



## Affirmative Action for Women's Representation in Legislative Elections: Case Study of the 2024 General Election in Tarakan City

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### Abstract

*The aim of this research is to provide views regarding women's representation in legislative general elections by taking the election case in Tarakan City. This type of legal research is Normative Empirical, in terms of combining Normative elements such as study material from legal regulations that are valid in writing and supported by the addition of data or Empirical elements. Based on the research results, three conclusions were found, namely first, the regulation of women's participation in nominating legislative members has been regulated in Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning General Elections, second, in the Permanent Candidate List all political parties have sufficient quota of 30% but the election results are only there are 6 (six) female Legislative Candidates elected from 25 seats in the Tarakan City DPRD, thirdly, even though they have fulfilled the 30% quota on the Permanent Candidate List, political parties must pay more attention to the cadre formation of women within the party so that the issue of women's involvement is no longer just a matter of quantity but also about quality.*

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## Introduction

According to the 16th century President of the United States, Abraham Lincoln, democracy is a government of the people, by the people and for the people. Meanwhile, etymologically, democracy comes from the Greek "demos" which means people and "kratos" which means strength. Therefore, a country that adheres to a democratic system must reflect the will of the people. Then, since the development of the era began, western philosophers have thought about a democratic system which is divided into three institutions, first the legislative institution which is tasked with making laws, second the executive institution which is tasked with implementing laws, and third the institution The judiciary is tasked with power and to adjudicate violations of the law.

With the political parties being formed, the general election process in Indonesia will run correctly (Suniprily et al., 2024). Political parties play an important role as a liaison between the government and the people. Political parties were formed in Indonesia since 1908, followed by the Indonesian People's Party (PRI), the Greater Indonesia Party (PERINDRA), the Indische Partij (IP), the Indonesian Communist Party (PKI), Indische Sociaal Democratische Vereeniging (ISDV), Indonesian People's Movement (GERINDRO), and Indonesian National Party (PNI). And then since November 3, 1945, the Government made an announcement that political parties make aspirations and programs that form policies that are good for the welfare of the people. In Indonesia, political parties are useful for participating in democratic parties in general elections (Fox & Menchik, 2023; Syafei & Darajati, 2020).

The general election itself is a process for selecting someone to occupy a certain position. related to General Elections in Indonesia, since 2004 there have been General Election Legislation relating to the participation of women as legislative candidates (Rahmanto et al., 2021; Prihatini, 2020). Then this regulation also gives women the right to join political parties,

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because general elections will take place well when someone has or is part of that political party.

Therefore, Indonesia still has many problems regarding gender equality and these can still be found in society from the social sphere, as well as within the scope of government institutions and legislative institutions (Kholiq & Halimatusa'diyah, 2023). because many people think that women are not yet worthy to be involved in the legislative body. Since then, women activists have voiced their opinion, that everyone has the right to have the opportunity to be involved in the legislative body, both men and women. because Article 28 D paragraph (3) of the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia states that, "Every citizen has the right to equal opportunities in the government". This means that all citizens have the right to have opportunities regardless of gender or social scope (Adu-Gyamfi et al., 2021). With this guarantee, women's activists are voicing the need for an Affirmative Action system in Indonesia in the political field. Because there are several countries that have successfully implemented policies using the Affirmative Action system. and it cannot be denied that the existence of this policy has had a positive impact on women's representation in legislative institutions (Manani, 2021).

Since 2004, there have been new reforms to the Affirmative Action policy, but in this Affirmative Action policy there is a quota for women's representation in legislative candidates of 30% (thirty percent). This limits women to fulfilling their rights, this quota policy is the same as in the New Order era, the majority of the ruling elite who occupy the legislative body are members of military families, and even the women involved in the legislative body are wives and the daughters of the ruling elite (de Silva de Alwis, 2023). It's just that what differentiates the New Order Era system is only the high-ranking ruling class, whereas in the 2004 era until now only women had economic security. And it's not uncommon for women to have the opportunity to join the party politics. Because political parties in Indonesia had not fully implemented the value of equality at that time, because at the time of the 2004 general election there had not been a zipper system created (Rahmanto et al., 2021; Ardhanariswari et al., 2022).

Then in the 2014 general election, the Affirmative Action policy system began again. However, there was still a quota system for women, with 30% (thirty percent) representation of women as regulated in Law No. 8 of 2012 concerning General Elections from legislative nominations and women's involvement in political parties must reach 30% (thirty percent) of women (Nyadera, 2020). Because if the quota is not sufficient, political parties will receive written sanctions to fulfill the quota, and may even not participate in the democratic party (Verge, 2020). With this zipper system, women are involved in the legislature, even though it is limited by a quota system, but it does not dampen the enthusiasm of women to join the political field. In this system, during its implementation, it increases the percentage of women's representation, and even this quota system can also increase because when registering female legislative candidates, they get one of the sequences that requires one woman to be involved in parliament (Ruf, 2021).

However, in reality on the ground, all these regulations are inversely related because the political parties are not yet ready to improve the system with the presence of women, plus the parties are not yet ready to cadre women to become qualified (Resmini, 2022). In this way, there appears to be an inequality between women and men and they think that men can only be leaders and women are always in a subordinate position, there is no spirit of leadership in a woman. Besides that, according to Berger Lucman, every individual, both men and women, has opportunities and even every individual has disadvantages, their respective strengths and the role that each person has (Bannò et al., 2023).

In 2019-2021, the level of gender equality is often discussed in various activities, therefore the percentage increase is very drastic. This also shows that women in Indonesia are starting to play an active role in playing their roles both in the political and economic fields (Bayo, 20221). Then, at the level of female figures who play an important role in the Indonesian state, from a national survey which also captured political leadership figures, there were five names of female figures. However, in these five female figures, the average is still considered to be around 60% female, while the male figures are male reaching up to 90%. From the fifth figure, women are still limited to Javanese residents who know, but it is not surprising that the Kalimantan region lacks women's representation in the political field (Tirtosudarmo, 2022).

Therefore, the existence of this system means that Indonesian democracy requires transparency, accountability, participation and fair representation. So in Indonesian democracy in the political process there must be women's involvement in good policy, making decisions or making existing policies because women play an important role in existing decisions.

In Law Number 39 of 1999 concerning Human Rights, Article 46 explains that "Every General Election, Party Election, election of members of the legislative body, and the appointment system in the executive and judicial fields, must guarantee the representation of women in accordance with the specified requirements" (Brechenmacher & Hubbard, 2020). With this regulation, it is a stronger guarantee that women's representation in legislative institutions is very large. Then, the Affirmative Action Policy is regulated in Law Number 12 of 2004 in conjunction with Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning Elections, Article 65 paragraph 1 which states that "Each political party can nominate candidates for members of the DPR, Provincial DPRD and Regency/City DPRD for each electoral district, taking into account women's representation of at least 30%." This provision makes women more active and further increases their capacity and capability to fight for their rights. Through a quota of 30% (thirty percent) although in practice there are still many who have not fulfilled and have not implemented this rule.

## Methods

This type of legal research is normative empirical. in terms of combining Normative elements such as study material from legal regulations that are valid in writing and supported by the addition of data or Empirical elements. Usually in this Empirical Normative Research method it is also about the implementation of normative legal provisions (Laws) in action in every legal event that occurs in a society.

## Results and Discussion

### **Implementation of 30% Women's Representation in Legislative Nominations in Tarakan City Based on Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning General Elections**

Citizen representation, especially women in the political field, is still low. In percentage terms, the population of women is greater than that of men. However, quantitatively women join politics and are still few and rarely active and involved in the world of politics have also been involved in the world of politics, although the percentage is still small and not many are active. Based on Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning General Elections in article 245 which reads "The list of prospective candidates as intended in article 243 contains women's representation of at least 30% (thirty percent). Then in article 249 paragraph (2) when in circumstances political parties in equalizing prospective candidates to take part in the general election process do not fulfill the women's representation quota of 30%. So the KPU plays an important role and provides coordination to the political parties concerned to improve and increase the quota for women's representation in the nominations."

During the 2019-2024 Tarakan City DPRD legislative general election, it has been implemented, but the number of Parliamentary Seats has still not reached the expected figure of 30% female representation. When registering the names of legislative candidates (candidates) submitted by political parties on the Permanent Candidate List (DCT). The number of participants is fulfilled. However, in the provisional candidate list (DCS), several political parties still do not have sufficient quota for women's representation. Therefore, the percentage of the candidate list still determines whether the party passes the qualifications when registering. Due to the minimal representation of women in members of the Tarakan City DPRD and lack of women's empowerment, so that their level of self-confidence is lacking when competing with men in the general election process.

Therefore, the role of political parties is very important in increasing and involving many women in providing training to increase the capacity and capability of women in the world of politics. Because when women become legislative members who have the capacity and capability, it will increase healthy competition between women and men in general elections in order to achieve the representation that has been determined in Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning General Elections. 30% representation of women and political parties must be ready to develop the quality of female cadres in political education, education, leadership and socializing with the community so that they not only learn theory but directly implement it in society. And not only political parties, but the KPU as the organizer of general elections also has an important role in socializing to the public about the existence of women's representation in politics.

In the General Election in Tarakan City, the stages of holding elections for district/city DPRD members are carried out using an open proportional system. Then political parties participate and play an important role in nominating cadre candidates to take part in the democratic party in the general election in 2024. which has been regulated in paragraph (1) Law Number 2 of 2011 and amended to Law Number 2 of 2008 concerning Political Parties, which explains that political parties can open recruitment for Indonesian citizens to become prospective legislative members. The following are the stages of the nomination process. Female Legislative Member in Tarakan City in 2024.

Submission of prospective candidates can be carried out for 14 days, from 1 to 14 May 2023. Time from the first to the thirteenth day is carried out from 08.00 to 16.00 WITA. The last day for submission of prospective legislative members is at the Tarakan City KPU Jln. Sei Sesayap Kampung Enam Tarakan East.

On May 15 to June 23 2023, parties only submit administrative verification once and upload prospective candidate data documents in accordance with the requirements and candidate documents will be accessed into the Candidacy Information System (SILON). Then on July 10 to August 6 2023 Tarakan KPU will give time to the parties participating in the submission of prospective candidates for administrative verification to improve the document requirements for prospective candidates.

Every Political Party Leader who has a sufficient number of prospective candidates is obliged to have women's representation of at least 30% (thirty percent) in each Regional electorate (Dapil) 3 (three) prospective candidates on the list of candidates and there is at least 1 female candidates. It has been explained in Article 8 Paragraph (2) of KPU Regulation Number 10 of 2023.

Prospective Legislative Member Candidates must be Indonesian citizens and must meet the following requirements: (1) Minimum age 21 (twenty one) years; (2) Fear of God Almighty; (3) Residing in the territory of the Republic of Indonesia; (4) Have the lowest level of

education, high school or equivalent level of completion; (5) Can write and speak Indonesian; (6) Loyal and upholding Pancasila, the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia and Bhinneka Tunggal Ika; (7) Have good behavior and have never committed a crime that has been terminated in court, and are not even former drug dealers, sexual crimes against women and children or corruption; (8) Physically and spiritually healthy and free from narcotics and other prohibited substances; (9) Registered as an election participant; (10) Willing to work wholeheartedly for the welfare of the people; (11) Resign if you are a Civil Apparatus, Member of the Indonesian National Army, Member of the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia, Directors, Commissioners, supervisory board or employee of a state-owned enterprise (BUMN) or whose budget is from state financial sources; (12) Willing not to practice as a public accountant such as a notary, official making land deeds, or not carrying out work as a provider of goods and services related to the state; (13) Willing not to hold any concurrent positions such as directors, commissioners and other supervisory boards. relating to state-owned enterprises (BUMN); (14) Only 1 political party is nominated; (15) Become a member of a political party; (16) Only 1 electoral area (dapil) is nominated; (17) And prospective legislative members have been verified in the SILON application.

And then based on interviews with resource persons who will provide clear information regarding the stages of readiness for the 2022 Legislative General Election in Tarakan City. The following is a resource from Tarakan City KPU Commissioner Muhammad Taufik explaining:

*"The preparation stages for the General Election in Tarakan City in 2024 are almost 100% (one hundred percent) ready. Because both from the 3 Logistics have started to arrive, both from the Tarakan City KPU Members, the Organizing Division have started to coordinate with Bawaslu regarding Preparations. Then from the Division Members Socialization, Voter Education, Community Participation and human resources have carried out outreach and dialogue with the community, including school children, students and communities in remote areas."*

With the performance of the Tarakan City KPU, they have begun to show their ability to carry out outreach to the people of Tarakan City. Both from preparation and introducing existing programs in preparing the agenda for developing KPU program discussions. Then, in carrying out this planning, a lot of careful preparation is needed, especially for the KPU (General Election Commission) in Tarakan City as the organizer of the general election starting from performance readiness, implementation of the Legislative Election and the Election of Presidential Candidates and Vice-Presidential Candidates who will be elected, Muhammad Taufik again explained:

*"Then the Socialization Division continues to remind the public to be involved in the democratic party in 2024, especially women who want to become prospective parliamentary candidates in Tarakan City. We ourselves have also reminded political parties to always provide socialization regarding women's representation in "Politics. Because the more open-minded people are to the public, the more people will understand about this Democratic Party. And it cannot be denied that there are very few members of the Tarakan City DPRD, especially women."*

The biggest problem that occurs in political parties is that women's representation in politics is increasingly minimal. With this problem, political parties must continue to ensure that 30% of women's representation is involved. However, he is not just present and involved, but he can represent all the enthusiasm and struggle that ensures the birth of a good and equal election management system for all levels of society. Then Muhammad Taufik also explained:

*“There are still very few examples in the 2014 election. However, in 2024 many political party members will start to join. Even though in the field, especially in Tarakan, there is still no openness regarding equality between men and women. And we are also always trying to revive this democratic party so that there is more representation of women in Parliament. Because it cannot be denied that women's voices are very influential in the general elections in 2024”*

Muhammad Taufik really hopes that the people of Tarakan City will increase women's participation in legislative institutions. In fact, it is nothing new that women's representation actively participates in the national movement. And with this, women's representation in the legislature is not only based on their participation in decision making, but also their contribution to fighting for women's rights.

The second resource person was the Chairperson of Tarakan City Bawaslu Riswanto who also explained:

*“If asked whether Tarakan City Bawaslu is ready, our answer is definitely very ready, even though it is not yet perfect, but oh yes, there is one thing that has not been fulfilled, namely the TPS Supervisor, because at the City level it already exists, at the Subdistrict level it already exists. At the sub-district level it already exists. And we now we are just waiting for the technical guidelines regarding the recruitment of polling place supervisors, once it is formed, it will be 100% ready for the 2024 general election. Then we ourselves will carry out it according to the existing rules and duties in the PKPU Law, because there is no need to violate the rules anymore. It has been made, and again, Bawaslu's task is to supervise the running of this general election. Bawaslu's goal is also to enforce and supervise the general election, because even though we are supervisors there are also others who supervise us, there is DKPP, so we comply with the rules well and always be honest that's all.”*

With the existence of General Election Legislation, the Tarakan City Bawaslu and the Bawaslu's internal scope have carried out their duties well in supervising the election. The creation of a General Election of quality integrity cannot be separated from the professional commitment of the election organizers, in this case the KPU Bawaslu and DKPP. As well as contributing to the realization of supervisors who have integrity and work professionally and are result-oriented by prioritizing work principles. Riswanto explained:

*“When asked about women's representation in the world of politics, the key is communication with KPU friends, because communication with the KPU is good because it always reminds us that there is women's representation in this general election, but again, we as Bawaslu only remind you and we also There is a task that we must prioritize, namely preventing disputes or violating actions. And we also made a note to the KPU that at least 3 in each electoral district for women's representation or 1 woman in each electoral district, but due to the lack of interested women participating in politics, yes. “It is once again the duty of political parties to strengthen their cadres for women”*

Because there is a tendency for the level of women's participation in contesting elections in the city of Tarakan to be still very low. Riswanto's message to the women of Tarakan City who have the capacity and capability to be able to participate in this democratic party. And in the context of the performance of the Bawaslu Commissioner for Tarakan City to date, it is ideally carried out in accordance with applicable regulations. So that women are represented in contesting the elections in 2024 in accordance with what was expected and Riswanto

emphasized that the General Election in 2024 in the city of Tarakan must run well without any unlawful actions.

Then the third resource person was a political party representative from the Chairman of the Perindo DPP Tarakan City, Hermawan, who explained:

*"For the Perindo Party, we are ready to take part in the 2024 elections. As in previous years, our party is always ready, both in terms of administration, logistics and cadres who will take part in the election contest. And we have also provided supplies to our cadres who want to taking part in the 2024 elections. One of them is understanding their duties when elected as members of the Tarakan City DPRD, giving direction to our cadres to always socialize in the community to form a family, and we also always invite women to get involved in this political contestation because they have so many voices. Yes, at the moment, maybe they don't understand their duties as members of the DPRD, but we will always help them when they have difficulties with their duties. And it's rare that the party also always makes efforts for women to take part in the 2024 elections."*

Their readiness to contest the general election in 2024, especially in Tarakan City, is starting to appear. However, the heads of political party councils do not provide guidance and direction regarding the existence of a regulation regarding the representation of women in the list of legislative candidates. And there are even some prospective candidates who do not understand or do not know about the Law on Women's Representation in Elections. This is where the role of political parties plays a very important role, not only in preparing logistics along with female candidates, but morally and knowledgeably so that they are well prepared.

The fourth resource person was the Chairman of the DPP of the Indonesian Democratic Party of Perjuangan (PDI-P) Ari Yusnita who explained:

*"We have continued to improve and continue to be ready to face the 2024 general elections, both from the party management, a number of wing organizations, then volunteers for the democratic struggle. Yes, perhaps now the challenges will be more difficult, so we are always the party's top administrators and have made preparations from an early age starting from small things to big things. Then we also strengthen our cadres so that they always improve themselves first so that when they go out into society they understand, we have also prepared a political school for cadres who want to become either regional heads or members of parliament. We also always increase the number of female cadres so that there is more involvement of women in the world of politics, the level of equality. Then our general chairman always reminds us that there is always equality between women and men as party officers. It doesn't stop there, our party also prepares children young people who want to enter politics, because in the future our party wants to raise young people who are qualified and have responsibility not only to themselves but to the surrounding community."*

From an internal party perspective regarding the strategy for preparing female legislative candidates in accordance with party regulations with lots of talk about equality in women's representation. Apart from that, the Women's party cadres must always understand the conditions of society, the knowledge that has been given to the party management board so that they can immediately implement it well and useful for the community. And it is clear that their own party has followed all stages of the selection process starting from the psychological test as a step to improve the quality of prospective legislative members both in terms of integrity/honesty, leadership and supported by a good personality, as well as to standardize the

morality and character of the candidates. Candidates for legislative members, especially in the PDIP Party.

And here is the fifth resource person for the Female Legislative Candidate (Caleg) from the Indonesian Democratic Party of Perjuangan (PDI-P) Nina explains:

*"Until now, my readiness is very ready, starting from registration, I have fulfilled all the requirements according to the regulations given by the KPU, because if I want to nominate myself as a people's representative I have to obey and follow the process according to the rules, right, not instead of regulating the regulations so that I pass the requirements. If I am elected, it means that at that moment, the mandate of the people of Tarakan is on my shoulders, there I will also be a servant for the community, so if I am asked about my readiness, I am ready from the beginning to establish myself as a candidate, right up to finally passing the requirements and finally now I am "The permanent legislative candidates will run on February 14 2024."*

Starting from preparations to being accepted as a candidate for Legislative Member Candidates, it was a touching experience that was stirred up by thinking about the success that would be achieved in the future if elected and trusted as a member of the council. To foster a spirit of struggle and the heavy responsibilities that are carried and must be maintained if you want to become a representative of the people. The value of struggle is of course identical to the readiness and ability to fight to become a representative of the people and responsibility is identical to the task of a people's representative to explicitly carry out the aspirations of the people. Nina explained again:

*"So yes, if I am elected later I will vote, but it actually depends on where I am placed when I become a member of the DPR because everything has been divided into commissions. But wherever my commission is, I will remain active to provide a platform for young people in Tarakan, especially girls, where I had to accommodate them so that they would be interested in politics. And also because I was a law graduate, I also understood that there were regulations on Women's Representation that were drafted, I followed them until finally Mr Ganjar, who was then DPRD, joined in. and fought for it until finally 30% of female legislative candidates were confirmed in 2017 if I remember correctly. Yes, even though it's not quite satisfactory because it's only 30% and that was only a requirement for political parties to participate in the election 5 years ago, right, in 2019 it is mandatory to fulfill the nomination of 30% of women in registration only, because we should be grateful At that time, Mas Ganjar, as a member of the DPR-RI, had opened the door for Indonesian women. Yes, we hope that the new president will be able to make 30% not only a condition for taking part in the election but also the 30% portion of seats in the DPR must be reserved for women. Or yes, at least 50% of female legislative candidates are required for parties to register their legislative candidates and become participants in the election so that it is balanced, right? How can you compete if only 30% of them are increasingly difficult to sit in the DPR because luckily 30% of the women really want to run, there are also parties that only provide their names in order to fulfill the invitation requirements. If at least 50% of the registrants of legislative candidates were women that would be exciting so that more women could compete for seats in the DPR."*

Nina advised that the regulation of a minimum of 30% women's representation can be implemented properly in accordance with the regulations, because women's representation in Indonesia is still very underdeveloped. This is different from Singapore's women's representation which has reached 40% and Indonesia itself is still at 20% women's

representation. In fact, Nina also hopes that the number of women's representation will not only be a complement to filling the list of candidates but also that there will be an increase in the percentage to 50% for women and 50% for men's representation so that men and women are balanced in contesting the general election in 2024.

And finally, the sixth resource person, namely the representative of the legislative candidate from the Perindo Meliawati Party, explained:

*"Perindo cadres and I have an optimistic attitude that has been moving from year to year. So God willing, be ready to win, be ready to contribute to society. Because we know that young people now find it easier to get information more quickly from social media. Therefore, we also use it in a positive way. Then, in voicing my representation, I will later approach women, especially young people who have just graduated from high school, because politics must be learned from the moment they graduate from high school. So that when they are old enough they can exercise their rights as voters. "Then if we ask about readiness, we are very ready for the 2024 elections, still maintaining relationships with the community, holding activities and so on, then also logistical preparation is also very necessary, then the requirements that must be prepared are also ready."*

Finalizing preparations and strategies for the upcoming 2024 elections is a real manifestation of the Perindo Party itself, both in terms of dedication and loyalty to the nation and state. From programs that provide solutions to empower the community's economy and not forgetting from rolling out the People's Convention to recruit quality prospective legislative members, to fulfilling the 30% quota for women's representation.

### Nomination Process for Women Legislative Members in Tarakan City in 2024

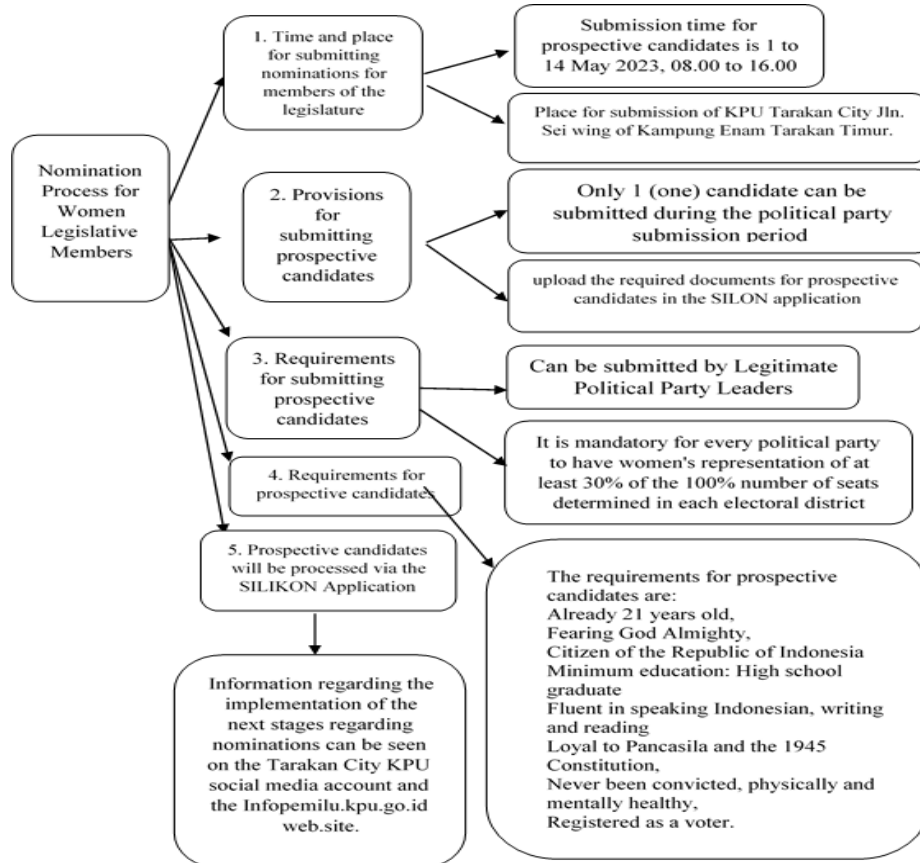


Figure 1. Scheme 8.1. Nomination Process for Women Legislative Members in Tarakan City in 2024

## Inhibiting Factors in Implementing 30% Representation of Women in Nominations for Legislative Members in Tarakan City in 2024

Increasing the capacity of women's representation in parliamentary seats, the Government and the House of Representatives (DPR) have played an important role. However, up to now there are still many who have not achieved the 30% representation of women, this is certainly due to various factors that hinder it. The main factors are: (1) Regarding how to relate in the cultural context that we know, Indonesia is still very strong and believes in the principles of Partriaki culture. And think that women are only fit to stay at home and educate their children, and not to join the world of politics to become members of Parliament; (2) Lack of open-mindedness between men and women. So, women are restricted from thinking critically. One of them is during the selection process in political parties. Some male candidates and female candidates are more dominant. However, even if female candidates are more dominant, in the end there is little chance of being a Party Leader or always men are given priority. Seeing that the level of awareness and open-mindedness towards women entering the world of politics is still very small due to the lack of space for women. Political Parties play an important role in helping, especially in equality between genders. Because of the role of women in the world of politics, it is very influential in the General Election.

It is also very important for political parties to encourage their best female cadres to come forward to compete in a healthy manner in defending women's rights. Political parties also play an important role in recruiting quality cadres to form responsible candidates who will be elected by the people. In other words, elections. You have to be observant and see which political parties are able to prioritize women's representation in the world of politics and support women to become quality parliamentary candidates.

Second, social media and mass media must play a more important role in building public opinion regarding the importance of affirmative action in politics for women's representation in parliament.

The three logistical sources are not very optimal when entering the world of politics. The ability in terms of capacity and speed may not be enough to join politics, but sufficient logistical resources are needed. Because many women are logistically weak. So the need for Party support to work together. Therefore, it can be seen that in the 2019-2024 legislative elections in Tarakan City, women's representation is increasingly declining.

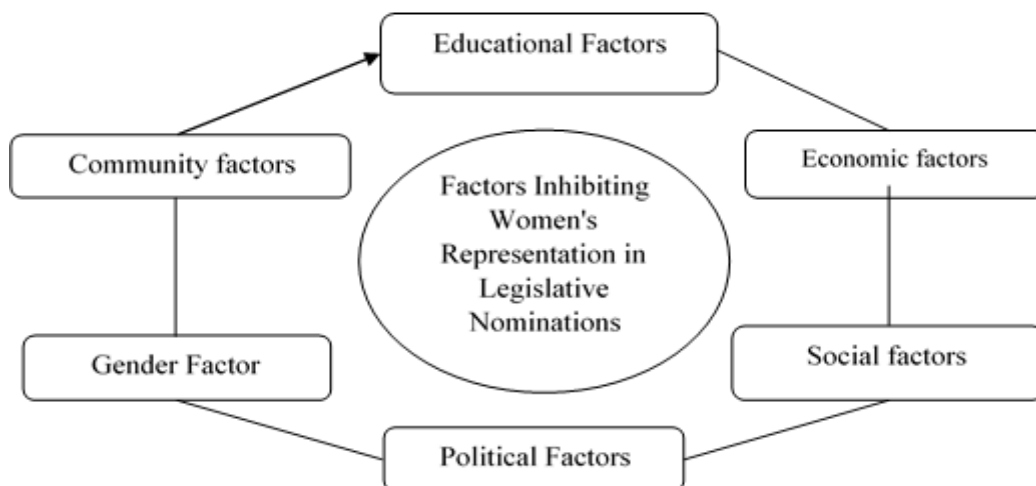


Figure 2. Scheme 8.2. Factors inhibiting Women's Representation in Legislative Nominations

Based on the results of interviews with the first resource person, namely Tarakan City KPU Commissioner Muhammad Taufik, he explained that the factors that hinder women's representation in legislative nominations are:

*"The reality in the field is that women don't want to, or rarely contribute, to politics. The KPU also always listens to complaints from political parties. The words of political parties always talk about women still finding it very difficult to join the world of politics, sir, that's why it has happened in recruitment for several parties that it is difficult to find female cadre members. This is one of the main factors, namely economics and education. In addition, they think that joining a political party is dirty. In fact, many people think that women only belong at home. However, there are also some women who think about becoming career women too. There is a lack of women's representation. "Becoming a member of the DPRD in Tarakan City is not because there are no women running for office, but because there are problems with the people who vote."*

Currently, women's participation in Tarakan City is still below 30%. It is important to increase women's participation so that political decision making is more accommodating and substantial. Despite the existence of inhibiting factors, party board members and the government are also making efforts to increase women's participation in parliament in order to realize gender-just prosperity by continuing to push for the achievement of the 30% quota the involvement of women in parliament and eroding gender inequality in politics. Muhammad Taufik explained:

*"One example, you see the data at the time of candidate registration, while there are several parties whose percentages are not enough to meet the 30% thirty percent quota) for regional (district) calculations. However, because in the data it is indeed appropriate, but in fact, from Law Number 7 of 2017 Article 245, itself does not discuss regional areas (dapil). So it is an accumulation of all city district legislative candidates or in other words the calculation is per level throughout the province. Then PKPU Number 10 of 2023 is published in article 8 paragraph (1) letter C. discussing about 30% of women's representation is calculated on a regional basis (dapil). However, the law does not talk about regional areas (dapil), so when it is calculated per region (dapil) it will not arrive, but if it complies with the law, it can reach the percentage of women's representation. So, this is an inhibiting factor, because there have been errors in this matter. Even though it has been regulated in the Law regarding the Representation of 30% (thirty percent) of Women to take part in the Election. And there needs to be a big effort for political parties to play an important role in implementing the Law. Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning women's representation in general elections."*

In fact, the implementation of the General Election has gone well in accordance with the provisions of Law No. 7 of 2017. However, according to the Taufik in PKPU regulation number 10 of 2023, it is very contrary to the Law and threatens to reduce the percentage of women's representation involved in parliament.

Even the Chairmen of Political Parties and prospective candidates themselves do not understand and do not even know about PKPU Regulation Number 10 of 2023 and do not understand Law Regulation Number 7 of 2017 concerning General Elections in Article 245 which states "that legislative candidate proposed by parties Political parties for each electoral district must include women's representation of at least 30%. Therefore, when women are asked to contribute to the general election, the political parties themselves cannot comprehend and

understand the legal regulations. In other words, political parties only understand it. That women are complementary to general election registration.

Then, based on the results of the interview from the second resource person, namely the Chairperson of Tarakan City Bawaslu, Riswanto, explained:

*"The obstacle factor for the lack of women's representation in the special elections in Tarakan City is that Tarakan people lack open-mindedness and the level of equality is still poorly understood. What's more, in Tarakan, you can just look at it, especially for female legislative candidates, there are also very few election supervisors in Tarakan City Bawaslu, well because one of the factors is education and economics. For example, women must think when they enter politics whether they will be funded by a political party to run as a prospective candidate, both for logistical and administrative needs. Because it cannot be denied that the expenditure alone is the costs of becoming a prospective candidate are very high because of the logistical requirements. Plus their education is relatively low, both the views of the surrounding community and society and even their own family environment that women are only fit to stay at home, not to contest to become members of the DPRD. From our response, that's all factors hindering women's representation in the General Election in 2024."*

Riswanto hopes that political parties will provide guidance regarding financing or logistical needs for cadres, especially women who want to contest the 2024 general election in the city of Tarakan. Because the biggest obstacle for women is poor financial factors. And increasing equality for all genders.

Then the third resource person from the Chairman of the DPP Indonesian Democratic Party fighting for Tarakan City explained:

*"Actually, regarding any obstacles regarding women's representation in legislative candidacy, there are many factors that hinder it, especially women's lack of interest in politics. Then several parties also discussed with us, with the same complaints, such as limited economic factors to want to join in. political parties. And the biggest level at the moment is also the community environment, that at least some people still think that women will not be able to take part in democratic contestation, even if they do, they only need a lot of capital to participate. So these views are very worrying at the moment. "What's more, young people who want to move forward and join politics already have negative thoughts about politics. That's what we can respond to regarding the obstacle factors."*

It is very worrying when the social environment does not support women's representation in politics. In fact, it is very possible that women's representation can reduce gender gaps in various sectors, be it economic, social, to policy makers. So it is hoped that women's voices in politics will be very influential in all areas, both in terms of economics and welfare for women.

Then the fourth resource person from the Chairman of the Perindo Party DPP, Tarakan City, Hermawan, explained:

*"Regarding the factors that hinder women's representation, this is the same as other parties, but especially in the Perindo party itself because it is a new party and in Tarakan we still don't know much about our party, so there is a lack of human resources and economic factors too. Even though we have tried to socialize it to the community, "But maybe because they don't know their level of knowledge, it will be difficult for them to become one of our cadres. That's just your response regarding the obstacle factors."*

Hermawan also advised young people to play an important role in the 2024 general elections in the city of Tarakan. As well as the role of political parties to pay attention to the level of readiness of each prospective candidate both logistically, mentally and the level of closeness to the surrounding community in order to build harmony in every sphere.

The Fifth Resource Person, Representative of the Women's Legislative candidate from the Perindo Meliawati Party, explained:

*"Until now, the obstacle factors have been education and the economy as well. Because just look at the cost of campaign equipment, everything costs money. Utamana is right that we also have to strengthen logistics so that when we go out into the community we are ready both in terms of our capacity and capabilities too. "Well, even though the obstacles will still be there, we will continue to try to continue it."*

Meliawati really hopes that the community will increase our collective awareness to realize and encourage increased representation of women in parliament. To strengthen our commitment to realize women's representation in quality legislative candidates.

Finally, a resource person from the representative of the Women's Legislative Candidate from the Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle (PDI-P) Nina explained:

*"My view is still the same, with my Party. There is still very little interest in women in politics and society is still reluctant to pay attention to this, even though women in politics is a very important issue, because in that case there is such a thing as equality, So whether it's female or male legislative candidates, their duties will be the same to serve the people by planning the making of regional regulations and supervising how regional regulations that have been passed or that existed before I became DPRD are implemented. Yes, even though I'm a woman, I was active during college in the organization, and secondly because of women. However, that will not be an obstacle for me to advance in this legislative election that is my only response."*

Nina also responded to the problems that cause inhibiting factors for women in politics, one of which is that there is still little room for open thinking towards women. The public's response is still small and it is not uncommon for society to still view women's incompetence and also as a reason that the costs of joining politics are very large, especially as women's economic levels are limited. So this is the most important reason for the obstacles to four female representatives in politics.

## Conclusion

The conclusion from the two passages is that although regulations regarding women's representation in elections have been in place in Indonesia since 2004, their implementation still faces challenges. Despite the 30% quota for women's representation in candidate lists, the actual number of women elected remains far below expectations, as seen in Kota Tarakan. Despite efforts such as the division of electoral districts and affirmative action, women's participation in politics has yet to reach the desired target. The role of political parties is crucial in increasing women's involvement by providing training and greater support to enhance women's capacity and quality in the political arena.

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