

Democracy of Political System and Sports Policy in Indonesia

Expectations and Reality

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Abstract: This article discusses the democracy of political system in relation to the efforts of sport policy development in Indonesia. The main purpose of the article is to describe how the democratic process of the political system influences the national leadership which is in synergy with the sport policy in Indonesia. The results of the review and discussion show that first, the national leadership as a result of the democracy of political system determines the formulation of sport policy; second, sport policy in Indonesia does not consider the core substance of sport itself as the world's sport policy does, either in the perspective of sport for all or sport for development and peace; third, as a support system, sport policy in Indonesia should be documented in a comprehensive, systematic, structural, long-term, and continuous ways; and fourth, sport policy in Indonesia needs strategic planning that is long-term (per 20 years) in accordance with the law so that it can be a reference every time a president or a vice president candidate run for the election.

1 INTRODUCTION

Democracy of a political system run by a certain country usually comes out with national leadership. National leadership as the highest authority launching leading and outstanding policies plays an important role in a government. However, there is a long debate on how to integrate sport into the leading and outstanding policies in the national leadership. In several academic studies, it is agreed that policies are one of the best products of a successful government since they are a "vehicle" to reach the goals set (Nugroho, 2011). However, reality shows that policy making is usually influenced by such subjective factors as seniority, conflict of interests, and so on that there needs to be more innovative and collaborative policies (Torring and Ansell, 2017). Thus, leading policies with good identity are closely related to public policies (Béland, 2017). However, this fact raises another question on whether sport belongs to strategic planning and how far it has been implemented.

This article aims to describe the democracy of political system in relation to efforts of national sport development in Indonesia. In every country, including Indonesia, its leader's visions and missions are usually associated with the figure of the

leaders themselves and related to the global issues in several aspects of life. Since the independence of Indonesia in 1945, Soekarno as the first president set sport as a trigger of nationalism whose instrument is participation in international multievent and finally hosting Asian Games IV in 1962 in Jakarta. In 1967, president Soekarno was replaced by president Soeharto, who appeared to continue the previous policy on sport as an important factor in nationalism. In 1984, president Soeharto expanded the sport policy by making a vision that sport is to build characters to be a whole human. One of the realest implementations is that in the era, Friday was set as a sport day where every civil servant should do sport. That actually was in line with UNESCO's decision in 1978 that every country should implement sport for all. In the meantime, after Soeharto's administration, sport-related policy and agenda turned out to be stagnant. It was brought back in 2005 on decree number 3 year 2005 on national sport system. However, there seems to be no policy equal to that in developed country, except in badminton.

2 DEMOCRACY OF POLITICAL SYSTEM AND SPORTS POLICY IN INDONESIA

Indonesia as an independent country has been dreaming of protecting its people, giving education to its people, and participating in the world's peace, as stated in the opening of its foundational constitution namely UUD 1945. This dream has been a platform for Indonesia whoever the president is. Related to this dream, experts state that the core of government is democracy. Meanwhile, a good democracy product is a leading and outstanding policy in the context of the democratic process. The policy should be interpreted in a form of good governance. This is in line with Fukuyama who states that in a modern political system, there are three important components comprising a nation, law, and democratic accountability. The nation should concentrate to use its power while the law and democracy should limit it. Considering this fact, it is believed that understanding both nation and democracy is something of importance since there will be a lot of new initiatives to improve the quality of the governance (Fukuyama, 2014).

How far is a country able to have good quality public service? In the context of Indonesia, the best answer might probably be to create public life that is safe, advance, and cultural which become representation of a country that is independent, united, just, and prosper. This needs to be the nation's target to conduct national development as a platform to reach the goals. Thus, it can be concluded that sports should be included into public policy and strategic planning. It is even considered as one of the most important factors in the national development since it can has been successful to make the country better so that it can survive advancement.

3 SYSTEMIC MODELS AND PROBLEMS OF SPORTS POLICY IN INDONESIA

Decree number 3 year 2005 on national sport system states that sports policies should be mutually set by both the government and the citizens. Both parties are no stronger than one another meaning that each party has an equal right to make sports policies in Indonesia. Therefore, the sport development model used in Indonesia is that by Cooke (1996) consisting

of four stages namely family and school, high performance for athletes and recreation for the society, training as a follow-up of performance for elite athletes, and penthouse which is filled up with athletes with medals. According to the same decree, it is stated that sport is divided into sport for education, sport for recreation, and elite sport (for performance). Of those three contexts, either sport for education and recreation which is expected to contribute to a better life (Dacica, 2015; Job et al., 2015; Balish, 2016), or elite sport to obtain appreciation in international competition (Koch, 2013) has not shown significant improvement. In one side the government expects that the society participates in sport. On the other side, their budget is strictly limited. In the meantime, the demand of sport development in international level, even in ASEAN, is getting bigger. In this condition, it is obvious that sport policies in accordance with the law is in need.

As an illustration, in Australia, the operational legitimization of its sport policy is to make sure that all the budget by the government is used by National Sport Organization (NSO) to support the sport development in every aspect. In France, the government also supports the development of sport by allocating the budget for sport for education, sport for recreation, and sport for elite athletes. They even involve NGOs in the process. Most importantly, all the policy has been legalized in the law since 1983 (Dine, 1998).

4 RELATIONS BETWEEN DEMOCRACY OF POLITICAL SYSTEM AND STRATEGIC PLANNING OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Strategic planning of national development comes from a democratic process of a political system. The democratic process itself is basically a leader election. In Indonesia, the democratic process has been drastically emerging since 1998, where the country declared the reformation era. Theoretically, democracy means a government system, in which everybody has an equal right to make decisions for the better life (Munck, 2014). Democracy facilitates every citizen to participate either directly or indirectly through their representation to formulate the law. It also contains several conditions such as economical and cultural aspects which enable people

to participate in a free political atmosphere. By implementing this, leader recruitment process through a democratic system will lead to good partnership (Santiso, 2001; Karagiorgi, 2011). The case of management of sport events show that it can be good reflection for management of the government in terms of take-and-give relations (Parent and If, 2015).

System of national development planning in the democracy of political system in Indonesia in the reformation era refers to the decree number 25 year 2004 on national development planning system (SPPN) and the decree number 17 year 2007 on national long-term planning system (RPJPN). RPJPN consists of 5-year planning phased well-known as mid-term development planning (RPJMN). It is the foundation of national development as the decree number 25 year 2004 tells. It contains the national development strategies, public policies, institutional programs, and macro-economy framework that are indicative (Kementerian Sekretaris Negara, 2007a; Kementerian Sekretaris Negara, 2007b).

Thus, everybody runs for president and vice president should arrange their visions and missions referring to RPJPN as shown by Figure 1.

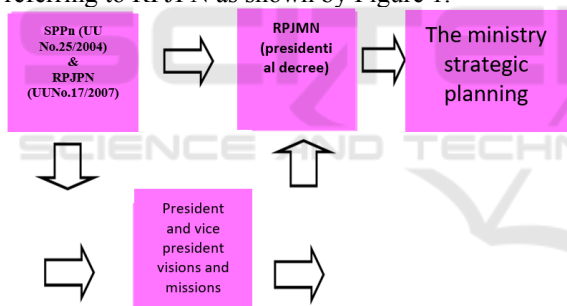


Figure 1: Flow of National Development Planning System (Kementerian Sekretaris Negara, 2007a).

Figure 1 clearly shows that everybody runs for president and vice president of Republic of Indonesia should refer their visions and missions to RPJMN. Therefore, it is obvious that the candidates of president and vice president would show their plans of national development in all aspects of life, including sport. Thus, sport should not be excluded in the public policies to reach the national development of the country. In reality, the concept of sport for long-term national development planning system is not set well. In fact, the strategic planning on sport to reach the national development is urgently needed so that RPJPN can be reached. As the concept of sport in a long-term national strategic planning has not been implemented, Indonesia has

repeatedly lost its chance to be an advanced country in sport. In addition, the current leaders of sport usually focus on short-term planning rather than long one with more massive effects.

5 CONCLUSIONS

Sport policies in Indonesia usually depend on its leaders' representation deriving from the democracy of a political system. The democracy of a political system is known to lead to national leadership which launch political policies that they delivered in their campaign. Meantime, the elected president and vice president are strongly expected to formulate their visions and missions according to RPJMN.

The development of national sport in Indonesia needs strategic planning that is long-term (20 years ahead) as the decree number 44 16/2007 tells on the implementation of sport. This is very strategic considering that the second phase of the long-term Indonesia's development will be the 100th anniversary of the country. In addition, Indonesia is also expected to follow other countries implementing the strategic planning on sport already, such as Australia, particularly, West Australia.

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