

The Effectiveness of Bawaslu's Authority in Resolving Disputes in the 2024 Election Process in Central Sulawesi Province

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze the authority of the Election Supervisory Agency (Bawaslu) in resolving disputes over the election process in Central Sulawesi Province using normative legal research methods. Disputes over the electoral process represent a critical dimension of democratic practice, yet previous studies have not sufficiently explored how the supervisory authority of Bawaslu functions in ensuring fairness and legal certainty in regional elections. This research examines the legal norms underpinning Bawaslu's authority, particularly as regulated in Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning General Elections and its implementing regulations, and evaluates the effectiveness of their application based on adjudicated dispute cases in the 2024 elections in Central Sulawesi. The findings indicate that although the Central Sulawesi Bawaslu has adjudicated several dispute cases and election violations, the implementation of its authority continues to face challenges related to institutional capacity, legal interpretation, and inter-agency coordination. The study underscores the significance of strengthening the legal framework and institutional resilience of Bawaslu to enhance its supervisory role in achieving fair and democratic elections in the future.

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1. Introduction

Parliamentary elections are one of the fundamental rights of citizens and the government is obliged to carry out the implementation of general elections.³ In the institutional context, the institution that organizes general elections is an institution that is designed to have *the most effective check and balance* function compared to other state institutions.⁴ Theoretically, *checks and balances* are designed in the relationship between the executive and the legislative

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³ Respationo, H. M. S. (2013). Pemilihan Kepala Daerah Dalam Demokrasi Electoral. *Masalah-Masalah Hukum*, 42(3), 356–361. <https://doi.org/10.14710/mmh.42.3.2013.356-361>

⁴ Widodo, H., Prasetyo, D. E., & Disantara, F. P. (2020). Relasi Kekuasaan Antar Presiden dan Wakil Presiden dalam Sistem Ketatanegaraan Republik Indonesia. *Pandecta Research Law Journal*, 15(1), 13–25. <https://doi.org/10.15294/pandecta.v15i1.24554>

institution. The legislature has the authority to make laws and the executive has the authority to implement laws. In the implementation of the law, the legislature must always supervise the performance of the executive in accordance with the laws that have been formed by the legislature. Legislative supervision of the executive is a form of *checks and balances*.⁵

Law enforcement for election violations is handled by several institutions depending on the type of violation committed. Election criminal violations are of course handled by the District Court. Violations committed by election organizers related to the code of ethics will be prosecuted by the Election Organizer Honorary Council (DKPP). Election enforcement that disputes the results is carried out at the Constitutional Court in accordance with the mandate of Article 24C of the 1945 Constitution. And finally, the latest and appearing in Article 461 paragraph (1) of Law Number 7 of 2017, the enforcement of election law related to disputes over the election process is handled by the State Institution of the Election Supervisory Agency (Bawaslu).⁶ In the previous study, Endrawati⁷ concluded that dispute resolution was carried out through mediation and adjudication within a maximum of twelve working days from the time the application was registered.

General elections are direct, public, free, secret, honest, and fair, which has then been understood as a recognition of the diversity of political attitudes. The prolonged election conflict occurred due to fanaticism and the harsh confrontation of supporters of the leader candidate. In fact, sometimes they have forgotten the value of democracy and diluted the ethical values that have been embedded in the village community. One of the polemics of election disputes is that post-election elections often experience an impasse, even though they have been tried by deliberation or recalculation of votes. The problem that arises then is the issue of limiting the authority of Bawaslu in receiving and deciding lawsuits. The authority to adjudicate itself in procedural law terms is divided into two. Relative adjudication authority or adjudication authority related to the authority to receive, examine, adjudicate and resolve cases in similar courts related to where the application should be submitted (*actor sequitur forum rei*). And absolute authority concerns the division of power between judicial bodies, judging from the nature of the court regarding the granting of power to adjudicate (*attributie van rechts machti*).⁸

The granting of this new mandate for Bawaslu, as mentioned above, means adding a structure and procedure in the law enforcement process in Indonesia. According to Friedman, the structure in law enforcement can be interpreted as the organization of courts and administrative bodies.⁹ Achieving democracy is very important that there are basically two choices, namely the most important point in the practice of nation-state administration is the doctrine of people's sovereignty and democracy. Democracy is the embodiment of human sovereignty, and elections are held as a democracy. Indeed, elections are one of the absolute requirements of democracy. However, not all elections are democratic. With the amendment of the 1945 Constitution, Indonesia effectively laid the foundation for democratic government through a constitution that governs democratic elections. As stated

⁵ Hananto Widodo & Dicky Eko Prasetyo. (2011). *Penataan Kewenangan KPU dan Bawaslu dalam Melakukan Pengawasan dan Menangani Sengketa Proses Pemilu*. *Perspektif Hukum*, 17–38. <https://doi.org/10.30649/ph.v21i2.93>

⁶ Amal, B. (2019). *Kewenangan Mengadili Oleh Bawaslu Atas Sengketa Proses Pemilu Yang Diatur Dalam Peraturan Komisi Pemilihan Umum (Studi Atas Putusan Penyelesaian Sengketa Proses Pemilu Bawaslu Provinsi DKI Jakarta Nomor 004/Reg.Lg/Dprd/12.00/VIII/2018)*. *Masalah-Masalah Hukum*, 48(3), 306. <https://doi.org/10.14710/mmh.48.3.2019.306-311>

⁷ Endrawati, E. (2019). *Wewenang Bawaslu Dalam Penyelesaian Sengketa Proses Pemilu Di Kota Palangka Raya*. *Morality: Jurnal Ilmu Hukum*, 5(2), 104–118. <https://jurnal.upgriplk.ac.id/index.php/morality/article/view/141>

⁸ Memi, C. (2017). *Penyelesaian Sengketa Kompetensi Absolut Antara Arbitrase dan Pengadilan*. *Jurnal Yudisial*, 10(2), 115. <https://doi.org/10.29123/jy.v10i2.142>

⁹ Suteki. (2021). *Hukum dan masyarakat*. Thafamedia.

in Article 22 Paragraph 1 of the 1945 Constitution, "General elections are held directly".¹⁰ This condition also guarantees that elections will be held for five years, as well as universal and free procedures. It guarantees process, mechanism, and quality. implementation, and declares that "elections shall be held by national, permanent, and independent election committees". The function of Bawaslu is very much needed, so Bawaslu is designated as an election organizer that is permanent and has the authority to supervise the course of the election. The weaknesses possessed by Bawaslu due to the limited duties and authority in supervising the implementation of elections will ultimately be able to endanger the democratic process in Indonesia.¹¹

The local context of Central Sulawesi Province presents its own dynamics, considering the geographical, social, and political diversity that forms a distinctive character in the implementation of elections. Bawaslu at the provincial and district/city levels are not only faced with administrative challenges, but also with various practices that have the potential to disrupt election justice, such as money politics, the neutrality of the state civil apparatus, and conflicts of interest that lead to process disputes. Research on the authority of Bawaslu in handling this dispute is important to find out the extent to which the effectiveness of the regulation and its implementation is able to provide electoral justice for all participants. This research can examine the formal legal aspects that are the basis for Bawaslu's authority in resolving disputes in the election process, such as Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning Elections, as well as its derivative regulations.

2. Methods

The normative legal research used in this study is an approach that relies on an analysis of the written legal norms that govern the authority of the Election Supervisory Agency (Bawaslu) in resolving disputes in the election process.¹² This approach focuses on the study of relevant laws and regulations, legal principles, and legal doctrines to understand how the position and limits of Bawaslu's authority are regulated in the national legal system, especially as stated in Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning General Elections and its implementing regulations.¹³

Normative legal research is understood as a system of norms that is prescriptive, meaning it provides guidelines on what should be done according to the law. In the context of this study, the prescriptive nature is used practically to assess the extent to which the legal norms governing the authority of Bawaslu are applied in accordance with the principles of the rule of law and the principle of electoral justice. Thus, the analysis is carried out not only on the content of legal norms (*normative content*), but also on the suitability of its application with legal principles such as legal certainty, justice, and proportionality. This research uses primary legal materials in the form of laws, Bawaslu regulations, and judicial decisions, as well as secondary legal materials in the form of legal literature, scientific journals, and opinions of constitutional law experts and state administrative law. This approach allows researchers to identify, interpret, and evaluate the legal norms that are the basis of Bawaslu's authority in resolving disputes in the election process, as well as providing normative arguments on the need to improve regulations so that the implementation of the supervisory and dispute resolution functions can run more effectively and consistent with democratic

¹⁰ *Vide* Article 22 Paragraph 1 of the 1945 Constitution

¹¹ Juliardi, B., Runtunuwu, Y. B., Musthofa, M. H., TL, A. D., Asriyani, A., Hazmi, R. M., ... & Samara, M. R. (2023). *Metode Penelitian Hukum*. CV. Gita Lentera.

¹² Ariawan, I. G. K. (2013). *Metode Penelitian Hukum Normatif*. Kertha Widya: Jurnal Hukum, 1(1), 21–30. <https://doi.org/10.37637/kw.v1i1.419>

¹³ Aermadepa, A. (2019). *Penyelesaian Sengketa Proses Pemilu oleh Bawaslu, Tantangan Dan Masa Depan*. JUSTITIA : Jurnal Ilmu Hukum Dan Humaniora, 1(2), 1. <https://doi.org/10.31604/justitia.v1i2.1-14>

principles.

3. Election Dispute Resolution Process of the Central Sulawesi Election Supervisory Agency

3.1. Authority of the Central Sulawesi Election Supervisory Agency

The authority of the Election Supervisory Agency (Bawaslu) is normatively derived from the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia which affirms the implementation of direct, public, free, confidential, honest, and fair elections. This principle is then described in Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning General Elections, which expressly establishes Bawaslu as an institution that has the functions of supervision, prevention, enforcement of violations, and dispute resolution in the election process. These provisions are emphasized in several implementing regulations, including Bawaslu Regulation Number 9 of 2022 concerning Procedures for Dispute Resolution in the Election Process and Bawaslu Regulation Number 7 of 2022 concerning the Handling of Findings and Reports of Election Violations. Through this legal framework, Bawaslu's authority is administrative, not judicial, so its actions are oriented towards enforcing election norms through administrative corrective mechanisms, not through the judiciary. Therefore, terms such as court-like judgments are not appropriately used, because Bawaslu only issues administrative decisions that can be the object of further lawsuits at the State Administrative Court.

The Election Supervisory Agency (Bawaslu) has been since the 2014 election, where at that time disputes over the election process were only resolved at the Bawaslu and Provincial Bawaslu levels. However, with the enactment of Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning General Elections (Elections) which also mandates the settlement of disputes in the election process to the Regency/City Bawaslu, as well as strengthening the existence of the Regency/City Bawaslu to become a permanent institution. The 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia has laid the foundation for democratic government by mandating periodic elections. This is regulated in the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia Chapter VIIB Article 22 E with the title "Elections". The reading of Article 22 E is:

1. General elections are held directly, publicly, freely, secretly, honestly, and fairly every five years;
2. General elections are held to elect members of the House of Representatives, the Regional Representative Council, the President and Vice President and the Regional House of Representatives;
3. Participants in the general election to elect members of the regional House of Representatives are political parties;
4. Participants in the general election to elect members of the Regional Representative Council are individuals;
5. General elections are organized by an election commission that is national, permanent, and independent.

Furthermore, elections were born from the conception and great idea of Democracy which refers to John Locke and Rousseau,¹⁴ namely the guarantee of freedom, justice and equality for individuals in all fields. Elections are often referred to as a people's democracy party which is a reflection of the people's participation in determining the leaders and the direction of the nation's development. However, in its development, elections in Indonesia still have many shortcomings and are homework that needs to be fixed together by all elements of the nation.

As part of the institutional structure of Bawaslu, the Central Sulawesi Provincial Bawaslu carries out the function of supervising and resolving disputes over the election

¹⁴ Bachtiar, F. R. (2014). Pemilu Indonesia: Kiblat Negara Demokrasi Dari Berbagai Representasi. *Jurnal Politik Profetik*, 2(1), 1–17. <https://doi.org/10.24252/profetik.v2i1a3>

process in the provincial area based on the mandate of the law and coordination with the Bawaslu RI. In the context of the 2024 election, the implementation of this authority includes handling disputes between election participants at the verification stage of legislative candidates, violations of campaign administration, and procedural disputes in vote recapitulation at the provincial level. The implementation of this authority shows its own dynamics at the regional level, especially related to limited resources, differences in interpretation of norms between levels of supervisory institutions, and local political pressures. Nevertheless, the Central Sulawesi Provincial Bawaslu has tried to carry out its mandate according to the legal corridor, by upholding the principles of impartiality and professionalism. This shows the strategic extortion of the Provincial Bawaslu in maintaining the integrity of the election stages, as well as being an important representation and function of election supervision at the subnational level.

The new policy with the emergence of the new authority of Bawaslu as an election supervisory institution to resolve administrative violations and disputes related to violations of TSM (Structured, Systematic and Massive) which can administratively cancel the nomination through the adjudication hearing process, where Bawaslu can be said to play the role of a judge, deciding the application written by the applicant in his petition. Then dig up the truths through the trial, listen to witness statements, listen to the answers of the applicant and the respondent, then conclude. That is the new authority owned by Bawaslu.¹⁵

Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning General Elections contains a breakthrough in strengthening the authority of the Election Supervisory Agency (Bawaslu) in enforcing election laws. In addition to election crimes, the authority to take action and decide administrative violations in the trial mechanism at the Bawaslu up to the Regency/City level, which was previously the authority of the Constitutional Court (MK) is now given to Bawaslu. In the previous law, a conclusion that an act was considered an offence was issued in the form of a recommendation. Now the conclusion is issued in the form of a verdict. The Regency/City Bawaslu can issue a final and binding decision and the decision cannot be assimilated. For example, Bawaslu received a report that a candidate for a certain regional head committed administrative violations. Bawaslu will present the complainant and the reported person to explain the report and defense to each other. After that, Bawaslu can conclude that the action is a violation through a decision like a court decision, not a recommendation, if the recommendation can be implemented, it may or not, now the decision is a kind of court decision that no longer needs to be forwarded to the KPU but in nature the KPU is obliged to implement this decision.¹⁶

3.2. Dispute Resolution of the Central Sulawesi Bawaslu Election

Implementing the 2024 Election, the Central Sulawesi Provincial Bawaslu handled a number of process disputes, including reports related to alleged money politics practices and procedural violations in the campaign stage. Some cases are resolved through mediation and adjudication mechanisms as stipulated in Bawaslu Regulation concerning Procedures for Dispute Resolution in the Election Process. The case description shows variations in the complexity of the problem, but to avoid repetition, this section highlights the key aspects of the resolution and the results achieved.¹⁷

¹⁵ Sensus, L., Tatawu, G., Sinapoy, M. S., & Haris, O. K. (2022). *Analisis Kewenangan Adjudikasi Bawaslu dalam Penyelesaian Sengketa Proses Pemilu*. *Halu Oleo Legal Research*, 4(2), 308–321. <https://doi.org/10.33772/holresch.v4i2.54>

¹⁶ Siregar, A. A., & Rosalia, F. (2020). *Kewenangan Ajudikasi Badan Pengawas Pemilu (BAWASLU) dan Implementasinya di Daerah*. *JASP: Jurnal Analisis Sosial Politik*, 2(2), 1–13. <https://doi.org/10.23960/jasp.v2i2.26>

¹⁷ *Vide* Bawaslu Regulation Number 9 of 2022 concerning Procedures for Dispute Resolution in the Election Process

From the results of the analysis, the effectiveness of Bawaslu's authority in resolving process disputes can be measured through several objective indicators, including: (1) the duration of dispute resolution, where most cases can be resolved within a period of seven working days; (2) the level of compliance with the decision, which indicates that the majority of the parties to the dispute accept the outcome of the mediation or implement the adjudication decision; and (3) the satisfaction of the parties, which is reflected in the lack of further objections to the Honorary Council of Election Organizers (DKPP) or the state administrative court.

The process of resolving election disputes carried out by the Election Supervisory Agency (Bawaslu) in Central Sulawesi Province has shown significant success in maintaining the integrity of the election process. Based on the data collected, the Central Sulawesi Bawaslu has received and processed a number of dispute reports related to the election stages, such as the determination of the permanent candidate list (DCT), the determination of the permanent voter list (DPT), and campaign violations. Of the total disputes submitted, most were resolved through mediation, while a small portion proceeded to the adjudication process due to the inability to reach an agreement between the parties. The type of violation reported can come from community reports or be found directly by the organizers according to the hierarchy level.¹⁸

Bawaslu has managed to resolve around 85 percent of dispute cases through a mediation mechanism, which involves direct dialogue between parties to the dispute. Meanwhile, in the adjudication process, Bawaslu decided the dispute based on the evidence submitted by the parties. Adjudication decisions are generally accepted by the parties, although there are several cases that are then appealed to the State Administrative High Court (PTUN). This process shows that the mechanism implemented by Bawaslu has run in accordance with laws and regulations. Based on the latest data from the Central Sulawesi Provincial Bawaslu (Central Sulawesi), during the 2024 election, this institution handles various election violations, including disputes over the election process. Of the total 116 violations recorded, 20 were internal findings of Bawaslu, while 96 came from community reports. These types of violations include administrative violations, code of ethics, election crimes, and other violations of the law.¹⁹

The effectiveness of the Central Sulawesi Bawaslu in handling election disputes can be seen from the ability of this institution to maintain a balance between the interests of the parties and the applicable legal rules. The mediation process carried out by Bawaslu proved to be the most effective approach, because it provides space for the parties to reach an agreement peacefully without having to go through a long legal process. This is in line with the principle of fast, simple, and low-cost dispute resolution as stipulated in Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning Elections.²⁰ In addition, the Central Sulawesi Bawaslu also plays a role in handling alleged election crimes. For example, the case of alleged money politics involving the campaign team of candidates for legislative members of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia from the Central Sulawesi Dapil. This case was handled by the

¹⁸ Suryani, L., Rasyid, M. F. F., Nasir, M., Suprpto, S., Daud, F., Sahrir, S., Latif, A., & Purwanda, N. W. (2024). *Perlindungan Hukum terhadap Saksi Pelapor dalam Proses Persidangan di Bawaslu*. *Amsir Law Journal*, 6(1), 9–20. <https://doi.org/10.36746/alj.v6i1.591>

¹⁹ Antara News. (2024). *Bawaslu Sulteng mencatat 116 pelanggaran Pemilu 2024*. <https://sulteng.antaranews.com/berita/319161/bawaslu-sulteng-mencatat-116-pelanggaran-pemilu-2024> diakses pada tanggal 4 Mei 2025

²⁰ *Vide* Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning Elections

Central Sulawesi Regional Police Integrated Law Enforcement Center (Gakkumdu) after receiving a report from the Central Sulawesi Bawaslu.²¹

Despite the pandemic, its effectiveness is still faced with a number of challenges, such as limited human resources and budgets, low legal understanding of election participants, and political pressure in handling disputes at the regional level. To overcome this, Bawaslu needs to strengthen institutional capacity through continuous training, expand the digitization of the complaint system and case monitoring, and build synergy between election law enforcement agencies to increase transparency and accountability in future dispute resolution.

However, there are challenges faced in the implementation of Bawaslu's duties, especially related to the limitation of human and technical resources in several districts/cities in Central Sulawesi. This challenge affects the speed of handling disputes, especially during the peak of the election stage. In addition, the low understanding of the public and election participants about dispute resolution procedures is another obstacle that requires attention. Therefore, more intensive capacity building and socialization efforts are needed to all related parties. The Central Sulawesi Bawaslu also plays a role in handling alleged election crimes. For example, the case of alleged money politics involving the campaign team of candidates for legislative members of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia from the Central Sulawesi Dapil. This case was handled by the Central Sulawesi Regional Police Integrated Law Enforcement Center (Gakkumdu) after receiving a report from the Central Sulawesi Bawaslu.²² Thus, the Central Sulawesi Bawaslu has been active in handling various violations and disputes in the election process, both at the provincial and district levels, to ensure integrity and fairness in the implementation of the 2024 elections.

The Central Sulawesi Provincial Bawaslu plays an active role in handling election disputes, which include disputes between election participants, between participants and organizers, as well as administrative disputes. Based on the results of monitoring and reports during the election stage, Bawaslu succeeded in resolving several dispute cases with a mediation and adjudication approach. In many cases, the mediation process is able to produce an agreement between the parties to the dispute, thus avoiding the escalation of the conflict. However, for cases that cannot be resolved through mediation, Bawaslu uses an adjudication mechanism with a binding verdict. Supported by mediator training, capacity building of election supervisors, and representative technical guidance from Bawaslu RI, as well as strong commitment from all election supervisors.²³

The Central Sulawesi Bawaslu also needs to strengthen coordination with related agencies, such as the KPU and PTUN, to ensure that all dispute resolution processes run in harmony and transparently. In addition, strengthening the internal supervision mechanism at Bawaslu is also important to maintain the credibility of the institution in handling disputes objectively and professionally. By paying attention to these aspects, it is hoped that Bawaslu can continue to improve its performance in realizing honest and fair elections in Central Sulawesi Province. For example, one of the prominent disputes is the conflict between political parties related to alleged violations of the campaign schedule. In this case, Bawaslu conducted an in-depth investigation, examined evidence and witnesses, and provided

²¹ Antara News. (2022). *Bawaslu Sulteng Bangun Partisipatif Cegah Pelanggaran Pemilu*. <https://sulteng.antaranews.com/berita/255637/bawaslu-sulteng-bangun-partisipatif-cegah-pelanggaran-pemilu> diakses pada tanggal 4 Mei 2025

²² Tribata News. (2024). *Polda Sulteng Tangani Dugaan Politik Uang Pemilu 2024, Tim Kampanye Caleg DPR RI jadi Terlapor*. <https://tribatanews.sulteng.polri.go.id/2024/03/15/polda-sulteng-tangani-dugaan-politik-uang-pemilu-2024-tim-kampanye-caleg-dpr-ri-jadi-terlapor/>. diakses pada tanggal 4 Mei 2025.

²³ Tobing, R. D., Nugraha, S., & Putra, R. K. (2024). *Efektivitas Mediasi Dalam Penyelesaian Sengketa Proses Pemilu Tahun 2024 Yang Berkeadilan*. *Jurnal Ilmiah Dinamika Hukum*, 25(2), 249–268. <https://doi.org/10.35315/dh.v25i2.9984>

settlement recommendations received by both parties. This process shows the effectiveness of Bawaslu as an independent and professional election supervisory institution. Although the Central Sulawesi Provincial Bawaslu has shown good performance, there are a number of challenges faced in the process of resolving election disputes:

1. Lack of Legal Understanding by Election Participants. Many election participants do not fully understand election regulations, including dispute resolution mechanisms. This leads to many administrative disputes that should have been avoided if the parties had a better understanding of the rules;
2. High Political Tensions. The election process is often colored by high political tension. In some cases, the parties to the dispute are reluctant to follow the mechanism of peaceful settlement because they prioritize political interests;
3. Limited Human Resources and Facilities. Bawaslu at the provincial level often faces limited personnel, especially when handling disputes that involve many parties and require in-depth investigations. In addition, supporting facilities, such as digital systems for processing dispute documents, still need improvement;
4. Intervention and External Pressure. In some cases, Bawaslu has to face pressure from various parties, both from election participants, community leaders, and certain groups, who try to influence the decision-making process;
5. Limited Turnaround Time. The process of resolving election disputes has a strict deadline in accordance with regulations. This requires Bawaslu to work quickly without compromising the quality of analysis and fairness in decision-making.

To overcome these challenges, the Central Sulawesi Provincial Bawaslu has taken several strategic steps, including:

1. Education and Socialization. Bawaslu increased socialization to election participants and the public regarding election rules and dispute resolution mechanisms. This is expected to reduce the potential for administrative violations and disputes;
2. Increasing the Capacity of Human Resources. Bawaslu conducts training and technical guidance for its personnel to improve their ability to handle disputes professionally and quickly;
3. Application of Information Technology. The use of information technology in the process of processing dispute data, such as online complaint applications, has begun to be implemented to simplify the administrative and reporting process;
4. Collaborative Approach. Bawaslu collaborates with law enforcement officials, academics, and civil society to create a conducive atmosphere in dispute resolution.

The strategic steps taken by the Central Sulawesi Provincial Bawaslu demonstrate a high level of commitment in addressing various challenges related to election dispute resolution. Through education and socialization, capacity building, information technology utilization, and a collaborative approach involving multiple stakeholders, Bawaslu has fostered a more conducive and effective environment for managing election disputes. These efforts are expected not only to improve institutional professionalism and responsiveness but also to strengthen public trust in the integrity and fairness of future election implementation.

4. Closing

The process of resolving election disputes by Bawaslu in Central Sulawesi Province shows the strategic role of this institution in maintaining election integrity. However, the challenges that exist require attention and ongoing solutions. With efforts to increase capacity, use of technology, and a collaborative approach, Bawaslu is expected to be able to overcome these obstacles and further strengthen the supervisory function and resolve election disputes in the future. It also shows optimal efforts in maintaining the principles of fairness and election integrity. The Central Sulawesi Bawaslu has taken advantage of the authority given, including

mediation, adjudication, and handling of community reports. However, challenges such as limited resources, legal constraints, and lack of understanding of election participants about dispute procedures are obstacles that need to be addressed further. In the future, strengthening the institutional capacity of the Central Sulawesi Bawaslu, education to election participants, and collaboration between stakeholders is expected to improve the quality of election dispute resolution and create more democratic elections in Central Sulawesi Province. Therefore, in this study, it is suggested that the Central Sulawesi Bawaslu needs to increase the capacity of human resources, especially in the aspects of law, mediation, and adjudication, in order to be able to handle election disputes professionally and quickly. As well as conducting routine evaluations of dispute resolution procedures to find and overcome existing obstacles.

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Conflict of Interest Statement:

The author declares that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

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