



Analysis Of President Joko Widodo's Government Performance Using A Philosophical Approach Of Public Administration

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ARTICLE INFO

Article history:

Received Jun 10, 2022

Revised Jul 13, 2022

Accepted Aug 15, 2022

Keywords:

Public Administration;

Public Language;

Public Philosophy;

Public Participation;

Public Understanding.

ABSTRACT

This paper has the intention to know how public philosophy affects public administration in building governance and better state relations with society in the future. For this reason, an analysis of President Joko Widodo's Government Performance from Year 2019 to 2024 is conducted with a philosophical approach to the axiology of public administration science. The result of the discussion is that public philosophy will improve public administration quality through public interdependency, public learning, and public language, which create dynamic public space and encourage public involvement and participation so that the public understands the complexity of public policy. Furthermore, increasing public understanding encourages state relations with society to be better in supporting the success of governments in building state governance in the future.

ABSTRAK

Tulisan ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui bagaimana filsafat publik mempengaruhi administrasi publik dalam membangun pemerintahan dan hubungan negara yang lebih baik dengan masyarakat di masa depan. Untuk itu, analisis Kinerja Pemerintahan Presiden Joko Widodo Tahun 2019 hingga 2024 dilakukan dengan pendekatan filosofis aksiologi ilmu administrasi publik. Hasil diskusi adalah filosofi publik akan meningkatkan kualitas administrasi publik melalui interdependensi publik, pembelajaran publik, dan bahasa publik, yang menciptakan ruang publik yang dinamis dan mendorong keterlibatan dan partisipasi publik sehingga publik memahami kompleksitas kebijakan publik. Lebih lanjut, peningkatan pemahaman publik mendorong hubungan negara dengan masyarakat menjadi lebih baik dalam mendukung keberhasilan pemerintah dalam membangun penyelenggaraan negara di masa depan.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Kompas R&D Team surveyed the 1-year Government Performance of President Joko Widodo – Vice President Maruf Amin on 14 – 16 October 2020. The survey stated that more than half of respondents (54.4 %) claimed dissatisfaction and 10.2% of respondents claimed very dissatisfaction with government performance in the law enforcement field (Halim, 2020). Furthermore, 49.7% of

respondents also felt dissatisfied, and 6.2% of respondents claimed not to be satisfied with government performance in the economic field. Then, 46.7% of respondents were dissatisfied, and 6% said they were very dissatisfied with government performance in politics and security. Even so, 48.8% of respondents were satisfied, and 3.4% of respondents claimed to be very satisfied with government performance in the field of social welfare. The survey results indicated that public confidence in government had decreased primarily due to legal issues.

The decline in public trust in the government can be caused because the public feeling disappointed. After all, it has not responded to its aspirations and opinions regarding establishing the Job Creations Act (UU Ciptaker), which led to demonstrations throughout cities in Indonesia (Prodjo, 2020). The Indonesian Legal Aid Foundation (YLBHI) even considers that the policies made by the government have weakened law enforcement and human rights, eliminated corruption, destroyed the environment, and taken up community living space by lifting the pacification of several controversial laws. The controversial laws include the revision of the Corruption Eradication Commission Law, revision of the Mining Law, revision of the Constitutional Court Law and ratification of the Job Creations Act (Amindoni, 2020).

Furthermore, the results of the Survey of Educational Research Institutions, Economic and Social Information (LP3ES) on 8 -15 April 2021 in 34 cities in Indonesia found that people were increasingly afraid to express opinions, expressions, gather and associate (Chaterine, 2021). The survey results showed 52.1% of respondents agreed that the threat of civil liberties increased so that people became afraid to argue, express, gather, and associate. Furthermore, the performance of the government sector regarding freedom of association or opinion received a public assessment of 59.2%.

Declining public trust in the government will make the country insecure and unstable because the public does not trust the policies set by the government. Furthermore, the absence of community participation and support in all government policies will cause the failure to implement the policies by all levels of society.

Carlos Ventriss stated that public philosophy in public administration needs to be reformulated to regain public trust and improve relations between the state and society through better public administration (Ventriss, 1997). He argued that the economic crisis and public mistrust of the government resulted in public philosophy being trapped in political discussions and debates causing political turmoil.

Louis Gawthrop stated that public officials were often closed and rambling because they only thought what was suitable according to them was managerial and procedural reforms. He stated that the rambling official caused public officials to separate from the public he served, so it failed to bring the meaning and meaning of being a citizen (Gawthrop & Waldo, 2013).

Furthermore, Carlos Ventriss explained that the inability to translate public philosophy into the goals, duties and role of public administration would cause society to be confused (Ventriss, 1997). For that, Ventriss said the need for reformulation of public administration by rebuilding governance and state relations with society through developing new public philosophies through rearranging public administration with new roles and creativity in the future.

Importance of understanding public philosophy can influence the improvement of public administration in building governance and better state relations with society in the future. For this reason, the review was conducted by conducting a critical social analysis of President Joko Widodo's Government Performance – Vice President Maruf Amin (2019-2024). Therefore, this paper is very relevant to the current situation in Indonesia, where reformulation of public philosophy is needed to improve public administration and increase public confidence in the government. Furthermore, this paper can be used as input and consideration material for public officials and public administration academics.

Abas stressed that public officials and academics of public administration are responsible for the interests of the public to assist the community in developing the skills and moral understanding of citizens in dealing with important policy issues in the community (Abas, 2017).

Nabatchi stated that public administration often only thinks about the meaning of the public institutionally related to public relations with the state (Nabatchi, 2010). According to him, public thinking like this is too long-winded because it does not solve citizens' problems and how they can be fostered and developed. He stated that the definition of a public is about governance which is more than just a government agency but includes all institutions, characters, habits and customs where the government is located. Democratic governments must be teachers and servants to their citizens because citizenship is a state of mindset.

Maksum said that the concept of state administration was more oriented towards the formal system of state body structures where the existence of society was only a requirement for the formation of sovereign territory and government so that aspirations and public interests were marginalized (Maksum, 2020). He argues that state administration should pursue its public goals and not be reduced to only state interests through administrative improvements towards development administration. It has a unidirectional relationship and aligns with aspirations, interests, and public desires.

II. Research Methodology

In order to understand public philosophy and its influence on public administration, then the author uses the post-positivism approach to employ qualitative research methods by making qualitative observations of online articles relating to the Government Performance of President Joko Widodo – Vice President Maruf Amin (2019-2024) based on the philosophical approach of the axiology of public administration from Carlos Ventriss's thought related to public philosophy and its influence on public administration (Ventriss, 1997) as a reference in conducting critical social analysis.

Carlos Ventriss emphasizes the importance of public inter-dependency, public learning and public language in building good relations between the government and its people (Ventriss, 1997). Furthermore, the author also reviews other researchers who conduct similar research on public philosophy, public inter-dependency, public learning and public language and their relationship with public administration.

Finally, based on the review results, the analysis results are expected to provide material and input material for public officials and public administration academics in improving governance and relations between the state and society.

III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

1. The Condition Of Public Administration

President Joko Widodo revealed five working focuses in the second period of government in 2019-2024 with Vice-President Ma'ruf Amen in the early speech of the term of office inducted in the Nusantara Building, Parliamentary compound, Senayan, Jakarta, Sunday 20 October 2019 (Lingga, 2019). Firstly, President Jokowi will prioritize the construction of human resources. In this respect, President Jokowi was about to build hard-working, dynamic, skilled human resources, master science and technology, and invite global talents to cooperate. Second, the government will continue to continue with infrastructure development. According to the President, the infrastructure will link the production regions to the distribution regions, watering down access to tourist areas, jacking up new jobs, and accelerating the added value of the people's economy. Thirdly, the Heads of State want

any regulatory constraint to be simplified and trimmed. In this respect, the President said, the government would take the House of Representatives to publish two massive laws, namely the Job Creation Act and Small and Medium Enterprises Empowerment Act. According to Mr Jokowi, each of those Law will be an Omnibus Law, namely the Act, which at the same time revises several of the Law, significantly hindering job creation and the development of Small and Medium Enterprises. Fourthly, President Jokowi wants the bureaucratic simplification to continue to be done massively. Not only that, investment for job creation should also be given priority in addition to cutting lengthy procedures and red tape. Jokowi believes that echelonization should be simplified and replaced by functional posts that reward expertise and competence. Fifthly is economic transformation. According to the President, Indonesia must transform from being dependent on natural resources to the competitiveness of modern manufacturing and services with high added value for the nation's prosperity for the sake of social justice for the whole of the Indonesian people.

Based on his speech, Jokowi criticized the behaviour of public officials who did not care for the community resulting in the stifling of national development. Jokowi delivered his public philosophy with five basic premises: nationalism, communitarian individualism, de-birocracy, free-market radicalism and the future prosperity of the Indonesian people. Through the public philosophy delivered by Mr Jokowi, he sought to move the debate and public attention from the importance of law enforcement, social security and security to simplifying red tape and the free market to acquire the most significant economic growth.

When facing such concepts of public philosophical thinking, public administration is as if it were experiencing intellectual confusion. Carlos Ventriss argued that the confusion has happened because public administration has so little theoretical foundation. Thus, it cannot move when it comes to being caught between the community's democracy and the country's economic interests (Ventriss, 1997). He declared that out of theoretical despair and managerial technocracy lacking clear ground, the implementation of public administration often borrowed theory and analytical approaches of business administration to show such pragmatic and efficient enticements of business administration. The undertaking, however, has the risk of incorporating business values incompatible with public administration's intentions and objectives. It adds that managerial and economic mindset only directs the public at Utopian expectations and emotional desires that are not proving empirically valid or pragmatically useful. Thus, he argued that the utilitarianism approach is still a widely accepted academic and professional philosophy regarding its social problems.

Therefore, formulating a new public administration could shape better relations between the Indonesian government and its society in determining the role of future public administration in the running of any social and political affairs concerning public interests. Furthermore, utilitarianism can formulate better understanding and involvement, which helps solve social problems.

2. Relationship Between State And Society

Max Weber stressed that a state is not just a legislature, executive body, justice system, administrative bureaucracy, or government (Waters & Waters, 2015). Instead, the state is better seen as a complex of institutions with which the power of society is organized. In addition, he stated that the state is not a unitary actor but a complex organization covering a variety of basic policies consisting of government and private sector participation so that their interests must be considered.

Furthermore, Emil Amri and friends stated that in democratic governments, governments tend to open up public spaces that can be utilized by the community (Amri et al., 2016). By utilizing that public space, there will be opportunities for various elements of society to be involved in various government policies and programs. That way, civil society has the opportunity to grow and develop under this system.

Governance in Indonesia, since reforms, has begun to implement democracy and decentralization (regional autonomy) by developing positive perceptions of society as much as government partners (Amri et al., 2016). On the other hand, society has begun to see the government, not as an institution that must be resisted or opposed. Instead, it needs to be embraced in building a developed and just civil society.

Carlos Ventriss proposed that public conceptualization in public administration should be expanded by including new public goals and obligations to enhance the development of citizenship formed from public inter-dependency, with a new civilian perspective through revitalizing public learning and public language (Ventriss, 1997). For this reason, Indonesian society needs to be given new goals and obligations as citizens so that every citizen understands his role and participation in working with the government to build Indonesia. Therefore, public inter-dependency, public learning, and public language have essential roles, and public administration is vital in developing Indonesian society.

3. Public Inter-Dependency

Liberalism forces one to view the world as a complex set of dualities, making it difficult for policy makers to formulate a policy that creates public interdependence (Maiwan, 2015). Furthermore, the system becomes complex with the increase in interconnected elements such as social systems to show the fantastic diversity of systems and social behaviour (Kusmanto & Elizabeth, 2018). However, because human intellectual abilities are limited, humans are compelled to look for an orderly and straightforward arrangement.

Public inter-dependency encourages public administration to adapt to various social, political and economic reality levels without losing its conceptual footing. Carlos Ventriss said that public inter-dependency discussions brought the public into being so that the entire civil community understood the externalities of policy choice because it would affect the entire community (Ventriss, 1997).

Conversely, when a public policy does not provide public inter-dependency discussion space, there is no opportunity to understand the aims and objectives of public policy (Prodjo, 2020).. There is no room for the public to express their aspirations and opinions. Therefore, the rejection of the Job Creation Act, which ended a large-scale demonstration of Indonesian people in all cities in Indonesia on 13 October 2020 occurred due to a lack of community understanding and disappointment because their aspirations and opinions were not responded to by the Government

After issuing the Job Creation Act, the government will immediately finalize the implementation regulations derived from the Job Creation Act, such as Government Regulations and Presidential Regulations. In order to avoid community rejection, the government is obliged to maximize public participation by holding public inter-dependency discussion rooms such as focus group discussions, consultation forums, or the socialization of government policies involving all levels of society, especially groups - groups of affected communities. Through this discussion room, the community can quickly obtain an explanation and understanding of the public policy plan and express its input and opinion to the government.

4. Public Learning

Language is a vital power in achieving the goals of a nation (Nasution, 2007). Language builds social ties through interactions and processes affecting the user. Language as a communication tool is neutral, but in communication, language can be good or not good in its utilization. In mass communication, language can help make improvements by not taking sides with the authorities, thus bringing the direction of change and making language function as a communicative and democratic tool.

Commission for Missing Persons and Victims of Violence (KontraS) reported that the process of formulating and ratifying the Minerba Law and the Job Creation Act which is carried out during the

Covid pandemic-19 in closed and stealth discussion indicates intention to formulate policies that are not in favor of the community (Kontras, 2020). KontraS stated that the material of the Minerba Law and the Job Creation Act was rejected by the public, but the Government still stipulates the law. KontraS indicated this as an effort by the government to prioritize the the economic and political interests of certain groups, while the interests of the general public are ignored and marginalized.

For this reason, in order to build public trust to the government it is necessary to expand civil society space and public participation through Public Learning. Public Learning increases public capacity and knowledge by facilitating educational political interactions between the public and its officials. The government needs to work to recognize the unique and diverse needs of the public in each policy making process (Ventriss, 1997). For this reason, public officials must face unique life experiences and social history of the community through public dialogue forums and open exchange of information in the community. Then, the government must work for every public service presented as an effort to increase public involvement in social problems that require joint solutions.

Furthermore, the government needs to start giving wider space for the community to express opinions either through print or online media. No more government efforts to use security forces and intelligence to silence or close discussions and communications between the people. Instead, public officials become teachers or mentors through a consultation forum or focus group discussion for the community to understand the problems faced and participate in the process of preparing public policies.

In addition, the government needs to encourage services which are oriented to the public where performance appraisal is measured based on public satisfaction. Therefore, to achieve maximum public satisfaction, all service planning and design is designed based on public input and needs. Furthermore, the performance of public services is assessed based on a public assessment of the services it receives so that the public can provide input and criticism to improve the quality of public services.

It is important that officials not only see the public as an abstraction, but as part of a public learning process that connects officials with the unique experience and knowledge of communities. For this reason, the success of public learning efforts requires new public languages used in public dialogue and debate.

5. Public Language

Language is a very important power in achieving the goals of a nation (Nasution, 2007). Language builds social ties through interactions and processes affecting the user. Language as a communication tool is neutral, but in communication, language can be good or not good in its utilization. In mass communication, language can be useful in making improvements by not taking sides with the authorities, thus bringing the direction of change and making language has its function as communicative and democratic tools.

Religious language is the language that makes human relations with God, but a political language explains human relations with humans (Widiatmoko, 2014). The characteristic of political language is its openness in explaining rational accountability to the public or society. In addition, political language with its character as a public language, does not concern personal or individual interests. Political language is demanded to be open and rational because the foundation of political language is not absolute, but rather the relationship between humans or the public which need mutual understanding.

Carlos Ventriss explained that there is a close relationship between political language and social change (Ventriss, 1997). He believed that political writing helps trigger revolutionary action because the idea can touch the political nerve and transform the words' meaning into political discourse.. In public administration, little attention is paid to how political language can form views about social

reality. Usually, it is left to politicians who use political language as part of a political phenomenon to support the legitimacy of authoritative structures.

Turner stated that after President Sukarno's government (1945–1967), public administration was rebuilt on the Weberian principles by the New Order Government and President Suharto who contributed in reducing poverty, expanding education, increasing productivity and economic growth (Turner et al., 2019). Since then the new public language and public philosophy have been built on rational economics. Furthermore, since the overthrow of the New Order Government and President Soeharto in 1998 through the Indonesian Reformation, Suharto's successor sought to meet the demands of the people regarding democratic governance, better services and sustainable economic growth.

Carlos Ventriss explained that in public policy, the economy seems willing to fulfill the desires of a new public philosophy which centered on the free market and enter into the political arena through the emphasis of cost analysis, economic benefits, and empirical analysis of every public affair (Ventriss, 1997). He considered that the new public philosophy has made the public discourse moves away from political and moral authority to becoming just an economic choice (Ventriss, 1997). Furthermore, the degradation of political language seeks to "save" the government by denying citizens to discuss, debate and understand the critical political issues.

Ventriss explained public philosophy based on economics is an anti-political force because it does not contain the principle of overcoming conflict by finding common ground so that there is no reconciliation, only winners and losers, there is no basis for joint action (Ventriss, 1997). Therefore, he advised the public administration to put forward consideration of utilitarianism for the common good in generating reconciliation between all parties. Non economic problems cannot be dealt by economic analysis and reasoning, but through public language that provides political objectives without limiting political dialogue to gain public trust.

Eko Prasajo stated that the state was not enough only with sovereignty to regulate various interests of society and economic development including public policies and government decisions which influenced by society and global interests (Prasajo, 2020). He argues that the state must make improvements to the foundation of the public administration system so that it is adaptive to the demands of society, entrepreneurs, including international standards set by world organizations.

For this reason, the government needs to convey public language that ensures the expansion of community public space which is given trust to discuss and express its opinions and discourse of thought. Furthermore, the government should open itself by conveying its discourse of thought and is open to public input and opinion. All parties engage in critical public dialogue will have opportunities to test the truth of each discourse in the public sphere so that the public policy decisions have gone through a critical evaluation process from all parties both the government and the public.

IV. CONCLUSION

This paper aims to find out how public philosophy affects public administration in building governance and better state relations with society in the future. Based on discussions that have been carried out through a new public philosophy formulation, public administration will benefit various analytical groups are used to encourage critical, interpretive, and empirical investigations of public issues. Furthermore, it will also strengthens social and political science to ensure no reduction in the public issues into a methodical framework without normative consideration. Moreover, transforming policy analysis and public officials from academically oriented has increased to become public-oriented through the active involvement of citizens in making public policies. Finally, it is reducing

the dependence on economic perspectives and the efficiency of economics and management into a focus of pedagogical approaches or as public teachers through public inter-dependency, public learning, and public language.

For this reason, by improving the quality of public administration through public inter-dependency, public learning, and public language, public space will become more dynamic. It will also encourage active public involvement and participation. Furthermore, the community will understand the complexity of public policy so that state relations with the community are better in supporting the success of government policies in the future.

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