



Contribution of Electability of Vice-Presidential Candidate to Win Presidential Election in Indonesia

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To find out whether the electability level of a Vice president candidate holds a significant role in presidential elections in Indonesia. We conducted a survey in 8 cities (Medan, Padang, Palembang, Jakarta, Surabaya, Bandung, Semarang and Makassar) from 8 to September 27, 2017. The survey involved 800 respondents and used multistage random sampling. We did face-to-face interview to get the premier data involved 80 enumerators. Majority of respondents (49.9%) stated that the electability level of vice president candidate's will influence them to vote the president candidate.

Keywords: Political Momentum, Election, Power, Political New Strategy, Candidate Electability, The Vice-Presidential Candidate, Indonesia.

1. INTRODUCTION

In 2019, Indonesia will hold her fourth direct presidential election. President Joko Widodo will have the opportunity to retain his position. However, according to Law No. 7/2017, Article 169, Joko Widodo cannot have his current vice president, M. Jusuf Kalla, to run with him as his vice president candidate in 2019.

To win the election, a candidate need at least 50%+1. Although still higher than other candidates, the electability of Joko Widodo is still below 50%+1.¹ This situation made electability of the vice president candidate important. Will the vice-president candidate's electability hold a significant role to help the president candidate win the election?

The two candidates in this research were chosen on the basis of similarity, so that the elected vice-president can be considered a virtual equivalent or stand-in replacement for his or her president should the latter be removed from office by death or resignation. If so, the vice-president candidate would have clearly been elected not be due to individual factors, and the situational, legitimacy explanation becomes paramount. Far more intriguing, perhaps, is the possibility that the presidential and vice-presidential candidates are selected based on the principle of complementarity.²

The vice-presidential candidates will play significant role in the election race. The vice-presidential candidates should be expected to carry the main burden of negative campaigning.³ The vice-presidential candidate can be deployed as a sniper, tasked to keep the opponents pinned down and on the defensive.⁴

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The vice-presidential candidates are also expected to have an advantage point that will increase the electability of the presidential candidate. Despite lack of empirical support, the notion that a vice-president must add balance to the ticket maintains a strong hold.⁵

The advantage points of the vice-presidential candidate could be anything. The perception created in a certain region from being a native of that region is one of the advantage that the vice-presidential candidate could give as a benefit that can increase the presidential candidate's electability. The "friends and neighbors" perception in the vice-presidential candidate's home region would be statistically insignificant.⁶

It is a notorious fact that the vice-presidential running mates of presidential candidates are often nominated according to criteria that have all too little to do with leadership capacities. Most frequently, perhaps, the politicians who occupy the second spot were chosen to "balance out the ticket" whether geographically or ideologically.⁷

People in Indonesia have begun discussing the vice-presidential candidate, along with their attempt to find candidates for new president in 2024. Thus, we also asked the respondents the criteria and the background that will be their consideration in voting in the upcoming presidential election, instead of merely the name of the candidates.

2. METHODOLOGY

The survey was conducted in eight major cities in Indonesia, which are Medan (capital city of North Sumatra), Padang (capital city of West Sumatra), Palembang (capital city of

South Sumatra), Jakarta (which comprises 5 regions: Central Jakarta, West Jakarta, East Jakarta, South Jakarta and North Jakarta), Bandung (capital city of West Java), Semarang (capital city of Central Java), Surabaya (capital city of East Java) and Makassar (capital city of South Sulawesi).

The respondents of the survey were Indonesians who are eligible to vote in the election. They were at least 17 years of age or have married when the survey was conducted. From the Indonesian population, we used multistage random sampling to select 800 respondents (150 from Surabaya, 140 from Medan, 120 from Bandung, 110 from Jakarta, 80 Palembang, 80 Semarang, 70 Makassar and 50 Padang). The sex of the respondents equal, 50% Men and 50% Women.

The religion of the respondents mostly Moslem (92%). From the total respondents, 28.8% were household workers, 24.4% were traders, 18.1% were private company employees, 9% were labors, 7.1% were government officers, 5.3% were students, 2.6% unemployed citizens, and the rest are other professions.

We did face to face interviewed as data gathering method. We analyzed the respondents' responses from the questioner. The Margin of error (MoE) of this survey is $\pm 3.5\%$ with 95% level of confidence. We involved 80 field surveyors in this survey which started September 8, 2017 to September 27, 2017. The survey in Surabaya was delayed due to a permission letter issue that was issued by the local authority.

3. FINDINGS

A majority of the respondents (49.9%) say that the electability of the vice-presidential candidate will influence them in selecting the president candidate they will vote. We used SPSS to analyze more data.

By conducting correlation test the inter-variable relationship—which indicates high or weak correlations—can be known. A correlation level above 0.5 indicates strong a correlation level while below 0.5 indicates a weak correlation level. Once the correlation levels were obtained, the research sought to find whether the obtained correlation levels were indeed significant or whether the obtained figures can be used to explain the relationship between two variables.

H_0 = No connection (correlation) between the two variables

H_1 = There is a connection (correlation) between the two variables.

Decision making based on Probability:

If probability $> 0,025$, means H_0 is accepted.

If probability $< 0,025$, means H_0 is accepted.

3.1. The Electability Relationship Between the Vice President Candidate and the Presidential Candidate Choice of the Voters

Regression

Variables Entered/Removed

Model	Variables entered	Variables removed	Method
1	P7. Electable degree of vice president candidate		Enter

Notes: a. Dependent variable: P13. Voters' consideration in choosing a presidential candidate. b. All requested variables entered.

Model summary

Model	R	R square	Adjusted R square	Std. error of the estimate
1	.069 ^a	.005	.003	.533

Notes: ^aPredictors: (Constant), P7. Electable degree of a vice president candidate.

ANOVA^a

Model		Sum of squares	Df	Mean square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	1.011	1	1.011	3.552	.060 ^b
	Residual	209.380	736	.284		
	Total	210.390	737			

Notes: ^aDependent variable: P13. voters' considerations in choosing a presidential candidate. ^bPredictors: (Constant), P7. electable degree of a vice president candidate.

Coefficients

Model		Unstandardized	Std.	Standardized	t	Sig.
		coefficients	error	coefficients		
1	(Constant)	1.418	.054		26.456	.000
	P7. Electable degree of vice president candidate	.065	.035	.069	1.885	.060

Notes: a. Dependent variable: P13. voters' considerations in choosing a presidential candidate.

H_0 = Electable degree of a vice president candidate does not affect the voters in choosing their President candidate.

H_1 = Electable degree of a vice president candidate affects the voters in choosing their President candidate.

Based on the result of SPSS output above, we can see where the significant level of electable degree of Vice President candidate is more than 0.05 that is 0.06 (receive H_0). Based on the partial test decision making in the regression analysis it can be summed up as follows:

- Electable Degree Variable of Vice Presidential candidate does not significantly influence the voters in choosing the Presidential candidate.

4. CONCLUSIONS

We found that The Vice-Presidential candidate electability level does not significantly influence the voters in choosing their Presidential candidate in an election race. According to the survey only 49.9% respondents stated that the vice-presidential candidate will influence them to vote The President candidate.

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