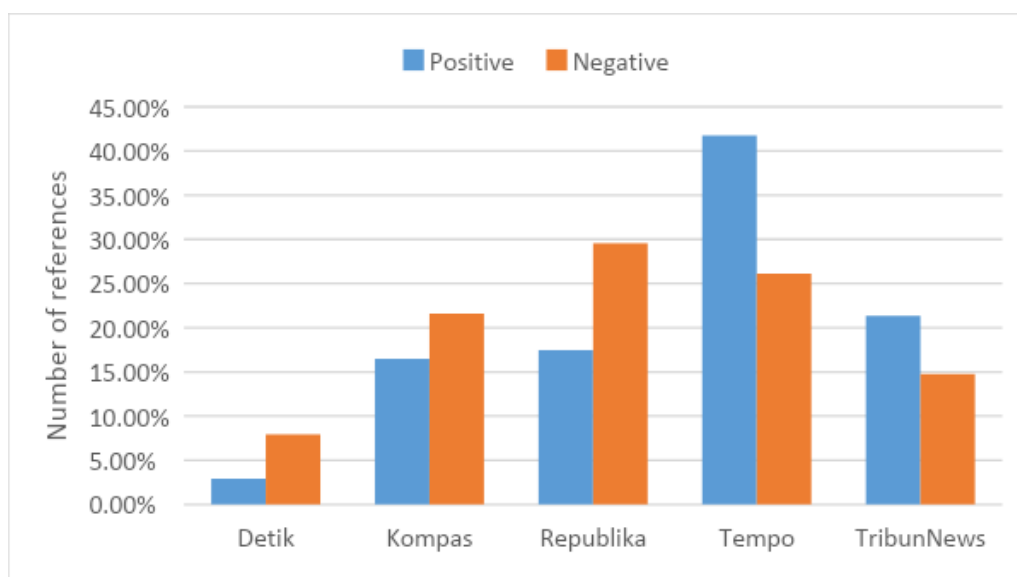
the positive sentiment. Most people give negative sentiments toward the application of the presidential threshold as the threshold for presidential candidacy requirements in Indonesia.

Figure 5
Percentage of public sentiment regarding presidential threshold



The online news media that provide positive sentiment and negative sentiment regarding the implementation of the presidential threshold resulting from Crostabb via Nvivo 12 Plus can be seen in the image below.

Figure 6
Online news media gives positive and negative sentiments



The data presented above shows that online news media provide positive and negative sentiments regarding the implementation of the presidential threshold. The online news media that gave positive sentiment were Tempo at 41.75%, TribunNews at 21.36%, Republika at 17.48%, Kompas at 16.50%, and Detik at 2.91%. Based on the data above, Tempo is the most dominant online news media providing positive sentiment regarding the implementation of the presidential threshold. Meanwhile, online news media that gave negative sentiments were Republika at 29.55%, Tempo at 26.14%, Kompas at 21.59%, TribunNews at 14.77%, and Detik at 7.95%. Based on the data above, Republika is the most dominant online news media giving negative sentiment regarding the implementation of the presidential threshold.

As for the problems regarding the presidential threshold (1), the application of the Presidential Threshold has caused all political parties participating in the election to almost be unable to nominate President and Vice President because they have to fulfill the provisions of Article 222 of Law Number 7 of 2017, loss of rights, new political party constitutions, and the

occurrence of extraordinary divisions in the Indonesian people. (2) The ideal vote acquisition threshold applied to the Republic of Indonesia is based on the Constitutional Court decision to defend Article 222 Law Number 7 of 2017. According to him, the requirements for submitting candidates for presidential and vice-presidential pairs must reduce the previous seat acquisition and there are three to four candidates for President and Vice President by lowering the threshold which is not too high then this is in accordance with the mandate of the constitution, where Indonesia requires an absolute majority so that the President together is not included in a group that will automatically strengthen legitimacy so that political policies and steps taken are not caused problems.

Based on the lawsuits of several applicants to the Constitutional Court, namely Judicial Review Article 222 of the Election Law and Article 6A of the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia because they were considered to close democratic space in proposing presidential candidates. The following are positive and negative sentiments regarding the implementation of the presidential threshold.

Positive Sentiment

Several groups gave positive sentiments regarding the implementation of the Presidential Threshold in the presidential election system in Indonesia. The Presidential Threshold is considered capable of strengthening the presidential system because in the presidential election, before being elected, the presidential candidate has received support from the parliament or legislature, which if elected, automatically gets the support of at least 20% of parliamentary seats. Data processed using Nvivo will show positive sentiment from public opinion in applying the presidential threshold.

Figure 7

Positive public sentiment related to presidential threshold



From the data above, the results of Word Cloud processing using Nvivo show that the dominant words that appear are support and parliament. This shows that the positive sentiment of public opinion regarding the presidential threshold is regarding parliamentary support. It can be interpreted that the application of the presidential threshold is considered capable of strengthening the presidential system due to parliamentary support. The advantage of the presidential threshold is that the president elected from a presidential election system with a threshold system will have strong support in parliament. In addition, judging from the presidential system, basically, the presidential threshold can indeed support the strengthening of the presidential system.

sentiment and 37% positive sentiment, which means that most people give negative sentiment towards the implementation of the presidential threshold. Tempo is the online news media that gives the most positive sentiments, while Republika is the online news media that gives the most negative sentiments.

Meanwhile, the positive sentiment of public opinion regarding the Presidential Threshold is regarding parliamentary support, which means that the application of the presidential threshold is considered capable of strengthening the presidential system because of parliamentary support. Meanwhile, negative public sentiment is about Thresholds and Opportunities. It can be interpreted that the application of the Presidential Threshold can limit the opportunity for the nation's best sons and daughters, alternative figures, and political parties to compete in the presidential election.

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