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## The Role of the State Civil Apparatus (ASN) in Preventing and Suppressing the Practice of Money Politics

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**Abstract:** This study aimed to analyze the constrained role of the State Civil Apparatus (ASN) in suppressing the practice of money politics which contributes to high-cost elections during general elections. ASN's political activities are heavily restricted, limiting its ability to actively and directly engage in the electoral process. However, statutory provisions also mandate that ASN serve as both the implementer of public policy—an inherently political product—and as a unifying force for the nation. In its role as a unifier, ASN must actively contribute to ensuring that elections are conducted fairly and appropriately for the future of the nation. The object of this study was to examine the limited authority and role of ASN in suppressing the practice of money politics. The study employed a qualitative descriptive analysis to explore the issue from the ASN's perspective, focusing on the potential contributions of its authority and role in enhancing the quality of elections. The findings indicated that ASN can leverage its authority and role both individually and institutionally to suppress money politics practices. Individually, ASN members can contribute through socialization, advocacy, political education, information dissemination, and anti-money politics campaigns. Institutionally, contributions can be made by strengthening regulatory and policy frameworks, enhancing the integrity and capabilities of ASN personnel, conducting studies, analyses, and discussions to improve electoral process quality, and enforcing strict sanctions against perpetrators of money politics.

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## I. Introduction

This study examined the constrained role of the State Civil Apparatus (ASN) in suppressing money politics practices. Money politics practices in general elections have detrimental impacts, one of which is that it made this political contest expensive.

Indonesia's democracy is ranked 54th out of 174 countries (Roser, 2023). Many countries with democratic systems of government struggle to achieve their goals successfully. Several factors contribute to the failure of democracy in bringing prosperity to society and success to the country. For instance, despite implementing a democratic system of government, the Islamic State of Afghanistan, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, and the Democratic Republic of Congo have been unable to secure a better future for their nations.

As indicated by the 2022 World Democracy Index 2023, Congo's democracy rank is 169th out of 174 countries, with Afghanistan and Myanmar occupying the lowest positions (ranked 173rd and 174th, respectively). One of the primary reasons for the failure of the democratic process in these three countries is the prevalence of electoral fraud. This is of great consequence, as democracy is defined as a form of governmental system in which political power is determined by the people directly or through the representatives they elect through elections.

Elections constitute a fundamental democratic process through which citizens directly elect representatives or government officials in countries that have adopted a democratic system of government. Elections serve as a crucial mechanism in modern democratic systems, enabling citizens to participate in selecting the nation's leaders and shaping its policies. The primary goal of holding an election is to establish a government that reflects the will of the people, upholds democratic principles, promotes political engagement among citizens, and ensures that elected leaders represent the broader community's interests and aspirations (Sari, 2023).

The first election in Indonesia was held in 1955, with members of the House of Representatives elected on September 29 and members of the

Constituent Assembly on December 15. Initially planned for 1946, this election was rescheduled to 1955 (Komisi Pemilihan Umum, n.d.).

The principles guiding Indonesia's electoral process are outlined in Article 3 of Law Number 7 of 2017 on Elections, which enumerates 11 principles: independence, honesty, fairness, legal certainty, orderliness, transparency, proportionality, professionalism, accountability, effectiveness, and efficiency. Ideally, adherence to these principles ensures that elections are conducted properly.

Saihu et al. (2016, p. 63) stated that the election organizer institution is responsible for ensuring that elections are conducted freely and fairly. As such, the organizing institution must adhere to several fundamental principles, including independence and impartiality, efficiency and effectiveness, professionalism, the capacity to make impartial and timely decisions, and transparency.

Despite these standards, a significant number of electoral violations persist. The Election Supervisory Agency (Bawaslu) identified four primary factors contributing to these violations: the neutrality of the state civil apparatus (ASN), the influence of money politics, the politicization of ethnicity, religion, race, and intergroup relations (SARA), and the use of negative campaigns on social media (Bawaslu, 2023).

In the 2014 legislative elections, money politics continued to represent a significant portion of observed violations (Kasim, 2019, p. 21). Bawaslu's research indicates that in the 2019 elections, money politics remained a prominent issue (Bayu, 2019). Money politics are detrimental to democracy in Indonesia, contributing to the problem of high-cost elections. Examples of such practices include distributing basic necessities to the public, offering money to secure votes for specific candidates, and promising incentives such as paying for Umrah pilgrimage expenses. These practices force politicians to amass significant funds to participate in the election.

Politicians who engage in money politics and win elections are at a higher risk of committing corruption because they often feel indebted to their financial backers or compelled to 'recoup the capital' they have invested. Consequently, their

positions as elected leaders are vulnerable to conflicts of interest, as they may prioritize personal gain or the interests of their associates. A common way to achieve this is by misappropriating funds from the local government budget (APBD) or the state budget (APBN) through corrupt practices (Komisi Pemberantasan Korupsi, 2023).

Money politics persist largely due to voters' lack of awareness. Political actors often interpret vote buying differently. In Indonesian culture, candidates offering gifts or souvenirs is sometimes perceived as a customary gesture of politeness. Furthermore, declining public trust in elections, political parties, and candidates fosters voter apathy, leading many to expect tangible benefits, such as money or goods, in exchange for their political support (Kurniawan & Hermawan, 2019, p. 30).

In some instances, money politics is also referred to as a 'social cost.' A notable example of this is candidates arranging meetings with targeted communities or groups to secure votes and give out donations to voters who are ill or celebrating an event, as well as contributions to local infrastructure projects, such as street lighting or bridge construction (Perdana & Sukmajati, 2018: 9).

According to a Databoks article titled Money Politics Still Occurs in the 2020 Regional Head Election (Pilkada), many voters encountered money politics practices. Nearly 30% of those surveyed reported being offered money or goods in exchange for their votes for a specific governor or regent/mayor during the elections.

Further, 21.9% of voters were approached once or twice, while 4.7% were offered money or goods multiple times to support particular gubernatorial candidates. This indicates that 26.6% of voters—more than a quarter of the total voters for the governor's race—experienced attempted money politics. In the regent/mayor elections, 22.7% of voters were offered money or goods once or twice, while 5.7% were approached multiple times, resulting in a total of 28.4% of voters—again, more than a quarter—facing such attempts.

The practice of attempted money politics is consistently present in the governor's and regent/mayor's elections. Based on the data above,

nearly a quarter to a third of voters were offered money or goods in exchange for supporting specific candidates for governor or regent/mayor.

A survey conducted by Indikator Politik Indonesia during the 2014 elections revealed that 41.2% of respondents considered money politics to be normal. Similarly, a 2019 survey by Charta Politika produced comparable findings. In this survey of 800 respondents in the DKI Jakarta Electoral Districts (Dapil), 58.2% of respondents in Dapil I tolerated money politics, while in Dapil II, the figure was 47%, and in Dapil III, it was 42.6% (Komisi Pemberantasan Korupsi, 2023).

The practice of money politics negatively impacts Indonesia's democratic life, as it tends to produce leaders who prioritize their own groups or even their personal interests. According to Abdurrohman (2021, p. 2797), there are at least three detrimental effects of money politics: first, those involved may face imprisonment and fines; second, it can lead to the formation of a corrupt government; and third, it can undermine the nation's values.

In summary, money politics practices exert a profound and negative influence on the nation's future. If politicians elected through money politics lack competence and qualifications, it will result in poor political performance in both the legislative and executive branches of government. Additionally, this practice contributes to high-cost elections, as politicians must have substantial funds to engage in money politics. Over time, only those with sufficient financial resources will be able to participate in elections, regardless of their leadership capabilities and performance.

Therefore, the practice of money politics cannot be taken lightly, as its continued presence in the democratic process could bring significant harm to the nation. To address this issue, a breakthrough that directly engages the community is essential, as the community plays a crucial role in combating this problem. Several measures can be taken to anticipate or at least mitigate the practice of money politics.

1. According to Kurniawan & Hermawan (2019, p. 35), leveraging voter social capital by promoting local wisdom in various regions across Indonesia can help reduce the prevalence of money politics.

2. Pahlevi and Amrullohi (2020, p. 141), suggest that educating the public is an effective way to prevent money politics.
3. Fauziah et al., (2023, p. 60). argue that enhancing the integrity and competence of election organizers throughout the electoral process can play a crucial role in preventing money politics.
4. Strengthening the enforcement of regulations against money politics violations by improving legal frameworks and monitoring mechanisms (Kalakoe, Darusman, & Gueci, 2020).
5. Delmana et al. (2020, p. 14) argue that preventing money politics requires a systemic and simultaneous approach, involving the effective functioning of political suprastructure and infrastructure, reforming the political system and culture, and enhancing the moral and political education of the community through short, medium, and long-term strategies. Prevention can also be achieved by modifying the mixed electoral system to strengthen the relationship between voters and their representatives after the election. This could help reduce money politics and decrease the prevalence of unqualified candidates.

All stakeholders, including the State Civil Apparatus (ASN), must be involved in addressing money politics in elections. According to data from the State Personnel Agency (*Buku Statistik Aparatur Sipil Negara Semester I, 2023*), as of June 30, 2023, the total number of ASNs was 4,282,429. With such a large number of ASNs spread across the territory of the Republic of Indonesia and abroad, encompassing nearly all sectors of community life, ASNs can play a pivotal role in curbing the practice of money politics in elections.

By regulation, ASNs are subject to strict restrictions on political activities, which prevent the misuse of resources under their control to favor any candidate in the election. ASNs are required to maintain neutrality, free from the influence of all groups and political parties, and to ensure that public services are delivered impartially (Darmawan, 2021, p. 76). Any bias by

ASNs toward a specific political party or candidate could create tension within the community, especially if their political ideologies, beliefs, or candidate preferences differ.

The restrictions on ASN political involvement are intended to curtail the bureaucracy's politicization and prevent ASNs from offering or receiving compensation in exchange for supporting a candidate to secure a particular position or post. Such actions would contradict one of the core values of the ASN: professionalism. Every ASN in a position of responsibility must be free from political influence and act according to their professional duties. Consequently, ASNs are required to maintain a neutral and independent stance, free from political intervention.

However, ASNs still play a role in the political process, particularly by exercising their right to vote in elections. Voting rights represent the direct participation of ASNs in determining leadership (Darmawan, 2021, p. 76). However, instances of partiality among ASNs during elections are not uncommon. Sirait (2022, p. 10) identifies two forms of civil servant involvement in practical politics that compromise their independence and neutrality. First, some civil servants, either openly or covertly, become supporters or members of campaign teams for regional head candidates. Second, they may participate in electoral campaigns supporting specific political candidates. These actions are still frequently observed among ASNs, undermining their political neutrality.

Lukmajati's (2016, p. 157) study in Blora Regency revealed that civil servants who maintain close contact with the community are particularly vulnerable to exploitation by candidates or other political elites. This involvement is demonstrated by the engagement of civil servants by various department heads, as well as by covert campaign activities carried out by the subdistrict head within the Blora district government.

It is a legal obligation for every ASN to maintain a neutral and independent stance, free from political intervention (Ningtyas, 2021, p. 15). Violations of the rules and regulations of neutrality and independence of ASN can be subject to sanctions and penalties. As such, ASNs must maintain a neutral stance, avoiding direct involvement in the practical politics of the

country while still engaging constructively in the broader political process. Additionally, ASNs are expected to guard political integrity, upholding their respective authorities and responsibilities. Their involvement is expected to help reduce electoral violations, including the practice of money politics.

For ASNs to become agents of change in Indonesian politics, they must firmly understand their political neutrality. A clear and well-defined understanding of political neutrality and quality elections is essential for ASNs. Without this, it will be difficult for them to act as a unifying force in the political process, especially during elections. There is a concern that ASNs, originally expected to be at the forefront of eradicating money politics, may instead become brokers or perpetrators of such practices if the necessary mindset is not established. This concern is underscored by the findings of a study conducted by Sanjaya et al. (2020, p. 15), which identified three key factors inhibiting ASN neutrality in elections: an unformed mindset, the existence of kinship relationships, and weak sanctions.

Therefore, despite its limitations, the ASN must play an optimal role in politics. Although their involvement is restricted, ASNs should still contribute to enhancing the quality of the democratic process through elections. They must be utilized to the fullest extent possible to reduce the practice of money politics and serve as a unifying force for the nation. To the best of our knowledge, no prior study has specifically addressed the optimal role of ASNs in suppressing the practice of money politics. Therefore, this study represents a novel contribution to the field.

## II. Methods

The object of this study is secondary, as it is derived from the findings of other studies that focus on data and information regarding the authority and role of ASNs in preventing the practice of money politics, which has contributed to the problem of high-cost elections. This study employs a qualitative method with a descriptive analysis approach, examining ASN policy, authority, and the roles they can play in improving the quality of politics in Indonesia within the constraints of existing laws.

A qualitative method was chosen for its ability to provide a comprehensive and easily understood description (Fadli, 2021, p. 33). The descriptive analysis approach was selected for its strength in offering a complete picture of verbal and numerical data (DQ Lab, 2021).

This study was conducted in December 2023, utilizing literature from various sources that discuss topics related to election organization, ASN restrictions in politics, efforts to reduce money politics practices, and other relevant subjects. Data collection involved gathering information and findings from a wide range of available sources. The research model used in this study is illustrated in the figure below.

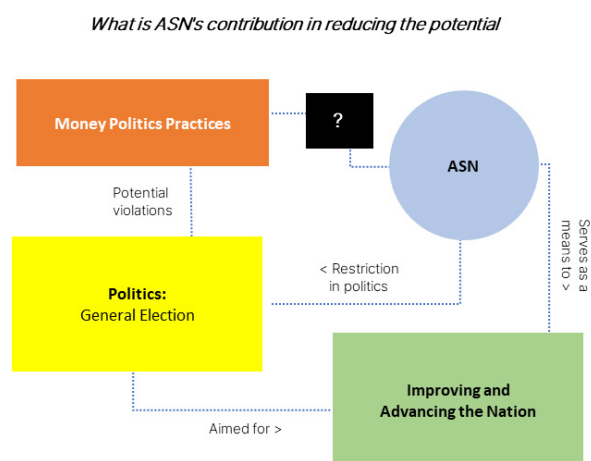


Figure 1. Research Model

The research model begins with the observation that restrictions are placed on ASNs in political activities, except for their direct participation in elections. However, as state apparatuses, ASNs are also tasked with improving and advancing the nation, a goal that aligns with conducting elections.

Given the potential for election violations, especially those involving money politics, ASNs are expected to help reduce such practices. This would ensure that elections produce qualified leaders who can drive progress and achieve prosperity for the nation. In summary, while ASNs have a limited role in practical politics, they can still play a crucial role within these constraints.



### III. Results and Discussion

ASN can creatively contribute to enhancing the quality of elections. One of the ways is by educating the community to reduce the prevalence of money politics. Aside from education, various mediums, including culture, art, and local wisdom, can be employed for socialization and advocacy. ASNs can contribute both directly and indirectly to improving the quality of elections. Those directly involved in the electoral process—who hold authority, duties, and responsibilities—bear greater accountability than those not directly engaged. ASNs directly involved in preventing money politics can effectively carry out several crucial roles, such as:

1. Strengthening and enhancing the quality of policies and law enforcement through regulatory channels to suppress money politics.
2. Improving the integrity and competency of ASN human resources involved in the election process, whether as organizers, supervisors, or law enforcers.
3. Conducting reviews, analyses, research, and discussions to enhance the quality of business processes and standard operating procedures for election management.
4. Imposing sanctions and taking decisive action against those involved in money politics.

ASNs who are not directly involved are equally important in raising public understanding and awareness about the significance of quality elections to reduce money politics practices. Efforts by these ASNs may include:

1. Disseminate information and engage in advocacy to raise public awareness and understanding through various media and activities, including arts and cultural initiatives.
2. Organizing political education programs to increase public awareness of the detrimental effects of flawed elections.
3. Collecting and disseminating data and information that is not widely known or accessible, enabling the public to evaluate candidates based on their track records,

achievements, and even criminal records, including corruption cases.

4. Actively and creatively engaging in anti-money politics campaigns, particularly through social media.

Community involvement is essential in these efforts. ASNs working to prevent and reduce money politics must collaborate with various stakeholders, including the community. These efforts are designed to ensure that the community is no longer easily influenced or complicit in money politics practices. Given the importance of preventing money politics, ASNs must strive to create public value through these efforts, ultimately establishing a societal paradigm that recognizes money politics as a grave threat to the future of democracy in Indonesia.

At this stage, it is expected that the practice of money politics will decline as the public becomes more aware of its negative outcomes. Consequently, candidates should compete based on their competence. As a result, leaders who undermine democracy through unethical practices will no longer emerge. Instead, elected leaders will genuinely represent the will of the people. Ultimately, candidates will compete based solely on their visions, missions, and programs designed to benefit the public.

Once this stage is realized, the need for politicians to spend excessive amounts of money will ideally be eliminated. Politics has finally produced a true leader. As a result, any Indonesian citizen, regardless of social or economic status, can participate in political contests through elections.

ASNs can play a crucial role in preventing the practice of money politics through various approaches. Drawing from previous studies and literature, several strategies can be implemented both individually and institutionally by ASNs. At the individual level, ASNs can undertake various actions and initiatives to curb the practice of money politics in elections, including the following:

1. Disseminate information and engage in advocacy to raise public awareness and understanding through various media and activities, including arts and culture.
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2. Organizing political education programs to increase public knowledge about the detrimental effects of flawed elections.
3. Collecting and disseminating data and information that is not widely known or accessible, enabling the public to evaluate candidates based on their track records, achievements, and even criminal records, including corruption cases.
4. Actively and creatively engaging in anti-money politics campaigns, particularly through social media.

As discussed in point (1) above, the practice of money politics can be prevented through the dissemination of information and advocacy actions aimed at raising public awareness and understanding of the importance of clean elections. Begovic and Cuan (2021, p. 113) observed that perpetrators of money politics exploit gaps arising from insufficient public information dissemination, ultimately leading to the ineffective enforcement of these regulations, with the public serving as both the object and subject of the law.

Information dissemination and advocacy can be conducted through various mediums, including art and culture. According to Chayadi & Hermawan (2019, page 29), leveraging voters' social capital through local arts and culture is effective in reducing the practice of money politics. Institutionally, relevant government agencies have already addressed this aspect. However, ASNs can play a crucial role in expanding the dissemination of information and advocacy efforts to enhance public awareness of proper and ethical political practices.

"In point (2) above, preventing the practice of money politics can also be achieved through political education for the community. This education aims to increase public awareness of the harmful effects of improper election practices, including money politics. This aligns with the view of Pahlevi and Amrurrobi (2020, p. 141), who assert that money politics can be prevented through political education. Money politics can also be prevented through political education, a process that is relatively complex. This education aims to enhance the public's understanding of the dangers associated with money politics,

emphasizing that it constitutes a criminal act of bribery with harmful consequences for society.

Currently, there is no formal and consistent inclusion of anti-money politics content in any level of formal education. While some government agencies have made efforts to educate the public, these initiatives remain limited in scope. As noted in point (3), another approach to mitigating money politics involves ensuring transparency of data and information regarding prospective candidates. This initiative aims to enhance public familiarity with the candidates and reduce susceptibility to the influence of politicians engaged in money politics.

The General Election Commission (KPU) has attempted to provide this information through the Candidacy Information System (SILON) during the nomination process. However, SILON occasionally fails to generate the Provisional Candidate List (DCS) and the Permanent Candidate List (DCT) and is unable to process nomination data. This is not efficient and effective (Sari, 2022, p. 183).

Therefore, as a complementary support system to the government's application, ASNs with specialized expertise in this area could contribute by developing a system or information channel for candidate data. This would allow the public to become better acquainted with the candidates they will vote for in the election. Through this channel, ASNs could present profiles, performance records, and achievements of the candidates running for election. It can also reveal if a candidate has a poor track record, such as a criminal history.

As noted in point (4) of the list above, the practice of money politics can be curtailed through active and creative involvement in both online and offline anti-money politics campaigns. A campaign is a democratic tool designed to persuade voters to understand and even believe in something (Fatimah, 2018, p. 6). In the context of elections, this includes urging the rejection of money politics. According to Rogers and Storey in Venus (2004), as cited by Ardiana et al. (2016, p.2), a campaign is "a series of planned communication actions aimed at creating specific effects on a large audience over a certain period of time.

Campaigns can be conducted in various forms, including social campaigns. A social campaign is a process of communicating messages that address social and non-commercial issues. The general purpose of social campaigns is to raise public awareness of ongoing social conditions (Ardiana, et al., 2016: 2).

Social campaigns can incorporate a range of creative and innovative activities, such as art and cultural performances, theatrical presentations, murals, video-making competitions that engage the community, singing contests, or the creation of jingles that convey messages against the practice of money politics.

Institutionally, the ASN can also play a role in reducing the prevalence of money politics. Institutionally, ASNs working in relevant government institutions can implement several strategies to suppress the practice of money politics, including:

1. Strengthening and enhancing policies and law enforcement through regulatory channels to suppress the practice of money politics.
2. Improving the integrity and quality of ASN human resources directly involved in the election process, whether as organizers, supervisors, or law enforcers.
3. Conducting studies, analyses, research, and discussions to improve the quality of business processes and standard operating procedures for organizing elections.
4. Imposing sanctions and strict actions against those engaged in money politics.

As mentioned in point (1) above, money politics practices can be addressed through regulatory channels by analyzing the weaknesses in the current regulations or laws governing this issue. Begovic & Cuan (2021, p. 120) argue that Law No. 10 of 2016 concerning Pilkada is progressive in preventing money politics, as it covers a broad range of subjects, including both the giver and the recipient. However, some loopholes persist in this law, potentially allowing for the continuation of money politics practices.

ASNs assigned to government agencies responsible for drafting laws and regulations must thoroughly analyze and evaluate these legal

frameworks. High-quality regulations can directly contribute to reducing the prevalence of money politics. ASNs in law enforcement roles must execute their duties professionally as they are the custodians of election integrity, including the prevention of money politics.

At this stage, ASNs capable of implementing these measures are those working within government agencies responsible for organizing elections, such as the General Election Commission (KPU), the Election Supervisory Agency (Bawaslu), the Honorary Council for Election Organizers (DKPP), or other related agencies. As noted in point (2) above, the practice of money politics can be prevented by enhancing the capabilities of human resources, particularly those within agencies directly involved in election administration. The integrity and character of law enforcement officers are crucial in upholding the law. Even if regulations are sound, they are ineffective if the quality of the officers enforcing them is lacking.

There is a prevailing public perception that the effectiveness of the law is directly linked to the conduct of law enforcement officers. Unfortunately, issues frequently arise when officers overstep their authority or engage in actions that tarnish the image and credibility of law enforcement. These problems often stem from the inadequate quality of the law enforcement personnel (Begovic & Cuan, 2021, p. 115).

At this stage, ASNs capable of implementing these measures are those serving in government agencies responsible for organizing elections—the General Election Commission (KPU), the Election Supervisory Agency (Bawaslu), and the Election Organizer Honorary Council (DKPP)—as well as those in law enforcement agencies, including the Indonesian National Police (Polri), the Attorney General's Office (AGO), the Constitutional Court (MK), the Supreme Court (MA), and other relevant bodies, such as the Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK).

As mentioned in point (3) above, the practice of money politics can be suppressed through academic channels by ASNs engaged in research, development, and innovation. The quality of elections, including the prevention of money politics, can be enhanced through



rigorous academic studies, analyses, research, and discussions.

Election violations and fraud often arise due to loopholes in the procedures for organizing elections. Therefore, standard operating procedures must ensure that elections are conducted effectively, with any potential loopholes that could be exploited for money politics thoroughly addressed.

The weaknesses in election procedures can be addressed through academic studies and analyses. ASNs in government agencies tasked with research and development can formulate improved procedures to reduce money politics. Moreover, the weaknesses identified in the studies of electoral processes can be developed into new, more effective models for organizing elections. This aligns with Delmana et al. (2020, p. 1) finding that preventing money politics can also be achieved by modifying the electoral system.

At this stage, the ASNs who can implement these measures are those serving in government agencies responsible for research, development, analysis, and innovation, such as the National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN), the State Administration Agency (LAN), and the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology (Kemdikbud), or those in relevant units within other government agencies.

Point (4) highlights the importance of imposing sanctions and taking strict action against both the givers and recipients involved in money politics. This approach is effective in suppressing such practices. Kalakoe, Darusman, & Gueci (2020) emphasize that strengthening the enforcement of laws and regulations, along with enhanced monitoring, is essential for effectively addressing money politics violations.

ASNs in law enforcement agencies must act decisively and professionally to enforce the law and address violations and irregularities in elections. At this stage, those who can implement these measures are ASNs in agencies responsible for organizing elections, such as the General Election Commission (KPU), the Election Supervisory Agency (Bawaslu), and the Election Organizer Honorary Council (DKPP), and those in law enforcement agencies like the Indonesian National Police (Polri), the Attorney General's

Office (AGO), the Constitutional Court (MK), the Supreme Court (MA), and the Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK).

To achieve optimal results in combating money politics, ASNs must involve the community, as the public is the primary target and the frontline in this effort. Ultimately, with active ASN involvement in efforts to suppress money politics, it is hoped that this practice will gradually disappear from the election process. This would foster healthy competition, help identify qualified candidates, and contribute to healthier and more accessible politics in Indonesia.

#### IV. Conclusion

The failure to organize democratic elections represents a significant obstacle to the functioning of democratic systems of governance in numerous countries. Among the violations that compromise the integrity of the electoral process is the practice of money politics, as it forces politicians to spend considerable sums of money in pursuit of electoral success, ultimately leading to high-cost elections.

Given its strategic role, the State Civil Apparatus (ASN), is obliged to assume a pivotal role in suppressing money politics to ensure the integrity of the electoral process. The ASN is capable of contributing to this effort in both an individual and institutional capacity. Irrespective of the approach taken, it is essential to adhere to the following principles:

1. All actions must align with the principles, ethics, morals, and values of the ASN. One of the core values of the ASN is BERAKHLAK (an acronym of Service-oriented, Accountable, Competent, Harmonious, Loyal, Adaptive, and Collaborative);
2. The methods employed should be creative, innovative, and persuasive, leveraging social capital, arts and culture, technology, and multimedia, with a strong emphasis on community involvement.
3. The efforts should remain focused on curbing money politics while maintaining the ASN's neutrality, free from political influences or alliances that could compromise its impartiality.

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