



The 2024 Presidential Election's Political Dynamics: The Changing of Governments and Dynasties

Yonarisman Muhammad Akbar¹, Rachmawati Windyaningrum², Raesita Rakhmawati Rosadi³, Isma Dwi Fiani⁴, Nurkhalila Fajrini⁵
¹²³⁴⁵Universitas Terbuka, Indonesia

Correspondent: yonarismanakbar@ecampus.ut.ac.id¹

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ABSTRACT: This article examines the political dynamics taking place during the presidential election of Indonesia in 2024, with a focus on the transition to a new government and the potential emergence of political dynasties. It analyzes the political changes that occurred during the campaign, election, and post-election, and how these changes affected political stability and the country's policy direction. Changes in public opinion, political communication tactics used by candidates and political parties, difficulties encountered during the transition to a new government, and the potential emergence of political dynasties—a phenomenon in which political power is concentrated in the hands of families or power circles—are all included in the analysis. The research method used is qualitative research with a literature study design. The data collection technique uses secondary data from reference sources such as legal products, research articles, and journals collected from Google Scholar, Portal Garuda, and news portals such as BBC Indonesia, BBC News, Kompas.com, and Bawaslu. The literature study technique uses a traditional review. This article seeks to offer a clearer understanding of the political processes influencing the 2024 presidential election result and its consequences for Indonesia's political future by exploring these dynamics.

Keywords: 2024 Presidential Election, Political Dynamics, Government Transition, Dynasty.



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INTRODUCTION

The President of Indonesia oversees the nation's presidential system of government. The president's power in the presidential system is split between his or her roles as head of state and head of government. The Indonesian presidential election is a historic occasion that signifies the change of political authority in the nation. Ever since the Reformasi election of 1998, Indonesia's democratic journey has included the presidential election as a crucial turning point, marking notable advancements in popular representation and political involvement (Davidson, 2018).

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Thirteen democratic parties have existed in Indonesia since the country's first general election. This Democratic Party seeks to elect leaders of the legislative and executive branches ([Tjenreng, 2020](#)). The worldwide community and international political watchers are paying attention to the 2024 presidential election in addition to Indonesians themselves. Severe political conflicts replete with intricate plotting and cunning have emerged as the primary focal point of the dynamics of national politics. Several factors, including political, economic, social, and cultural issues and the advancement of information technology, are significant in influencing public opinion and the course of political action ([McCombs & Valenzuela, 2020](#)).

The Indonesian presidential election of 2024 represents a significant turning point in the nation's democratic development. There are four major goals of having elections, according to Jimmly Asshiddiqie (2009: 418), including political dynamics that fluctuate throughout the campaign, election, and post-election process. The first is to ensure that citizens' human rights are upheld and to conduct a secure and smooth handover of power. Party cadres are prohibited from running for office because, in an ideal world, dynastic political practices that supported family ties would not have an impact on elections ([Indrawan & IP, 2022](#)).

According to ([Djati, 2014](#)) Political dynasties are, very literally, a political strategy used to hold onto power by transferring authority to senior family members. The analysis of the several phenomena that underlie the development of dynasties can be done from two perspectives. The first is the political pragmatism that arises from political parties taking longer to renew their slates of eligible candidates for regional heads, thus pushing family members or close associates of regional heads into public office. The second factor is the situation where locals support the status quo by pushing close friends or relatives of the regional director to unseat the current leader.

Because of these two frequent symptoms, there are advantages and disadvantages to the knowledge of political dynasties. Opinions in favor of and against the Election Bill therefore led to a protracted debate concerning its modifications. Political dynasties, according to some, should not be outlawed; instead, local head families' eligibility to run for office should be restricted ([Luluardi & Diniyanto, 2021](#)). Conversely, there is a need to enhance the regional political parties' regeneration system.

In accordance with the opinion ([Yossi Nurmansyah, 2016](#)), The most powerful people in our nation are those who are closest to us. Dynastic politics is a phenomenon in politics where candidates come from the government's governing family ([Aspinall & As' ad, 2016](#)). A political dynasty can be defined as a system of political power that is either hereditary or controlled by members of the political actor's family or close relatives ([Teehankee et al., 2023](#)).

Family members' strong affection for politics led to the formation of these political dynasties, which were typically focused on power. A political dynasty is characterized by the retention of power and the transfer of power to kin of the former ruler ([Purwaningsih & Widodo, 2020](#))

On the other hand, as a new administration will shortly govern Indonesia, elected officials, political parties, and the public are heavily focused on how political power will shift following the 2024

presidential election. Future political stability and sustained growth depend on effective and seamless transition management. Thus, Indonesia's political future depends on having a thorough grasp of the political processes involved in the 2024 presidential election as well as deciding for the handover of power.

Even though Indonesia's current political structure is becoming more unstable, the country's politics still need to bounce back swiftly. The political awakening started by the country's founding fathers—Soetomo, Ir Soekarno, Dr. Tjipto Mangunkusumo, Ki Hajar Dewantoro, and Dr. Douwes Dekker—during the fight for Indonesian independence must constantly be used in the country's democratic existence today ([Febrianti, 2018](#)). When considered from a beneficial perspective, political communication serves to link political minds within society, including those inside intragroups, institutions, associations, and governmental political spheres ([Binder, 2023](#)). Almond and Powell define political communication as a political function that works in tandem with other political system functions like aggregation, articulation, recruitment, and socialization ([Rizky et al., 2023](#)).

Politics has a significant impact on a nation's and state's trajectory ([Seton-Watson, 2019](#)). Positive and constructive political dynamics impact both the state's and the country's progress. Political dynamics that are harmful and perilous cause a nation to deteriorate and grow weaker. Politics has an impact on many aspects of national life and has the power to alter a nation's structural makeup. Politics, according to Harold Laswell, is the study of the numerous facets of the state, such as the division of power and the formation of states ([Gunanto, 2020](#)).

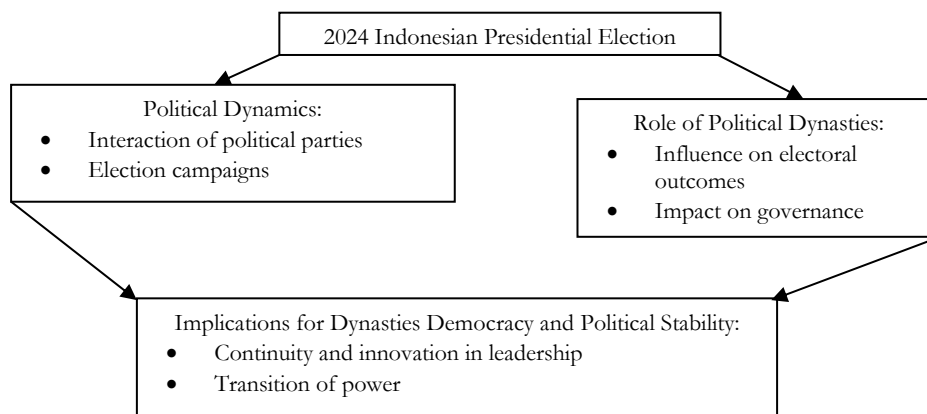
Naturally, political culture and ethics must be fully upheld in Indonesian politics possible. However, people are always commenting on the political ethics and behavior of elites who frequently do not represent the interests of most of the society. Whether it takes the shape of caustic remarks, snarky critique, or helpful criticism. In the hopes that the people would eventually realize that political behavior and ethics that are impartial to the people and place importance on humanist principles must be abandoned, as well as the apathy and politics of the public toward the government ([Hasanah et al., 2022](#)).

Democracies must widen the political faucet to guarantee public participation in the political process ([Thelma, 2024](#)). To achieve an ideal democracy, there should be ample room for people to compete in politics at all levels, from the national to the local and more possibilities for people from all backgrounds to get involved in politics ([Neblo et al., 2018](#)). Put another way, even while society is still limited by its status and social rights, all walks of life, from regional to national, should have a great opportunity to compete for political position under the rules as they are ([Prayitno, 2021](#)).

The research aims to examine the dynamics of political transitions and their implications for democracy in Indonesia. Understand the role of political dynasties in shaping electoral outcomes and governance. Analyze the balance between continuity and innovation in political leadership as exemplified by the 2024 presidential election. Explore the interaction between domestic political strategies and international diplomatic stances in the context of Indonesia's evolving political

landscape. The research question is how do political dynasties and government transitions impact the democratic process and political stability in Indonesia's 2024 presidential election?. Apart from that, the conceptual framework for this study focuses on the 2024 Indonesian presidential election, looking at political dynamics, the role of political dynasties, and the implications for democracy and political stability. This paradigm brings together a diverse set of perspectives to better understand how these variables interact and influence Indonesia's electoral process and governance. The conceptual framework is more clearly illustrated in the following diagram below,

Figure 1: The Conceptual Framework



Political Dynamics

Political dynamics are intricately tied to concerns of participation and democracy. Furthermore, the political dynamics mirror the general election campaign's structure. According to (Dwiyanto, 2021), political dynamics are defined as the extent to which ongoing political processes represent democratic and accountable values. Furthermore, dynamics can be defined as the interaction and interdependence between members of one group and members of another group as a whole. According to (Kadarisman, 2021), there are political movements in the government that can directly influence the people reciprocally, therefore the state's political ideas must be executed with the goal of promoting the prosperity of the people, rather than benefiting only one side.

According to the explanation, the political dynamics discussed in this paper are directly tied to the interaction of political parties, namely the manner in which diverse political organizations communicate, compete, collaborate, and interact within the political system. This relationship is critical for the operation of democracy, policymaking, and government. (Lilleker, 2017) defines political campaigns as organized efforts by political organizations to obtain public support through persuasive communication to influence public policy in their favor. In pluralistic democracies, campaigns are essential for representation. Campaigns are a way for groups of people with a shared cause to communicate their attitudes, allowing others with similar concerns to join their campaign, and so campaigns provide those individuals and supporters a voice.

Role of Political Dynsties

The impact of political dynasties on electoral outcomes and governance is diverse. On the electoral front, dynasties frequently use their established networks, historical legacies, and personal connections to gain votes. However, this impact has the potential to hinder political innovation and reinforce established power systems. In terms of governance, political dynasties can bring stability and long-term planning, but they can also entrench elite interests, resulting in nepotism, corruption, and resistance to reforms.

In politics, dynasties form a circle of power or structuring that includes family, offspring, and associates ([Muliansyah, 2015](#)). According to the understanding ([Agustino, 2011](#)), a political dynasty is a "political empire" in which the elite places their family, siblings, and relatives in several important positions of government both locally and nationally, or it can be said that the elite forms strategies such as a structured and systematic royal network ([Agustino, 2011](#)).

Gerring (2001) noted that political dynasties offer continuity and stability within electoral systems, which can attract voters seeking familiar and reliable leadership. However, this can also limit political innovation and the emergence of new leaders. Furthermore, to examine the impact of political dynasties on policy continuity and innovation. While dynasties can provide stability and long-term planning, they may also resist necessary reforms and maintain status quo policies that benefit their interests. In line with that statement, political dynasties in Indonesia are explored how political dynasties in Indonesia use patronage and clientelism to secure votes, particularly in rural areas where traditional loyalties and personal connections play a significant role in electoral success ([Aspinall & Mietzner, 2010](#)).

The implications of dynastic politics on democracy and political stability revolve around the balance between continuity and innovation in leadership, and the nature of power transitions. While dynasties can provide stability and continuity, they may also impede political innovation and reforms. Smooth transitions of power are vital for democratic stability, and dynasties can complicate these processes, potentially undermining democratic principles and public trust.

METHOD

The author collects data and information through qualitative research to identify patterns in the described symptoms. According to ([Creswell & Creswell, 2017](#)), qualitative research is artistic and descriptive, emphasizing a deeper understanding of the observed phenomena and their overall meaning. Studying social processes inductively from the perspective of individuals and groups is greatly facilitated by qualitative research.

This study uses a literature review design. According to ([Dena Taylor, n.d.](#)), a literature review is a collection of academic publications that have been published on a specific topic. Additionally, a literature review is an assessment of the body of literature related to a particular question. The purpose of this literature review is to help researchers gather theories and ideas from others interested in the same research question and to allow them to read research findings. Based on the design, the author uses secondary data collection methods through reference sources such as legal products, research articles, and journals collected from Google Scholar, Portal Garuda, and news

portals such as BBC Indonesia, BBC News, Kompas.com, and Bawaslu. The data collection was chosen based on certain criteria, namely:

1. Titles or content related to political dynasties in democracy, politics in Indonesia after the presidential election, political culture, and the 2024 presidential election contestation.
2. Published between 2023 and 2024.
3. Focused on the dynamics of the 2024 Presidential Election related to dynasties and the new government in Indonesia.

The literature review technique used in this research is the traditional review technique. This technique is one of the ways to conduct a literature review that presents the state and justifies the relationship of a study to identify problems or gaps in current research ([Allen, 2017](#)). The author conducts a review process by selecting and identifying articles focused on one topic regarding the dynamics of the 2024 Presidential Election related to dynasties and the new government in Indonesia. The identified articles are then used to evaluate previous research to be developed because of the literature review.

Next, the analysis of the collected data is conducted through several stages as proposed by ([Siregar & Harahap, 2019](#)), namely compare, contrast, criticize, synthesize, and summarize. After collecting data, the author proceeds to the stage of finding similarities between the literatures. In the second stage, the author looks for differences between the literatures. In the third stage, the author provides insights and explores the reasons behind the phenomena in each piece of data. In the fourth stage, the author synthesizes concepts, theories, or propositions with existing literature. In the final stage, the author draws conclusions to be used as the results and discussion in this article.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The 2024 presidential election marked a pivotal moment in the political landscape of several Southeast Asian nations, as they grappled with transitions both within their governments and towards potential dynastic rule ([Aljazeera and News Agencies, 2024](#)). Across the region, there emerged a palpable sense of nostalgia for past regimes, exemplified by figures like Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. in the Philippines and Anwar Ibrahim in Malaysia ([Lim, 2024](#)). In Indonesia, this sentiment found resonance with the candidacy of Prabowo Subianto, whose political history intersects with the pre-Reformasi era, albeit with nuances ([Ian Wilson, 2024](#)).

Prabowo's candidacy represented a fusion of past and present, promising to continue the foundations laid by previous administrations while simultaneously ushering in a new era of leadership. His alignment with incumbent President Jokowi and the emergence of figures like Gibran Rakabuming Raka underscored a nuanced approach to governance that sought to blend continuity with innovation. However, amidst critiques of nostalgia for old orders, Prabowo's challenge lay in breaking free from historical connotations and charting a distinct path forward.

Internationally, Prabowo's persona drew comparisons to figures like Donald Trump, characterized by assertive and unapologetic rhetoric that challenged Western norms. His willingness to confront Western criticism, particularly regarding Indonesia's economic dependencies and environmental

policies, hinted at a potential shift towards a more independent foreign policy stance. This was further evidenced by overtures towards China and unconventional proposals for global peace initiatives, reflecting a departure from traditional alliances towards a more multipolar orientation ([Andreyka Natalegawa, 2024](#)).

As the region navigates a complex geopolitical landscape, the 2024 election underscored the delicate balance between continuity and change, nostalgia and innovation. Prabowo's victory symbolized a pivotal moment in Indonesia's political trajectory, where the transition to new governance intertwined with the potential rise of dynastic legacies. Yet, amidst these dynamics, the true test lies in Prabowo's ability to reconcile conflicting interests, navigate global tensions, and steer Indonesia towards a future defined by prosperity, stability, and diplomatic agility ([Purdey, 2016](#)).

The Political System

A range of political concerns, tactics, and events will influence political decision-making and the democratic process in Indonesia's 2024 presidential election. With social media and the internet playing a big role in the political dynamics of the 2024 presidential election, the shift in political communication, which is also tied to problems and events, has become more real and complex ([Rhea Yasmine Alis Haizan, 2024](#)).

Through capitalization and corporate funding, pollsters, social media, podcasts, outdoor media, news portals and television have all evolved into contestation grounds for political marketing. Tiny communication errors can set off reactions that harm a leader's credibility and future possibilities. In an election where every candidate tries to win over voters' hearts and minds, the voter market emerges as the primary factor. Emotions and the fracas of communication get ingrained in this type of political free market. Because candidates with a plan and calm communication styles tend to be more popular in the political market, it is anticipated that candidates and their followers will be less emotionally charged ([Dr. Basuki Agus Suparno, 2024](#)).

Public concern over political polarization—which ultimately recurred—rose in the wake of the 2024 election, which had the three presidential candidates and vice presidents (Anis & Muhaimin, Prabowo & Gibran, Ganjar & Mahfud) running against each other. Because of the practices of identity politics, slander, fake news, hate speech, and defamation, it is possible to characterize the 2024 election as being like the 2019 one in which polarization penetrated the family sphere. One of the reasons is the role that identity politics play in electoral campaigns ([Aghnia Adzкия, 2023](#)).

Conversely, identity politics is a major factor in Indonesian elections. While it is illegal to campaign in places of religion, identity politics has grown in importance throughout Indonesian elections. Depending on the two candidates and parties involved, identity politics can take on varying degrees of intensity at the local and national levels. The political history of Indonesia demonstrates how religious and nonreligious identities can be combined to establish alliances amongst parties.

One example is party fusion, which blends national and religious elements. However, depending on the political forces and players involved, issues like religion, ethnicity, and nationality continue to be significant in politics. Political dynamics are dynamic, thus it's critical to increase political

literacy and provide continual education to lessen the chance of political identities becoming polarized ([Satriyani Dewi Astuti, 2023](#)).

It is intended that the 2024 elections would go more smoothly and benefit Indonesia's democratic process by comprehending the effects of the ban on campaigning in places of worship and putting suitable plans into place.

Transition of the Prabowo-Gibran Government

Prabowo Subianto's battle to hold the title of RI 1 has at last been successful after 20 years. In the Republic of Indonesia's 2024 presidential election, the commander of the Army Strategic Reserve Command from 1998 was chosen to be the country's president. Even though he is supported by many voters, it is not anticipated that the political parties supporting him would have a majority of the votes, which may cause difficulties for the government's transition process. It is anticipated that Prabowo Subianto's new government will face its greatest difficulty in managing political power.

After losing the presidential election twice, Prabowo Subianto acknowledged there was no issue. According to him, what matters most is that the Indonesian people triumph, up until the long-coveted position is eventually obtained by Indonesian Defense Minister Prabowo Subianto in 2024: the presidency ([Muchamad Sholihin, 2024](#)).

Following the General Elections Commission's (KPU) announcement on April 24 that Prabowo Subianto and Gibran Rakabuming Raka had won the 2024 Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections (Pilpres), the newly elected president and vice president, respectively, said they would unite with all segments of the country. Prabowo has met thus far with leaders of political parties that are not members of the Advanced Indonesia Coalition, including Surya Paloh, the chairman of Partai Nasdem, and Muhaimin Iskandar, better known as Cak Imin, the chairman of Partai Kebangkitan Bangsa (PKB).

It is undeniable that Prabowo's win is correlated with Jokowi's popularity as the current president. The appointment of Prabowo as defense minister by President Jokowi in 2019 was one of the beginning points ([Almuttaqi, 2020](#)). Now, indirectly, by allowing Prabowo to share the Indonesian vice-presidential seat with Jokowi's oldest son, Gibran Rakabuming Raka.

As demonstrated by the results of the non-KPU 2024 Presidential Election quick count, which overwhelmingly favors Prabowo-Gibran, many Indonesians continue to support Jokowi. The people's happiness rating with the government is likewise steady, hovering around the 60s to 70s, and it's at its greatest point in the Indonesian president's tenure.

However, it is undeniable that Prabowo would not have prevailed without Jokowi's backing. Prabowo can no longer rely on him to steer Indonesia for the next five years, nor should he. A few of Jokowi's ministers are technocrats whose tenure as government officials will soon come to an end. Their Jokowi-centric performance and "vision-mission" have not always pleased Prabowo, and vice versa.

The main concerns regarding Prabowo's prospective leadership role are his consumerist and populist economic ideas ([Lee, 2018](#)). For instance, expanding programs that provide free school

lunches and meals. It is anticipated that this approach will worsen Indonesia's fiscal imbalance in the face of uncertainties and a slowing global economy.

Technocratic ministers under Jokowi's leadership support and encourage these measures. For instance, eminent economist Sri Mulyani Indrawati, the finance minister, was formerly the World Bank's managing director ([Rosser & Kartika, 2020](#)). SMI will most likely no longer be used by the incoming Prabowo administration. Who is the trustworthy technocrat who can both support and critique Prabowo's initiatives and take the role of SMI?

Will mediocrity and yes-men/women surround President Prabowo? Because Prabowo's ferocious, somewhat autocratic, and possibly vindictive demeanor tends to stifle helpful criticism and suggestions. During the presidential debate, Anies Baswedan criticized Prabowo by assigning his defense minister a "11/100" rating. This is an example of a reasonable criticism ([Singgih Wiryo & Dani Prabowo, 2024](#)).

The Jokowi "dynasty" element that lends credence to Prabowo's candidacy is insufficient to be seen as a one-time event; rather, it is how Prabowo can use Jokowi's intellect and cold-blooded example in later government initiatives. Will Jokowi be the person in the background who constantly provides Prabowo with advice? Now that Jokowi is in a position of absolute power, is Prabowo going to listen to him any longer?

Politics in dynasties

There is a narrative that is quite like what happened in the Philippines after the KPU formally declared Prabowo Subianto and Gibran Rakabuming Raka the winners of the 2024 presidential election. Gibran was President Jokowi's eldest son, while Prabowo was the son-in-law of President Suharto, who presided over the country from 1968 to 1998. Four decades after his father was overthrown in a revolution, the controversial Ferdinand "Bongbong" is also scheduled to take office as president of the Philippines; a Bongbong victory would restore the Marcos dynasty to power ([Gareth Evans, 2022](#)).

Everything in Indonesia must be based on the rule of law since it is a state of law. Legal channels must serve as the foundation for even government power. The government in issue could carry out obligations while in power or while power is being transferred, in addition to its political authority.

In a nation with a democratic political structure, the succession process is essential. It may be deemed undemocratic if actions taken during the transfer of power involve breaking the law. As a type of governance founded on the interests of the people, democracy during the process of leadership transition must incorporate as much public participation as possible.

In general, dynamic politics refers to the governance of a state by a group of individuals who are still related to each other by blood or family. This political family is most well-known in the royal realm, when the father who ascends to the throne hands the throne over to his son, who is typically a boy, to carry on the father's leadership. For power to stay within the family and for dynastic politics to spur political renewal to keep power within one group solely ([Maydani et al., 2024](#)).

The desire of individuals or families to hold onto power, the formation of groups of people who come together to form group rulers, and the division of roles between political and economic power that leads to corruption are some of the factors that influence the emergence of political dynasties in government.

Due to dynastic politics, many influential local leaders rose to political office, and his spouse and kids eagerly embraced the political system. This may become problematic if the politics of the dynasty persisted.

The Republic of Indonesia's Constitution was not written to support the political ambitions of a specific family or group to hold onto power. Particularly in the instance of Gibran, who used his father's influence to create a political dynasty to maintain his position of power and ultimately win the vice-presidential election in 2024 alongside Prabowo. This dynastic practice is deemed risky due to the current trend of leaders acting more in accordance with the will of power than the law ([Aryo Putranto Saptohutomo, 2024](#)).

Ongoing Improvement

The campaign trail of Prabowo-Gibran for president in 2024 featured many repetitions of the phrase "continue development" or "continue" (from President Jokowi's administration) ([Yanuar Nugroho, 2024](#)). If Prabowo really intends to carry out President Jokowi's "legacy" or programs, which include 50% of the 1,700 km of toll roads that remain unfinished, several national strategic projects like Trans Papua and toll roads outside of Java Island (Sumatra, Kalimantan, etc.), MRT, LRT, high-speed trains, railway projects outside of Java, unfinished food estate projects, sea tolls, etc. Not to mention other areas of development that still require improvement, such social welfare, education, the environment, energy, defense, etc. All of them are substantial, costly assignments that need for stability and long-term planning.

Prabowo was only five years younger than previous President Suharto when he resigned three decades ago, having been elected president this year at the age of 72. Furthermore, Prabowo will eventually inherit the baton of king maker after carrying out his mission for five years. Whether Gibran is his successor or whether members of the coalition party are endorsing him. Prabowo has a difficult task ahead of him, no doubt.

In addition to a strong coalition of political parties, the next Prabowo administration will require a formidable opposition figure, such as PDIP and PKS, to oversee and critique the government's performance. Because President Jokowi is still relatively young and has an interest in carrying on his "political dynasty" through his friends and children, there are worries that Prabowo lacks wisdom and breathing room in the cabinet ([The Star, 2024](#)).

However, Prabowo's administration must strike a balance between ensuring the viability of the development initiatives started by his predecessor and implementing the innovation and reform required to meet upcoming difficulties. Prabowo has pledged to carry on Jokowi's growth, but it is hoped that his administration will implement more inclusive and comprehensive transformation while taking the needs and ambitions of the larger population into account ([Mietzner, 2021](#)).

Furthermore, Prabowo's effectiveness as president will be evaluated not just by how successfully he maintains his current development initiatives but also by how well he handles challenging

situations both inside and outside the country, such as navigating social, political, and economic constraints. Prabowo must therefore be sensitive to political processes and able to adjust to shifts in both society and the political landscape in addition to forging a strong alliance.

According to ([Muhtadi & Muslim, 2023](#)), it will be intriguing to observe the dynamics of Prabowo's relationship with Gibran, his deputy. Will their alliance be strong and their relationship harmonious going forward? Is this a long-term agreement? It is inevitable that Gibran will eventually enter the presidential race.

Gibran poses a threat to Prabowo, and that will cause their union to fall apart. Later, particularly around the middle and end of Prabowo's first term, this is likely to occur. It makes sense that Prabowo would run again in 2029 if he is still fit and well, like Donald Trump and Joe Biden in the US. Or will Prabowo's rule be carried out by members of the Gerindra Party and Prabowo's own cadres?

Memorabilia and Current Mission

Critics claim that Southeast Asia appears to be going through a period of nostalgia for its political system, specifically a yearning for the previous one. Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim of Malaysia, for instance, came back to power in 2022 following a falling out with Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad, who ruled from 1981 to 2003 and again from 2018 to 2020. President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. of the Philippines is another example. In 1998, Anwar was imprisoned on charges of corruption and sodomy ([Teehankee, 2023](#)).

It is arguable that Prabowo, who has ties to both the New Order and Indonesian history prior to the 1998 Reformation, is experiencing something similar in Indonesia. The Jokowi element is the single thing that separates Prabowo from other figures in official circles. If Prabowo stays in close collaboration with Jokowi and Gibran to advance the groundwork for the Golden Indonesia Vision 2045, he could be able to quell the sentimental critique of the current system.

Prabowo's newfound prominence may also invigorate the worldwide political landscape. Does he possess Donald Trump's charisma? Prabowo has an assertive, combative side and isn't afraid to blatantly 'lecture' western nations. He has stated that Jakarta's economic reliance on palm oil exports is its only source of income and that his country does not require democratic teachings from other nations. The history of colonization in Asia and Southeast Asia was then mentioned by Prabowo.

Prabowo has also attacked EU deforestation policy while running for president. "The Europeans forced us to grow tea, coffee, rubber, and chocolate," stated Prabowo. You now claim that we are ruining our forest? You were the one who initially decimated our forest." President Jokowi's more circumspect and diplomatic demeanor contrasts with this mentality ([Asiaone, 2023](#)).

It's feasible that Prabowo will steer Indonesia toward more independence in a multipolar world characterized by shifting alliances and constrained interests. For instance, Prabowo approached Beijing about Indonesia-China relations because of the latter's investment rules, which are more lenient than those of European investors. Prabowo also shocked a lot of people in June 2023 at the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore by putting up a peace plan for the conflict in Ukraine. Most recently, he even ventured to suggest that Indonesia might join the Organization for Economic

Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the G-20, two organizations dominated by Western influence, in favor of joining the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Iran, Egypt, Ethiopia, and the United Arab Emirates) ([Muhammad Zulfikar Rakhmat & Yeta Purnama, 2024](#)).

But it's important to keep in mind that Prabowo's assertive and confrontational demeanor also raises questions about regional stability, particularly considering the escalating geopolitical tensions. While maintaining Indonesia's independence might help the country's standing abroad, it can also lead to confrontation with other nations, particularly those whose interests collide with Indonesia's. Therefore, Prabowo's administration faces a difficulty in striking a balance between prudent foreign policy and the guts to pursue national objectives through astute diplomacy.

Furthermore, Prabowo must make sure that the foreign policy he pursues considers democratic principles, human rights, and environmental sustainability in addition to economic goals, given the shifting global political landscape ([Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022](#)). Prabowo will be put to the test in the face of these difficult obstacles to demonstrate that his leadership can steer Indonesia both internally and abroad in a more positive way.

Naturally, we want a better Indonesia once Jokowi leaves office, therefore President Prabowo will require the backing of reputable technocrats, potent opposition parties, good relations with Gibran (as well as Jokowi's family), and the support of the youth who will make up his base of support. With his revolutionary and populist posture, Prabowo needs to be able to deliver more than simply show. In the words of late US President John F. Kennedy: No successful state, no republic, no government, and no debate can exist without these elements.

CONCLUSION

The 2024 presidential election in Southeast Asia, particularly in Indonesia, marked a crucial period of political transition and the re-emergence of familiar political figures. The election brought forward candidates such as Prabowo Subianto in Indonesia, who managed to resonate with voters through a blend of nostalgic references to the past and promises of future development.

In Southeast Asia, there was a notable resurgence of political figures associated with previous regimes, creating a sense of nostalgia among the electorate. Figures like Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. in the Philippines and Anwar Ibrahim in Malaysia exemplify this trend, as they tapped into public sentiment longing for the stability or perceived success of past administrations. In Indonesia, Prabowo Subianto's candidacy similarly drew on his historical ties to the pre-Reformasi era, albeit with a nuanced approach that promised both continuity and change.

Prabowo Subianto's campaign was characterized by a commitment to continuing the developmental policies of President Jokowi, as evidenced by the frequent use of slogans like "continue development". His partnership with Gibran Rakabuming Raka, Jokowi's son, underscored a strategic alignment with the current administration, aiming to blend established policies with new leadership dynamics.

Despite this continuity, Prabowo's assertive rhetoric and willingness to challenge Western norms have drawn comparisons to global figures like Donald Trump. This approach signals a potential shift towards a more independent foreign policy, with Prabowo actively seeking closer ties with China and proposing bold initiatives such as Indonesia's possible alignment with BRICS over traditional Western-dominated institutions like the OECD and the G-20.

Moreover, Prabowo's ability to balance the influence of President Jokowi and his political dynasty, while establishing his own distinct leadership style, will be crucial. Critics argue that Prabowo must avoid becoming overly reliant on Jokowi's legacy and instead focus on fostering innovation and inclusive development policies.

Overall, the 2024 presidential election in Indonesia, alongside similar political shifts in Southeast Asia, highlights a complex interplay of nostalgia for past regimes and the quest for innovative governance. Prabowo Subianto's victory symbolizes this delicate balance, presenting both opportunities and challenges for Indonesia's future. His success will largely depend on his ability to navigate political dynamics, maintain strategic international relationships, and implement policies that address the diverse needs of the Indonesian populace. As Prabowo takes the helm, the true test of his leadership will be in reconciling these conflicting interests to steer Indonesia towards a prosperous, stable, and diplomatically agile future.

The intricate relationship between identity concerns, political tactics, and advancements in political communication is reflected in the political dynamics of Indonesia's 2024 presidential election. The election of Prabowo Subianto presents difficulties for a government transition that calls for a strong coalition and the capacity to handle helpful feedback and criticism. Strengthening democracy and advancing Indonesia during this period will depend on the new government's ability to continue growth with a long-term vision, balance domestic and external interests, and respect the roles of technocrats, opposition, and public involvement.

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