

Institutional isomorphism and community politicisation: A theoretical and empirical comparison between Indonesia and Japan

Seala Syah Alam * 

* Universitas Indonesia, Indonesia

ssa.sealasyahalam@gmail.com

Sudarsono Hardjosoekarto 

Universitas Indonesia, Indonesia

soekarto@ui.ac.id

Arthur Josias Simon Runturambi 

Universitas Indonesia, Indonesia

simonrbi@yahoo.com

Chairul Muriman Setyabudi 

Universitas Indonesia, Indonesia

cak_iir1966@yahoo.com

*Corresponding Author

Article Info

Article History

Submitted:

26 November 2025

Revised:

5 December 2025

Accepted:

6 Macc 2026

Keywords

isomorphism, Indonesia, Japan, community politicisation.

Abstract

This research aims to explore how global pressures, international standards, and institutional structures influence the development and effectiveness of community politicisation, with a focus on the similarities and differences between the two countries. This research employs a qualitative method, analysing secondary data from interviews, digital platforms, and public sources, complemented by textual analysis methods and social network analysis. These findings highlight the key role of isomorphism in standardising politicisation practices, with Indonesia and Japan both adopting community politicisation models to increase public cooperation. However, significant differences were observed in the execution of these models, particularly in the level of community involvement and the historical context in which they were implemented. While Japan's political system has matured through policies and structures such as "*koban*" and "*chuzaisyo*", Indonesia faces challenges related to limited resources and community diversity. The research concludes that the success of community politicisation depends on the effective adaptation of isomorphisms to local needs, emphasising the importance of community participation, human resource development, and periodic evaluations for sustainability and effectiveness. Further research should explore the impact of local adaptation and innovation on community politicisation outcomes.

Article Link: <https://journal.uny.ac.id/index.php/civics/article/view/91943>

Introduction

Institutional isomorphism has become a phenomenon attracting the attention of academics in recent decades. In the police sector, this phenomenon is becoming increasingly relevant, considering the global trend towards a community-politicisation model. This



phenomenon shows the importance of implementing such practices, as crime tends to increase in areas with weak social control (Ceccato, 2019; Chudnovsky & Peeters, 2022). In addition, there is an administrative burden, referring to the bureaucratic and operational tasks the police must fulfil, which creates a need for greater compliance with standardised regulations and procedures (Peeters, 2020). This encourages police to emulate the practices of other organisations that are considered successful in the face of similar pressure, whether from government, society, or the professional environment (Muellerleile & Robertson, 2018).

Institutional isomorphism is a concept in organisational theory that describes how institutions tend to resemble one another under external and internal pressures, such as regulation, professionalisation, and social norms. In community politicisation, isomorphism takes many forms, driven by different institutional pressures, but the same need for effective crime prevention strategies (Wisler et al., 2021), where police culture includes "accepted practices, rules, and principles of behaviour, as well as generally applied reasons and beliefs". The community-politicisation movement is an effort to build better relationships between police and citizens and increase cooperation (Dlamini, 2024). When applied to community politicisation in Indonesia, the concept of institutional isomorphism can help explain how politicisation models adapt to various pressures.

In various countries, including Indonesia and Japan, the community-politicisation model has been implemented to increase public trust and cooperation between police and citizens. Isomorphism is a recent contribution that includes aspects of knowledge sharing in projects, organised volunteer participation, and interaction in culturally diverse environments (Toner & Martins, 2022). This is reflected in the concept of institutional theory, which views private actors and civil society as resources and tools for collaborative public policymaking, rather than merely targets or passive parties to public regulation (Peters et al., 2022; Nurmajesty et al., 2022).

In terms of community, cooperation between the police, citizens, and community institutions is very important. The success of crime prevention strategies and increased security depends on the involvement of all parties, not just unilateral actions from police authorities (Sedgwick et al., 2021). According to the concept of new public management, the importance of performance measurement in public organisations is emphasised. The popularity of performance measurement assumes that performance information can be used to make more rational and data-driven decisions (George et al., 2020). Performance measurement is considered important because good work ethics are a key factor in achieving an organisation's long-term success; therefore, public or societal judgments help organisations understand how their performance is perceived externally. The moral embeddedness of labour market transactions in Indonesia: research of Chinese migrant workers (Sitorus et al., 2023).

According to Peng et al. (2023), there are three mechanisms of isomorphism change in institutions: first, coercive changes that occur due to pressure from external parties, such as government regulations or regulations (Krajnović, 2018) Second, mimetic changes that occur when institutions imitate practices or models from other institutions that are considered more successful to reduce uncertainty (Mu & Wang, 2022); and third, normative change driven by professionalism, where certain standards or norms derived from education and training become a guide for institutional practice (Sorrentino et al., 2023).

This law then encourages mimetic isomorphisms, with similar institutions expanding the provision of psychosocial services to crime victims to increase effectiveness and gain additional legitimacy (Subangun & Hadjosoekarto, 2023). Mimetic isomorphism occurs when an organisation imitates the practices of other organisations that are considered more legitimate. The difference arises because there is no obligation to completely imitate the whole, especially if the legitimacy of the referral organisation is weak or only part of its values aligns with the organisation's internal culture (Muhammaditya et al., 2021).

However, the research also shows that new international policies and practices, such as cognitive interviewing, are difficult to fully adopt in Indonesia due to local investigators' views and positions. This indicates that intensive training or supervision can accelerate its implementation while ensuring a training approach aligned with "reality on the ground" in Indonesia. In addition, the need for CAP (Community Action Program) to pursue innovative approaches is becoming an important strategy for achieving a better future, such as addressing unemployment through franchise and assistance programs. This indicates the need for similar innovative reforms in the Indonesian police (Gozali et al., 2017).

The previous research by Chudnovsky & Peeters (2022) explores the administrative challenges and exclusion faced by citizens in obtaining critical documents, which connects to our research on institutional isomorphism, particularly the bureaucratic and operational tasks faced by organisations like the police, and to our research on community politicisation. Dlamini (2024) investigates the role of community forums in politicisation and their legitimacy. This research aligns with our focus on community politicisation in both Indonesia and Japan, as it discusses the collaborative efforts between police forces and local communities.

This research has clear and significant novelties. *First*, empirically, it presents a contemporary case study of the implementation of community politicisation in Indonesia, a topic that has not previously been extensively explored in the academic literature. *Second*, it introduces a new theoretical framework to explain how global pressures and international standards shape institutional change in the Indonesian political system. Furthermore, it explicitly compares the politicisation of communities in Indonesia and Japan, identifying significant structural and institutional differences. Thus, this research not only enriches theoretical understanding but also provides an original contribution through a previously unexplored cross-national comparative perspective.

This research selected Indonesia and Japan as its subjects of study because both have distinct yet relevant experiences in implementing community politicisation. In Indonesia, the police force faces complex challenges, including varying crime rates, a complex bureaucracy, and varying officer capacities. Therefore, implementing community politicisation requires adaptation to local conditions and organisational culture. Meanwhile, Japan has a more established community policing system, such as the *Koban* model, which has long been part of police culture and community interactions, and offers standardised professional practices. This comparison allows the research to identify institutional variables, adaptation strategies, and best practices that differ between developing and developed countries.

The research uses an institutional isomorphism framework, encompassing coercive, mimetic, and normative pressures, to analyse how police institutions adapt, imitate, or standardise community politicisation practices. In Indonesia, mimetic pressures are seen when police imitate practices from Japan or other countries to increase legitimacy and effectiveness, while coercive and normative pressures shape regulatory compliance and professionalism. In Japan, community politicisation practices are more stable and formalised, serving as a model for other countries seeking to adopt community-based policing systems. Thus, this comparative study not only enriches the understanding of the politicisation of communities in local contexts but also provides global insights into how institutional pressures influence the adoption and adaptation of community-based policing practices across countries.

The objectives of this research are: (1) to analyse how institutional isomorphism affects community politicisation in Indonesia and Japan; and (2) to conduct an in-depth analysis of the comparison of institutional developments in community politicisation between the two countries. This research focuses on the factors that influence isomorphism across the two politicisation systems, including the policies implemented, organisational structures, and field practices. The results of the research can provide a more in-depth explanation of isomorphism and community politicisation in Indonesia and Japan. In addition to providing a comparison of case studies between the two countries, it also includes a comparison of case studies.

Method

This study adopts a digital qualitative research approach that combines primary data from online platforms with secondary data from interviews and documentation (Luayya et al., 2022; Paulus & Lester, 2024; Rangaswamy & Venkatraman, 2025). The research follows a digital research framework, as utilised Luayya et al. (2022) and Fauzi et al. (2023), drawing data from online media articles, YouTube videos, and the Netlytic application. According to Rogers (2009), digital research not only explores online culture but also employs techniques for collecting and analysing archived digital materials, including texts, videos, and digital interactions.

The data in this study are categorised as primary data, sourced directly from the internet, videos, audio materials, YouTube content, and journal articles focusing on institutional isomorphism and community politicisation in Indonesia and Japan (Fauzi et al., 2023). Secondary data includes supporting data from interviews, observations, and documentation with key informants on community politicisation in both countries.

Data were collected using non-intrusive methods, including digital observation and structured interviews with key stakeholders. Information was gathered iteratively by monitoring digital platforms and social media networks relevant to the research topic. The sampling strategy combined purposive sampling and snowball sampling to ensure the inclusion of diverse and information-rich sources:

1. Purposive Sampling

Digital platforms (Facebook, government websites, police apps) and stakeholders were deliberately selected for their active involvement or authoritative positions in the discourse on community policing in both Indonesia and Japan.

2. Snowball Sampling

From initial data points, additional digital actors (users, institutions, or online communities) were identified through observed interactions, mentions, or hyperlinks, allowing the sample to expand organically.

3. Platform Selection Criteria

Platforms were chosen based on the following:

- a. High traffic and topic relevance, such as the official Indonesian police website, the Koban forum in Japan, and widely used social media platforms.
- b. Public accessibility and regular updates of content that is easily accessible for analysis and reflects the latest trends.
- c. Engagement in discussions related to community policing platforms that feature complaints, initiatives, or public dialogue about community safety.

4. Interview Sampling

Interview participants were selected using purposive criteria, including:

- a. Police officers in community-based policing units provide firsthand perspectives on policy implementation and on-the-ground practices.
- b. Community leaders or neighbourhood watch representatives representing residents' experiences and aspirations regarding community participation in security.
- c. Policymakers or NGO activists involved in police reform provide insights into strategies, policies, and institutional changes.
- d. Digital influencers active in public security discourse, providing perspectives on social media and the influence of public opinion on the politicisation of communities.

To maintain analytical rigour, the following inclusion criteria were applied to the data:

1. Temporal Range

Digital content and interactions from January 2020 to March 2025 were included to reflect recent developments and responses during and after the COVID-19 period.

2. Language

Data had to be in Bahasa Indonesia, Japanese, or English to ensure accessibility and relevance.

3. Thematic Relevance

Content had to explicitly or implicitly relate to themes of community policing, public trust, digital participation, neighbourhood security, or collaborative crime prevention.

4. Source Credibility

Data from verified or institutionally affiliated accounts, official websites, or stakeholder interviews were prioritised over anonymous or unverified sources.

5. Data Format

Both textual (tweets, posts, articles, policy briefs) and multimedia (police campaign videos with accompanying transcripts) content were included, provided they could be systematically analysed using NVivo.

The collected data were analysed using Textual Network Analysis (TNA) and Social Network Analysis (SNA). TNA was employed to explore narratives within digital content, while SNA mapped the structural relationships among digital actors engaged in community politicisation. All data were processed using NVivo software to assist in coding, categorising, and identifying patterns in unstructured data.

Text Network Analysis (TNA)

TNA was employed to explore and identify narrative structures within digital content related to community policing. The analysis followed these specific steps:

1. Data Collection and Input. All digital content, including news articles, policy documents, and social media posts, was imported into NVivo as text.
2. Text Preprocessing. Data cleaning was conducted, including stop-word removal, stemming, term normalisation, and duplicate elimination, to enhance analysis accuracy.
3. Initial Coding. Using NVivo's Auto Code feature and manual coding, key terms, dominant themes, and frequently occurring words were identified.
4. Text Network Construction. Through the *Text Search Query* and *Word Frequency Query*, a co-occurrence matrix of words was created. This matrix was then used to generate a co-word network showing semantic relationships.
5. Visualisation and Interpretation. TNA results were visualised using word clouds, cluster maps, and network graphs to depict dominant semantic associations. Attention was given to narratives around public trust, citizen participation, and the role of the police.

Social Network Analysis (SNA)

SNA aimed to map and evaluate the structural relationships between digital actors (individuals, institutions, or entities) involved in community policing discourse. The analysis involved the following steps:

1. Identification of Digital Actors. Social media accounts, government agencies, community leaders, and NGOs active in community policing discussions were identified and categorised.

2. Extraction of Interaction Links. Data on interactions (mentions, retweets, comments, co-authored content) were extracted and entered into NVivo as nodes and edges, either manually or through auxiliary tools such as NCapture.
3. Construction of Adjacency Matrix. Interaction relationships were transformed into an adjacency matrix and used to generate a social network graph.
4. Network Metrics Calculation. Several key SNA metrics were computed, including:
 - a. Degree Centrality – measuring how connected an actor is.
 - b. Betweenness Centrality – identifying actors who serve as bridges in the network.
 - c. Closeness Centrality – indicating how quickly information can flow from an actor to others.
 - d. Network Density and Clustering Coefficient – assessing the cohesion and structural characteristics of the network.
5. Structural Visualisation and Analysis. The social networks were visualised using sociograms to identify key groups, central figures, and patterns of digital interaction. These visualisations helped uncover the dynamics of power, influence, and collaboration within digital community policing ecosystems.

Context and Unit of Analysis

The unit of analysis covers two countries, Indonesia and Japan, focusing on the implementation of community politicisation models and the institutional isomorphic pressures influencing their structures, norms, and practices. The research context includes police environments and communities actively involved in collaborative politicisation efforts. The findings of this study are closely related to the Indonesian and Japanese contexts, particularly the dynamics of community policing and politicisation in each country. Because it uses a digital qualitative approach, the results emphasise in-depth understanding and contextual phenomena, rather than broad generalisations. While not statistically generalisable, the analytical framework (e.g., institutional isomorphism and the dynamics of community politicisation) can be applied to other contexts with local adjustments. For example, similar studies could be implemented in other countries to explore patterns of community politicisation on digital platforms.

Results and Discussion

The Role of Institutional Isomorphism in Shaping Community Politicisation

Police institutions, in carrying out their duties and exercising their authority, require support and trust from the community. Based on the R&D survey, the image of the police is at its lowest point in the last 2 years, the relationship between the police and the community that is not close can cause several problems, including the emergence of a lack of trust from most of the community in the police, the existence of hostility from the community which has an impact on the morale of the police, so that they are less enthusiastic in carrying out their duties well, and violence against police officers, civil unrest, instability, and urban unrest.

Without public trust, the police's ability to enforce the law and maintain order will be hampered. In efforts to create security and order in the community, the presence of police officers is very important. This is because the police represent the community's expectations and needs for a sense of security, order, and comfort, which support productivity and improve community welfare.

Recognising the importance of this trust, many police organisations worldwide have implemented various strategies to improve their relationships with the public. One of the concepts that underlies this approach is institutional isomorphism. Institutional isomorphisms, as posited by (Dimaggio & Powell, 2021), describe the tendency of organisations to become

increasingly similar to each other in terms of structure, culture, and processes. In the police sector, this means police organisations tend to adopt similar practices and structures, both under institutional pressure and to achieve legitimacy. This isomorphism affects organisational homogenisation, with changes in one organisation often followed by others in the same field.

One concrete example of the application of isomorphism in the police force is the politicisation of communities. This approach emphasises the importance of partnerships between police and the public in maintaining security and order. In this model, the police not only play the role of law enforcers standing outside the community, but also serve as an integral part of the community itself (Fauzi & Suparno, 2023). State that community politicisation sees crime and disorder as a shared responsibility between the community, as a client, and the police, as a service provider. Therefore, this approach requires the public to actively participate in formulating public policies through interactive, cooperative relationships between the two parties. This view encourages cooperation between the police and the public, thereby strengthening public trust in the police.

According to Knights & Willmott (1987), the concept of community politicisation is often considered to be competing and interchangeable with other terms or activities such as walking or cycling patrols, crime prevention, problem-oriented politicisation, Community-Oriented Politicisation, and the relationship between police and the community (Police-Community Relations). However, the term community politicisation remains the most popular and widely used because it covers a wider spectrum in terms of its acceptance and application. This concept is better able to embrace a range of approaches to maintaining security and order in society.

In Indonesia, community politicisation is implemented to fulfil the National Police's main duties as the maintainer of public security and order. In addition, the National Police also play a role as law enforcers, protectors, and public servants. Community politicisation in Indonesia focuses on programs aligned with the country's social and political conditions, including those related to the development of national defence. This program is designed to be in line with the times, spanning from the pre-Reform era to the current democratic era, in which protecting human rights is the main concern.

The Kompas survey noted that the image of the National Police reached its peak in April 2021 at 78.7%, which coincided with the active role of Community Politicisation in addressing the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the ground (Kompas.com, 2022). The key to its success is strong communication and interaction, with proximity to the community as its main strength. The history of the Community Politicisation approach began with the Kampung Tangguh Semeru program in East Java and Kampung Tangguh Jaya in DKI Jakarta. Collaboration among the three pillars (police, military, and local government) at the RW level in addressing COVID-19 has helped reduce the red zone in the region. In addition, there is a "Merdeka" vaccination initiative program in DKI Jakarta and agglomeration areas, which involves collaboration between the National Police, the TNI, volunteers, and donors, successfully achieving the vaccination target with the help of more than 20,000 volunteers.

Based on these results, the community policing program has played a major role in improving the national police's image, especially through the police's active involvement in pandemic response in the community. After the pandemic ended, crime rates increased again, and the main problem was the distance between the police and the public. This happens because a strict law-enforcement approach actually creates a negative image of the police. To overcome this, while still applying the concept of community politicisation, a new program called "There is a Police" was born. The program focuses on identifying individuals who have the potential to disrupt order. The approach involves identification, data collection, and a direct police approach. The police are expected to always be present and visible in the community. The impact of this program is the availability of real-time data on field conditions, which is then conveyed to relevant stakeholders to find joint solutions, not just taking law enforcement actions.

Comparative Analysis of Community Politicisation in Indonesia and Japan

In addition to Indonesia, the concept of isomorphism in community politicisation is also applied in Japan. Japan has created a modern system of politicisation, although the Japanese government did not call it that until recently. In Japan, this community-based approach to politicisation is reflected in a variety of policy documents and strategies designed to enhance the role of the police in people's daily social and security lives. Quoted in, in fact, since 2003, the Japanese state has formulated an "Action Plan to Create a Crime-Resilient Society" through ministerial meetings on crime prevention. Although this document does not use the term community politicisation directly, it adopts the Broken Windows theory as the basis for an approach that leads to community-based politicisation. This theory emphasises the importance of addressing minor offences to prevent more serious crimes, a principle widely applied in community-police partnership strategies.

Then, in 2005, the document "Japanese Community Police and the Police Box System," compiled by the National Police Academy of Japan, appeared. This document began to show a clearer orientation on the concept of community in politicisation, even explicitly mentioning the term "community police" in its title. This document explains that the duties of community police encompass several essential aspects. The police are expected to be part of the local community, playing an active role in activities closely related to citizens' daily lives and safety. They are also tasked with communicating openly with the public, ensuring that the public is aware of the police's presence and encouraged to participate in crime prevention and self-defence activities organised by citizens. Quick response to emergency calls is also an important part of the community police role in Japan.

Police in Japan routinely patrol on foot and respond to citizens' service requests. The police agency also visits every home and business in the patrol area twice a year, knocks on doors, and asks residents about problems they face. During these visits, the police took the opportunity to promote crime prevention and conduct security inspections. This system is considered one of the closest forms of politicisation to society in the world.

Several factors encourage the emergence of isomorphism in community politicisation in both Indonesia and Japan. The first factor is global pressure. Recent research suggests that institutional theory can provide valuable insights into the dynamics of complex organisational change. Some academics, such as Calvert (2017), emphasise the importance of endogenous forces, including shifts in organisational culture and norms, as a key driver of institutional change. In the police sector, the global trend towards more participatory and community-based politicisation has prompted both countries to reform their politicisation systems. Globalisation and increasing awareness of the importance of community involvement in maintaining security also influence policy decisions in the police sector.

In addition, another factor that affects isomorphism is the existence of international standards. These standards, such as the principles of human rights and good governance, have become important references in the development of community politicisation. Global goals, as set out in the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as measures of shared effectiveness compiled by the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Cooperation and Development (OECD), serve as a guide for countries in designing policies in line with international standards. Shared management tools, such as the Logical Framework Analysis (LFA) approach and human rights-based frameworks (HRBA), have also contributed to the formation of globally recognised practices as appropriate approaches to politicisation.

The models of politicalisation in Indonesia and Japan differ significantly, even though both adopt a community-based approach. In Indonesia, the concept of community politicisation has been applied informally through programs such as the *Kamtibmas* Awareness Group (KSK) and the *Kamtibmas* Awareness Group Development Forum (FBKSK), which began to develop in the

early 1990s in Semarang, Central Java (Indarti, 2019). In the early 2000s, community politicisation began to be adopted more widely in Indonesia in response to rising crime rates and to rebuild public trust in post-New Order law enforcement. The main goal of this model is to increase community involvement in maintaining local security through a community-based approach. However, Indonesia still faces challenges in implementing this program, especially in rural areas with limited resources.

Meanwhile, Japan has a much more established and structured community politicisation system through the "*koban*" and "*chuzaisyo*" models. Koban is small police post stationed in various neighbourhoods to provide services 24 hours a day. These outposts are usually located in high-crime areas and are designed to foster close relationships between the police and the local community. This system has been in place since the late 19th century and early 20th century, during the Meiji era. It is considered very successful in fostering a sense of security and trust among the Japanese people. In addition to koban, there is *chuzaisyo*, a police post that doubles as a residence for police officers and their families, thereby increasing the police's direct involvement with the community.

The success of the politicisation model in Japan has inspired several other countries, including Brazil and Singapore, to adopt it. Indonesia itself has tried to implement this system, especially in the Bekasi area, since 2003, although with a different format. The basic principles underlying the koban system, such as the active involvement of the police with the community and a proactive approach to maintaining security, are also applied in other countries, including Australia and the United States.

Furthermore, differences are also found in the organisational structure of the community police between Indonesia and Japan. In Japan, the police adopted a more decentralised structure with koban at the community level, facilitating direct, intense interaction with citizens. Koban, a small police post in the community, helps officers work more closely with the population, fostering close relationships and mutual trust. This structure provides the police with flexibility to tailor their approach to the task to the specific needs of the local community. As a result, police officers in Japan can work directly and closely with citizens who also feel they have a responsibility to maintain public safety.

In Indonesia, on the other hand, more centralised and hierarchical police structures are often considered less flexible in responding to local community needs. In Jakarta and other areas, the Indonesian police have adopted a top-down approach, which often poses obstacles in building trust between the police and the public. This more centralised approach can undermine community involvement in maintaining security, as communities feel less involved in local decision-making and security initiatives. Therefore, while the community politicisation model may initially increase public trust, maintaining that trust requires sustained effort and adaptation to evolving conditions.

The level of community participation in community politicisation in Japan and Indonesia shows significant differences. In Japan, public participation in police activities is very high. The community is actively involved in various security programs, from night patrols to community-based initiatives that work closely with the police. This participation is an integral part of the koban politicisation model, where the police and citizens work hand in hand to maintain environmental safety. So that the impact contributes to the creation of a sense of shared responsibility for public safety, which has been part of Japanese culture for decades.

In Indonesia, public participation in community politicisation remains variable and is influenced by several factors, including education levels, economic conditions, and public trust in the police. This participation is important because it involves the community in maintaining the safety of its own environment. However, the effectiveness of community participation is often hampered by low trust in police institutions, especially in areas that face greater socio-economic challenges.

Community participation is an ongoing process in which individuals develop and use the ability to act on common issues to bring about the expected social change. In Indonesia, public participation in crime prevention efforts is strongly influenced by perceptions of police effectiveness. High crime rates and a lack of trust in law enforcement have prompted some communities to take a more active role in maintaining local security. Community-based crime prevention is often considered more effective, and the community at large generally believes that individuals should take greater responsibility for controlling crime in their environment.

Then, in terms of focus, community politicisation activities in Japan and Indonesia reflect different approaches in responding to security issues and relations with the community. In Japan, the primary focus is on crime prevention and on building positive relationships between the police and the community. This approach is implemented through programs that involve the community directly. By prioritising prevention, Japan's police system has created a safer environment and increased public trust in law enforcement institutions. This harmonious relationship not only helps prevent crime but also creates a supportive environment for maintaining public safety.

In contrast, in Indonesia, in addition to focusing on crime prevention, the police force also faces more complex challenges, including organised crime and social conflict. This situation tends to complicate the politicisation approach, as the police must not only prevent general crime but also address more serious security disturbances. Indonesia's diverse social and economic problems demand a more adaptive and responsive approach, in which the police must address various types of threats and communicate effectively with all levels of society. Therefore, politicisation in Indonesia requires a more comprehensive approach, not only focused on prevention but also on organised crime and social conflicts that can disrupt societal stability.

Furthermore, the development of community politicisation in Indonesia and Japan reveals two distinct approaches, each with its own challenges and progress. In Indonesia, community politicisation faces several significant challenges. According to Novianto (2023), the implementation of this politicisation model is faced with various obstacles, including the lack of resources needed to implement politicisation programs effectively. Such as shortages in police personnel and budget limitations that affect the police's ability to reach and serve the community optimally.

In addition, the systematic politicisation structure leaves no room for the adaptations needed to address local security issues. Novianto's research (2023) also highlights the importance of public knowledge about community politicisation. A lack of understanding can hinder community engagement, which is a key element in the success of community politicisation models. This lack of understanding creates a distance between the police and residents, limiting community participation in maintaining security in their environment.

To overcome these challenges, the Indonesian government has implemented various initiatives to improve the quality of police services. One of the steps taken is the launch of programs such as the RW police and the village police. These programs are designed to strengthen the police presence at the community level and facilitate closer interactions between police and the community. Through these efforts, it is hoped that the public will better understand the role and function of the police, thereby encouraging active participation in security initiatives.

Institutional Challenges and Reform Directions

One of the success stories of the RW Police program comes from the Directorate of Police Metro Jaya, namely Surhajrono, who serves as the RW Police for RW 05 and RW 06. In his initial step, he held the inaugural meeting involving the Chairman of RW 05, the Chairman of RW 06, the Chairman of RT, and the Chairman of the Youth Organisation. In the meeting, Surhajrono introduced himself as the RW Police for the two regions and explained the duties he carried out.

The community response was very positive, with many residents expressing gratitude for the presence of the RW Police, who helped create *Harkamtibmas*. Surhajrono's presence enables the quick resolution of problems faced by residents.

Meanwhile, in Japan, community politicisation has made significant progress compared to Indonesia. The community-politicisation model in Japan has proven highly effective in maintaining public safety and order. One key aspect of this success is the politicisation system's ability to build strong trust between police and citizens. Direct interaction through small police posts called "koban" has created a closer, more collaborative relationship for keeping the environment safe.

Japan also continues to innovate in the development of community politicisation models, especially by utilising information technology to improve service efficiency. One of the latest technologies to emerge is a crime-prediction system called "*Crime Nabi*," which uses artificial intelligence (AI) to estimate the likelihood of crime. Created by Singular Perturbations Inc., a startup focused on crime reduction, the system can provide accurate estimates of when and where crime is likely to occur.

Crime Nabi can predict crime with high accuracy and formulate the optimal patrol route for police officers. Simulations conducted in Japan show that this system is up to 50% more effective than conventional methods at crime scene investigation. Although it utilises a variety of complex data, such as past crime records, demographics, geographic data, and weather conditions, which typically take significant time and cost to process using traditional computing methods, the company's algorithms can process this data faster and more efficiently. With innovations such as Crime Nabi, Japan further strengthens the existing community-politicisation model, providing additional advantages in addressing public safety challenges and ensuring the community remains safe and secure.

Recommendations for community politicisation highlight the importance of local adaptation in this model. Each region has distinct conditions and needs, so the community politicisation model must also be adapted to the region's specific problems. A good adaptation will help the program remain relevant and effective in addressing the community's specific challenges. Gradual change makes for a smoother transition, where members of the organisation, including the police, can more easily adapt to changes that are not too far from existing practices. This helps maintain stability and continuity, which is critical to maintaining the core functions and legitimacy of police institutions.

On the other hand, radical change, while disruptive and potentially reductive, is necessary to deal with crises or ineffective practices. These kinds of changes can encourage innovation and redefine the organisation's mission and goals, making it more responsive to society's needs. Strengthening community participation is also a very important aspect in community politicisation. More systematic efforts are needed to involve the community at all stages, from planning to program evaluation. Active community involvement enables police institutions to foster a sense of belonging and shared responsibility for maintaining security and order, thereby increasing trust between the community and the police.

In addition, increasing the capacity of the police force's human resources is key to the success of the community politicisation model. Police officers need adequate training to fulfil their role as facilitators and mediators in solving community-level problems. The training will help police develop the communication and collaboration skills necessary to build strong relationships with the community.

Finally, periodic evaluations are indispensable to measure the success of community politicisation programs. The evaluation process should assess the program's effectiveness and provide helpful feedback for needed improvements. So that community politicisation can adapt quickly to changes and continue to improve the quality of services to the community.

Based on this explanation, it can be concluded that institutional isomorphism in community politicisation in Indonesia and Japan reflects a global trend towards a more participatory, community-oriented model of politicisation. However, the success of implementing this model is strongly influenced by local factors, including history, culture, and community involvement. To achieve optimal results, continuous effort is needed to build a solid partnership between the police and the community.

In Indonesia, the police force faces significant institutional barriers, such as limited resources, both in terms of personnel and facilities, as well as the high social and cultural diversity of the community. These factors complicate the implementation of community-based policing programs, as strategies that are effective in one area may not be appropriate in another. Furthermore, dense bureaucracy and limited inter-agency coordination often hinder the dissemination of best practices, thus impacting the effectiveness of crime prevention and community engagement.

In contrast, community policing models in Japan, such as the Koban system, tend to be more effective because they are supported by a stable institutional structure, clear procedures, and adequate resources. Japan's police culture, which emphasises discipline, professionalism, and active community involvement, fosters a close and trusting relationship between police and citizens. Furthermore, education and training standards integrated with field practice enable consistent program implementation across regions, enhancing institutional legitimacy and the effectiveness of community policing.

Conclusion

The application of institutional isomorphism is seen in community politicisation practices. In Indonesia, community politicisation is carried out to support the Indonesian National Police's primary task of maintaining public security and order. In addition to Indonesia, the concept of community politicisation is also applied in Japan. Several factors, such as global pressures and international standards, are driving the emergence of isomorphisms in community politicisation. Although both countries implement community politicisation, there are striking differences in the historical aspects of the implementation, the organisational structure of the police, the level of community participation, and the focus of activities. Comparisons show that Japan has made significant progress in community politicisation compared to Indonesia. Therefore, recommendations such as local adaptation, fundamental change, strengthening community participation, human resource capacity building, and periodic evaluation are essential to measure the success of community politicisation programs in Indonesia.

Disclosure Statement

The author does not have any potential conflict of interest to disclose.

Funding Statement

This work did not receive any specific funding.

Ethics Approval

Ethics approval was not required because this study did not involve human participants.

References

- Ceccato, V. (2019). Special issue: Crime and control in the digital era. *Criminal Justice Review*, 44(1), 5–10. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0734016818818688>
- Chudnovsky, M., & Peeters, R. (2022). A cascade of exclusion: Administrative burdens and access to citizenship in the case of Argentina's National Identity Document. *International Review of Administrative Sciences*, 88(4), 1068–1085. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0020852320984541>

- Dlamini, S. (2024). Community police forums' future and legitimacy: Redefining good community policing. *Cogent Social Sciences*, 10(1), 1–11. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23311886.2023.2288019>
- Fauzi, A., Hardjosoekarto, S., Radhiatmoko, R., Herwantoko, O., Darwan, D., Manik, E. E., & Romli, Z. (2023). Digital-social construction of willingness to pay in online marketplace: Economic sociology of the digital functional food market in Indonesia. *International Sociology*, 38(4), 517–538.
- Fauzi, A., & Suparno, E. I. I. (2023). Elimination of remission of corruption convicts for the sake of community justice. *ICLSSEE 2023: Proceedings of the 3rd International Conference on Law, Social Science, Economics, and Education, ICLSSEE 2023, 6 May 2023, Salatiga, Central Java, Indonesia*, 213.
- George, B., Baekgaard, M., Decramer, A., Audenaert, M., & Goeminne, S. (2020). Institutional isomorphism, negativity bias and performance information use by politicians: A survey experiment. *Public Administration*, 98(1), 14–28. <https://doi.org/10.1111/padm.12390>
- Gozali, L., Masrom, M., Haron, H. N., & Zagloel, T. Y. M. (2017). Research gap of entrepreneurship, innovation, economic development, business incubators studies in Indonesia. *International Journal of Economics and Financial Issues*, 7(2), 243–248. <https://ideas.repec.org/a/eco/journ1/2017-02-33.html>
- Krajnović, A. (2018). Institutional theory and isomorphism: limitations in multinational companies. *The Journal of Corporate Governance, Insurance, and Risk Management (JCGIRM)*, 5(1), 1–7. <https://www.um.edu.mt/library/oar/handle/123456789/67769>
- Luayya, L., Hardjosoekarto, S., Herwantoko, O., & Muhammaditya, N. (2022). Digital group solidarity: Rethinking the typology of Beckert's moral embeddedness in the contemporary market arena. *Asian Journal of Business Research Volume*, 12(3).
- Muellerleile, C., & Robertson, S. L. (2018). Digital Weberianism: Bureaucracy, information, and the techno-rationality of neoliberal capitalism. *Indiana Journal of Global Legal Studies*, 25(1), 187–216. <https://www.repository.law.indiana.edu/ijgls/vol25/iss1/9/>
- Muhammaditya, N., Hardjosoekarto, S., Herwantoko, O., Fany, Y. G., & Subangun, M. I. (2021). Institutional divergence of digital item bank management in bureaucratic hybridization: An application of SSM based multi-method. *Systemic Practice and Action Research*, 1–27. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11213-021-09579-4>
- Novianto, R. (2023). Exploring the Implementation and Impact of Community Policing Strategies in Indonesia: A Case Study of Jakarta. *Journal of Public Representative and Society Provision*, 3(1), 21–30. <https://www.pspjournals.org/index.php/jprsp/article/view/197>
- Nurmajesty, H., Hardjosoekarto, S., Herwantoko, O., Ramadhani, D. C., & Salsabila, S. A. (2022). Symbolic and material valuation of jamu: Economic sociology of Indonesian jamu market. *Asian Journal of Business Research*, 12(1), 99–123. <https://scholar.ui.ac.id/en/publications/symbolic-and-material-valuation-of-jamu-economic-sociology-of-ind/>
- Paulus, T. M., & Lester, J. N. (2024). Digital qualitative research workflows: A reflexivity framework for technological consequences. *International Journal of Social Research Methodology*, 27(6), 621–634. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13645579.2023.2237359>
- Peeters, R. (2020). The political economy of administrative burdens: A theoretical framework for analyzing the organizational origins of administrative burdens. *Administration & Society*, 52(4), 566–592. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0095399719854367>

- Peng, X., Cui, X., Bai, Y., & Xu, Y. (2023). Institutional isomorphism pressure and multinational corporations' environmental and social performance. *Applied Economics Letters*, 30(17), 2424–2434. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13504851.2022.2097628>
- Peters, B. G., Pierre, J., Sørensen, E., & Torfing, J. (2022). *A research agenda for governance*.
- Rangaswamy, N., & Venkatraman, S. (Eds.). (2025). *Qualitative methods for digital social research*. Springer Nature Singapore. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-97-9843-8>
- Sedgwick, D., Callahan, J., & Hawdon, J. (2021). Institutionalizing partnerships: a mixed methods approach to identifying trends and perceptions of community policing and multi-agency task forces. *Police Practice and Research*, 22(1), 727–744. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15614263.2020.1712204>
- Sitorus, A. M. H., Hardjosoekarto, S., Jahja, R. S., Herwantoko, O., & Anam, F. K. (2023). The moral embeddedness of labor market transactions in Indonesia: a study of Chinese migrant workers. *International Journal of Social Economics*, 50(11), 1485–1500. <https://doi.org/10.1108/IJSE-11-2022-0737>
- Sorrentino, D., Ruggiero, P., & Mussari, R. (2023). Agents and logics in community policing: the designing of performance measures. *Public Management Review*, 25(9), 1640–1663. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14719037.2023.2230989>
- Subangun, M. I., & Hadjosoekarto, S. (2023). Institutional Isomorphism at LPSK in Enforcement of The Rights to Psychosocial Rehabilitation for Victims of Crime in Indonesia. *Jurnal HAM*, 14, 39. <https://doi.org/10.30641/ham.2023.14.39-54>
- Toner, J., & Martins, J. T. (2022). Institutional isomorphism in collaborative, cross-cultural, project-based development work: an inquiry into the knowledge sharing behaviour of volunteers. *Journal of Knowledge Management*, 26(7), 1763–1788. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JKM-08-2020-0640>
- Wisler, D., Monti-Ohannessian, S., & Avila Coya, R. (2021). Impacts of community policing on security: evidence from Mbuji-Mayi in the Democratic Republic of Congo. *Police Practice and Research*, 22(1), 522–541. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/15614263.2019.1699409>