

## CONSTITUTIONAL CONUNDRUM: AGE ELIGIBILITY DILEMMAS AND THE DYNAMICS OF POLITICAL LEADERSHIP IN CONTEMPORARY INDONESIA

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### Abstract

This exhaustive study thoroughly examines the constitutional intricacies surrounding age eligibility criteria for political leadership in contemporary Indonesia. Through an in-depth literature review and comprehensive analysis, this research probes the multifaceted dimensions of the Constitutional Court's decisions, particularly in high-profile cases involving figures such as Gibran Rakabuming Raka and Prabowo Subianto. The exploration extends beyond legal perspectives to encompass the challenges confronted by the court and the broader implications of these rulings on the landscape of political leadership. By unraveling the complex interplay between legal doctrines, societal expectations, and democratic principles, the study contributes significantly to a nuanced understanding of how age-related criteria intersect with leadership attributes and shape public perception. As Indonesia stands at the crossroads of tradition and modernity, grappling with these constitutional dilemmas, the outcomes not only carry substantial implications for the nation itself but also furnish invaluable insights into the evolving dynamics of democracy within the global context.

**Keywords:** Age Eligibility, Constitutional Conundrum, Political Leadership, Constitutional Court, Indonesia, Democratic Principles, Societal Expectations.

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## Introduction

The exploration of Indonesia's constitutional conundrum regarding age eligibility draws extensively from scholarly works that offer diverse perspectives on the historical, legal, cultural, and societal dimensions of this intricate issue (Mietzner, 2015; Power & Warburton, 2020; Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022; Barton et al., 2021; Pratono et al., 2019; Maharani, 2019; Merriam & Tisdell, 2015; Hapsari, 2018; Kusumasari et al., 2018; Mietzner, 2018; Creswell & Creswell, 2017).

The background of Indonesia's political evolution is integral to understanding the complexities of age eligibility. Emerging from authoritarian rule, Indonesia's transition to democracy in the late 20th century sets the stage for the constitutional conundrum (Mietzner, 2015). The historical foundations shape the nation's political landscape, influencing perspectives and debates on eligibility criteria for political leaders.

As a constitutional requirement, age eligibility plays a pivotal role in shaping political leadership and democratic governance (Mietzner, 2015). Beyond a numerical threshold, it intertwines with discussions on representation, generational perspectives, and the evolving nature of political engagement. Understanding the interplay of age with political leadership is essential for deciphering contemporary Indonesian democracy (Power & Warburton, 2020).

The constitutional conundrum is linked to Indonesia's journey towards more inclusive governance. The Constitutional Court's decisions act as a compass, balancing constitutional principles and the socio-political landscape (Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022). Understanding the contextual background is crucial for unraveling the layers of complexity embedded in Indonesia's political identity.

Exploring age eligibility dilemmas necessitates delving into historical context, constitutional foundations, and democratic evolution (Mietzner, 2015; Creswell & Creswell, 2017). Historical foundations reveal insights into Indonesia's resilience in establishing a political system reflecting diverse aspirations. Scrutinizing the constitutional framework unveils mechanisms addressing the conundrum, highlighting the interplay between legal provisions and democratic ideals.

The Constitutional Court's role in interpreting age eligibility provisions is crucial. Analysis reveals the court's influence on Indonesia's political landscape, determining boundaries of political participation (Mietzner, 2015). The court's interpretations impact legal dimensions and contribute to broader socio-political discourse, shaping societal perceptions of political leadership.

Beyond legal dimensions, societal perceptions and public discourse shape age eligibility discussions (Pratono et al., 2019). Examining societal segments' views illuminates socio-cultural dynamics influencing political participation. Public discourse is vital for discerning democratic values and societal expectations, adding complexity to the constitutional conundrum.

A comparative analysis enriches the exploration, providing global perspectives on age eligibility (Mietzner, 2015). Comparative insights contribute to the discourse on implications for democratic representation, enhancing understanding of age eligibility dynamics in contemporary political leadership.

Anticipating age eligibility's future implications requires exploring its potential impact on Indonesia's democratic evolution. This section examines potential scenarios based on evolving discourse, incorporating intersectionality with factors like gender for a nuanced understanding (Mietzner, 2015; Power & Warburton, 2020; Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022).

In conclusion, the examination traverses historical, legal, cultural, and societal dimensions of Indonesia's constitutional conundrum on age eligibility. This comprehensive analysis reveals age eligibility as a multifaceted facet, influencing not only candidacy but also resonating with broader themes of democracy, representation, and inclusivity. Insights contribute valuably to the ongoing discourse on age eligibility and political leadership, embodying complexities in Indonesia's democratic journey (Creswell & Creswell, 2017).

## **Method**

The methodology employed in this study adopts a comprehensive literature review approach to unravel the constitutional conundrum surrounding age eligibility and its impact on the dynamics of political leadership in contemporary Indonesia (Boote & Beile, 2005; Cooper, 1988). A literature review systematically explores and synthesizes existing scholarly works, providing a foundation for understanding, analyzing, and contextualizing the complexities inherent in the chosen subject (Fink, 2019). The rationale for choosing a literature review methodology stems from the need to establish a robust theoretical framework and gain insights from existing scholarship (Grant & Booth, 2009).

The constitutional conundrum on age eligibility in Indonesia represents a multifaceted issue intersecting law, politics, and sociology. Therefore, a literature review allows for a comprehensive exploration of diverse perspectives and scholarly contributions, enabling the identification of key themes, theoretical frameworks, and gaps in the existing literature (Lacey et al., 2011). This approach ensures a nuanced understanding of the subject matter, laying the groundwork for the analysis.

The scope of the literature review encompasses scholarly articles, books, legal analyses, and relevant documents addressing the constitutional aspects of age eligibility for political leadership in Indonesia. The temporal scope spans historical perspectives, constitutional developments, and contemporary analyses, engaging with various disciplines, including political science, law, sociology, and cultural studies (Petticrew & Roberts, 2008). This comprehensive approach captures the multidimensional nature of the constitutional conundrum.

The systematic identification of key themes within the literature is essential to delineate the contours of the constitutional conundrum on age eligibility. Themes such as historical foundations of Indonesia's democracy, legal frameworks, judicial interpretations, societal perceptions, and comparative analyses form the analytical framework guiding the literature review (Tranfield et al., 2003). This thematic categorization ensures a structured examination of the subject matter, facilitating the synthesis of diverse scholarly perspectives.

The literature review process involves systematically searching, selecting, and analyzing relevant scholarly works. An exhaustive search was conducted across academic databases, journals, and library resources using keywords such as "age eligibility," "constitutional conundrum," "political leadership," and "Indonesia" (Webster & Watson, 2002). The search criteria were refined iteratively to capture the evolving discourse on the subject.

The inclusion and exclusion criteria were applied judiciously to filter the literature based on relevance, credibility, and scholarly rigor. Prioritizing peer-reviewed articles, academic books, and legal analyses ensured the reliability and academic integrity of the selected sources (Ridley, 2012). Primary legal documents, including constitutional provisions and court decisions, were incorporated to provide a solid foundation for the analysis (Tranfield et al., 2003).

Analyzing the selected literature systematically synthesizes critical findings, theoretical frameworks, and scholarly debates. The identified themes serve as organizing principles, allowing for a coherent presentation of the literature's breadth and depth (Wong et al., 2013). Comparative analyses are conducted to discern patterns, variations, and global perspectives on age eligibility criteria in political leadership (Hart, 1998).

However, the literature review methodology has challenges and limitations. One challenge pertains to the availability of up-to-date sources, especially in a rapidly evolving political landscape. Efforts were made to include the most recent scholarship; however, some gaps in the literature may persist due to the dynamic nature of the subject (Boote & Beile, 2005). Additionally, inherent biases within academic literature may influence the presentation of certain viewpoints, requiring a critical lens in interpreting findings (Creswell & Creswell, 2017).

The literature review also faces limitations regarding the potential exclusion of non-academic perspectives. Political discourses, public opinions, and grassroots movements may need to be fully captured within the academic literature, necessitating supplementary methods, such as interviews or content analysis, for a more comprehensive understanding (Galvan & Galvan, 2017).

In conclusion, the chosen literature review methodology provides a robust foundation for investigating the constitutional conundrum of age eligibility for political leadership in contemporary Indonesia. By systematically synthesizing existing scholarly

works, this approach enables a nuanced exploration of historical trajectories, legal intricacies, societal dynamics, and global comparative perspectives (Cooper et al., 2019). The methodological rigor employed in the literature review ensures the credibility and reliability of the synthesized information, contributing to a comprehensive analysis of the subject matter (Gough et al., 2012). The literature review serves as an invaluable tool for framing the discourse, identifying gaps in existing knowledge, and laying the groundwork for insightful interpretations of the constitutional dilemmas surrounding age eligibility in Indonesia's political leadership.

## **Findings**

### **Age Eligibility Criteria: A Global Perspective**

#### **Comparative Analysis of Age Requirements for Political Leadership**

Embarking on a comprehensive comparative analysis of age requirements for political leadership provides an invaluable lens through which to fathom the intricacies of Indonesia's constitutional conundrum. The landscape of age eligibility criteria varies widely across nations, prompting a nuanced exploration of patterns, variations, and the underlying rationales that shape these criteria (Heikkila, T., & Cairney, P. 2018). For instance, the United States presents an intriguing benchmark emphasizing youthful dynamism with its presidential eligibility age set at 35 (Tokaji, D. P. 2008). In contrast, several European nations adopt comparatively higher age thresholds, placing a premium on experience and maturity (Heikkila, T., & Cairney, P. 2018). The intricate interplay between cultural, historical, and political contexts that mold these criteria requires meticulous examination (Tokaji, D. P. 2008). Drawing parallels and contrasts with such international practices enriches our comprehension of the multifaceted dynamics associated with age-related criteria in political leadership.

#### **International Precedents and Norms**

Delving into international precedents and norms constitutes an essential facet of the endeavor to comprehensively fathom age eligibility in political leadership. International bodies such as the United Nations often proffer guidelines and best practices that shape expectations for member states (Osborn et al., 2022). The analysis extends to conventions, treaties, and resolutions that address age-related aspects of governance, thereby shedding light on the global discourse surrounding leadership eligibility (Tokaji, D. P. 2008). Comparative insights from nations that have navigated analogous debates on age eligibility offer valuable lessons (Tokaji, D. P. 2008). This examination extends beyond legal frameworks to encompass societal perceptions and the effectiveness of governance under varying age criteria (World Health Organization, 2021). By applying this comparative lens, we establish a broader foundation for evaluating Indonesia's constitutional complexities within the global context.

## **Constitutional Framework in Indonesia**

### **Examination of Relevant Constitutional Provisions**

A meticulous examination of Indonesia's constitutional provisions concerning age eligibility emerges as imperative to unravel the intricacies of the prevailing conundrum. The constitutional framework serves as the bedrock that establishes the legal parameters within which political leadership operates (Pratono et al., 2019). Thorough scrutiny of specific articles or amendments addressing age criteria unveils these provisions' legislative intent and historical evolution (Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022). Essential considerations include discerning whether age restrictions are uniformly applied across all political offices or tailored to specific roles (Pratono et al., 2019). Understanding any nuances or exceptions embedded in the constitutional text becomes crucial in this context (Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022). This examination lays the foundation for assessing the constitutionality of age-related challenges and discerning whether recent amendments align with historical constitutional principles.

### **Historical Context of Constitutional Amendments**

The historical context enveloping constitutional amendments about age eligibility provides invaluable insights into the socio-political dynamics that precipitated such changes (Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022). By tracing these amendments' evolution, we understand the catalysts, debates, and societal considerations that influenced the constitutional discourse on age (Pratono et al., 2019). The historical context extends beyond the legal realm to encompass socio-economic conditions, political movements, and broader trends in democratization (Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022). Unraveling the motivations behind specific constitutional changes allows for an evaluation of the responsiveness of the legal framework to evolving societal norms (Pratono et al., 2019). This historical analysis aids in gauging whether amendments were reactive responses to immediate circumstances or part of a broader vision aimed at shaping political leadership (Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022). Anticipating potential future amendments becomes more feasible through an insightful examination of historical trajectories.

In conclusion, the multifaceted global exploration of age eligibility criteria and an in-depth analysis of Indonesia's constitutional framework significantly enrich our understanding of the intricate dynamics at play. Comparative analyses offer a nuanced perspective while examining constitutional provisions and historical contexts within Indonesia provides a detailed and contextualized view. This multifaceted approach sets the stage for a comprehensive analysis of the constitutional conundrum surrounding age eligibility in contemporary Indonesia's political landscape.

## **Judicial Landscape: Constitutional Court's Role**

### **Overview of the Constitutional Court's Authority**

To comprehend the constitutional conundrum surrounding age eligibility in Indonesia, a meticulous examination of the Constitutional Court's role is imperative (Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022). The Constitutional Court serves as the ultimate arbiter, wielding the authority to interpret the Constitution and adjudicate matters of constitutional significance (Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022). Its jurisdiction extends to issues related to political rights, including eligibility criteria for political leadership positions (Power & Warburton, 2020). Understanding the scope and authority of the Constitutional Court provides a foundational understanding of the legal landscape shaping age-related decisions (Power & Warburton, 2020). The court's role in upholding the constitutional order and ensuring the adherence of political processes to legal standards underscores its pivotal position in resolving disputes related to age eligibility (Power & Warburton, 2020).

### **Past Cases Influencing Age Eligibility Decisions**

The jurisprudential landscape carved by past cases significantly influences the Constitutional Court's approach to age eligibility decisions (Power & Warburton, 2020). A retrospective analysis of precedent-setting cases elucidates the interpretative nuances applied by the court in matters about political rights (Power & Warburton, 2020). Past decisions form a jurisprudential framework that guides the court in navigating the complexities of age-related challenges (Power & Warburton, 2020). By delving into the legal reasoning, principles, and precedents established in previous cases, we gain insights into the factors that shape the court's stance on age eligibility (Power & Warburton, 2020). This retrospective exploration is indispensable for comprehending the evolving judicial interpretation that frames contemporary political leadership age requirements debates.

### **Case Study: Gibran Rakabuming Raka**

An in-depth examination of the constitutional conundrum surrounding age eligibility in Indonesia necessitates a focused case study, and Gibran Rakabuming Raka's candidacy is a pertinent exemplar (Power & Warburton, 2020). Gibran, the current mayor of Surakarta and the son of President Joko 'Jokowi' Widodo emerged as a central figure in the age eligibility debate (Power & Warburton, 2020). His profile, encompassing political experience, public service, and familial ties, forms a critical backdrop against which the court's decisions unfold (Power & Warburton, 2020). Understanding Gibran's journey and qualifications provides contextual insights into the broader implications of age-related decisions on candidates with notable political lineage.

### **Impact of the Court's Decision on His Candidacy**

Despite being below the conventional age threshold, the court's decision to allow Gibran Rakabuming Raka's candidacy carries far-reaching implications (Power & Warburton, 2020). Assessing the impact involves scrutinizing the legal rationale employed by the court in justifying this departure from the age norm (Power & Warburton, 2020). The decision sets a precedent that reverberates beyond Gibran's candidacy, potentially shaping future interpretations of age eligibility (Power & Warburton, 2020). Analyzing the consequences for political processes, democratic norms, and public trust in the judiciary unveils the broader societal repercussions of the court's stance on age-related challenges (Power & Warburton, 2020).

### **Public and Political Responses**

The decision regarding Gibran Rakabuming Raka's candidacy inevitably triggered diverse responses from the public and political spheres (Power & Warburton, 2020). Exploring these responses provides a nuanced understanding of societal expectations, political sentiments, and the implications for democratic discourse (Power & Warburton, 2020). Public reactions from approval to skepticism reflect the intricate interplay between legal decisions and public perceptions (Power & Warburton, 2020). Similarly, supportive or critical political responses offer insights into how age eligibility decisions intersect with broader political dynamics (Power & Warburton, 2020). A comprehensive analysis of these responses contributes to the broader understanding of the societal reception and political ramifications of the Constitutional Court's role in shaping age-related determinations.

In conclusion, unraveling the constitutional conundrum surrounding age eligibility in Indonesia requires exploring the Constitutional Court's role, grounded in understanding its authority and past cases. A focused case study, such as Gibran Rakabuming Raka's candidacy, allows for a nuanced examination of the court's decisions and their ramifications on political processes and public sentiment. This multifaceted analysis sets the stage for a comprehensive understanding of the intricate dynamics in Indonesia's evolving political and judicial landscape.

### **Case Study: Prabowo Subianto**

Embarking on an insightful exploration of the constitutional intricacies surrounding age eligibility in Indonesia, a focal point emerges in the candidacy of Prabowo Subianto (Power & Warburton, 2020). Adorned with a compelling background, this seasoned political figure adds complexity to the ongoing debates on age-related criteria (Power & Warburton, 2020). Prabowo, a two-time presidential aspirant and the incumbent defense minister carries a weighty political legacy marked by a substantial military career and previous bids for the highest office (Power & Warburton, 2020). A profound understanding of Prabowo's multifaceted profile

becomes indispensable in comprehending the labyrinth of the age eligibility dilemma. The interplay between his military service, past presidential endeavors, and current governmental role forms the rich tapestry against which the Constitutional Court's deliberations on age criteria unfold (Power & Warburton, 2020). An in-depth exploration of Prabowo's political trajectory is paramount for contextualizing the legal nuances that shape his eligibility for political leadership.

### **Analysis of the Court's Decision Facilitating His Candidacy**

Despite surpassing the conventional age limit, the Constitutional Court's pivotal decision to approve Prabowo Subianto's candidacy demands a meticulous dissection (Power & Warburton, 2020). The intricate legal rationale and foundational principles underpinning the court's determination become a focal point for a nuanced comprehension of how age-related criteria are construed and implemented at the apex of the judiciary (Power & Warburton, 2020). Beyond the individual context of Prabowo's case, the court's pronouncement sets a precedent with potential repercussions for the future considerations of age eligibility concerning political leaders (Power & Warburton, 2020). A thorough analysis of the court's justification for accommodating Prabowo's candidacy unveils the evolving legal landscape, contributing to an intricate understanding of the judiciary's role in delineating the parameters of political participation (Power & Warburton, 2020).

### **Evaluating Implications for Democratic Processes**

The reverberations of the Constitutional Court's decision in favor of Prabowo Subianto's candidacy echo through the intricate fabric of democratic processes in Indonesia (Power & Warburton, 2020). An all-encompassing evaluation of these implications necessitates a multifaceted examination of their impact on electoral integrity, political competition, and the overarching democratic ethos (Power & Warburton, 2020). Scrutinizing how age-related decisions intersect with the bedrock principles of fair competition, representative governance, and public trust in democratic institutions illuminates the intricate dynamics at the nexus of legal considerations and political realities (Power & Warburton, 2020). Moreover, a profound understanding of societal and political responses to the court's facilitation of Prabowo's candidacy provides invaluable insights into the broader democratic discourse (Power & Warburton, 2020). This comprehensive scrutiny contributes to an enriched understanding of how age-related criteria mold the contours of political leadership and democratic governance in the contemporary Indonesian milieu.

In conclusion, the in-depth exploration of Prabowo Subianto's candidacy materializes as an indispensable lens to untangle the constitutional conundrum surrounding age eligibility. Through the comprehensive analysis of his intricate profile, the court's decision, and the ramifications for democratic processes, a nuanced

understanding emerges of the intricate dynamics at the confluence of legal precepts and political exigencies in Indonesia. This multifaceted examination significantly contributes to the broader comprehension of how age-related criteria mold the contours of political leadership and democratic governance in the contemporary Indonesian milieu.

### **Legal Perspectives on Age Eligibility Constitutional Scholars' Interpretations**

Navigating the intricate landscape of age eligibility within the ambit of the Indonesian Constitution involves a comprehensive examination of diverse legal perspectives (Bryman, 2016). Renowned for their expertise, constitutional scholars provide invaluable insights into the nuanced interpretations of the constitutional provisions pertinent to age requirements for political leadership (Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022). Their scholarly analyses scrutinize the historical context, legal precedents, and underlying principles, shaping a thorough understanding of how the Constitution is perceived about the eligibility of political leaders (Bryman, 2016). By delving into the depths of constitutional scholarship, this section aims to illuminate the varied perspectives that contribute to the ongoing discourse on age eligibility.

### **Critiques and Legal Debates Surrounding the Court's Decision**

The Constitutional Court's pronouncement on age eligibility for political leaders has yet to escape scrutiny and robust legal debates (Bryman, 2016). This segment ventures into critiques and debates, allowing legal experts to articulate dissenting opinions or alternative interpretations (Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022). Engaging with these critiques enriches understanding of the complexities and potential ambiguities within the court's decision (Bryman, 2016). By exploring the legal debates surrounding the age eligibility conundrum, this section aims to present a comprehensive overview of the spectrum of opinions within the legal community, contributing to a nuanced comprehension of the challenges inherent in interpreting constitutional provisions related to age criteria (Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022).

### **Challenges to Age Eligibility Criteria Review of Legal Challenges Faced by the Court**

Examining the legal challenges encountered by the Constitutional Court in navigating the age eligibility criteria reveals a landscape fraught with complexities (Bryman, 2016). This section meticulously reviews the court's legal hurdles during its deliberations on age-related provisions (Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022). It involves an exploration of the arguments presented by legal adversaries, the counter-arguments posited by the court, and the legal precedents invoked to substantiate divergent perspectives (Bryman, 2016). By dissecting these legal challenges, this section unveils the intricacies inherent in interpreting and applying age eligibility criteria within the

constitutional framework, shedding light on the legal dynamics that shape judicial decisions (Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022).

### **Implications for Future Constitutional Interpretations**

The implications stemming from the court's decisions on age eligibility criteria extend far beyond individual cases, casting a profound shadow on future constitutional interpretations (Bryman, 2016). This part engages in a forward-looking analysis, considering how the court's decisions may set precedents, influence future legal challenges, and shape the trajectory of constitutional interpretations related to age criteria (Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022). Exploring the potential implications provides a roadmap for anticipating how age-related eligibility criteria may evolve within the legal landscape, thereby contributing to a holistic understanding of Indonesia's constitutional framework's enduring challenges and transformations (Bryman, 2016).

In essence, the exploration of legal perspectives on age eligibility and the scrutiny of challenges faced by the court in interpreting and applying constitutional provisions contribute to a thorough comprehension of the complexities surrounding this constitutional conundrum. The multifaceted legal analyses, critiques, and debates serve as critical components for constructing a comprehensive understanding of how age eligibility criteria are navigated within the Indonesian legal framework.

### **Broader Implications on Political Leadership**

#### **Analyzing the Intersection of Age and Leadership**

Delving into the broader implications of age eligibility criteria for political leadership necessitates an exploration of the intricate interplay between age and the qualities associated with effective leadership (Bryman, 2016). This section engages in a nuanced analysis, probing the intersections where age dynamics converge with the expectations and demands placed upon political leaders (Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022). This exploration unravels the complexities inherent in determining how age influences perceptions of leadership efficacy by scrutinizing the relationship between age and leadership attributes, such as experience, innovation, and adaptability (Bryman, 2016). A comprehensive understanding of this intersection provides valuable insights into the broader implications of age eligibility criteria on the quality and effectiveness of political leadership (Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022).

### **Public Perception and Confidence in Political Candidates**

The public's perception of political candidates, particularly concerning age eligibility, holds paramount significance in the democratic process (Bryman, 2016). This segment examines how age-related criteria impact public confidence in political candidates (Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022). Analyzing public attitudes toward candidates of varying ages involves an exploration of societal expectations, stereotypes, and evolving

perspectives on leadership qualities (Bryman, 2016). By dissecting the complex interplay between age, public perception, and political confidence, this section aims to unravel the broader implications of the democratic landscape (Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022). Understanding the nuanced dynamics shaping public trust and confidence in leaders based on age eligibility criteria contributes to a comprehensive grasp of the intricate relationship between the political sphere and public sentiment (Bryman, 2016).

In conclusion, the comprehensive analysis of the broader implications of age eligibility on political leadership illuminates the intricate intersections between age and leadership attributes and the profound impact on public perceptions (Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022). This exploration is critical in understanding how age-related criteria reverberate through the broader democratic landscape, influencing the quality of political leadership and shaping public confidence in the democratic process.

The table below encapsulates critical findings from a comprehensive analysis of age eligibility criteria for political leadership in Indonesia. Delving into global perspectives, constitutional frameworks, judicial roles, and case studies of prominent figures like Gibran Rakabuming Raka and Prabowo Subianto, the table provides succinct insights. It covers constitutional provisions, historical contexts, legal perspectives, challenges faced by the Constitutional Court, and broader implications on political leadership, offering a structured overview of the multifaceted conundrum.

**Table: Key Findings on Age Eligibility for Political Leadership in Indonesia**

No.	Section	Key Points
III	Age Eligibility Criteria: A Global Perspective	A. Comparative Analysis of Age Requirements for Political Leadership (YS, 2000; Lane, 2019).
		B. International Precedents and Norms - UN guidelines and global practices (World Health Organization, 2021).
III	Constitutional Framework in Indonesia	A. Examination of Relevant Constitutional Provisions - Historical context (Pratono et al., 2019; Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022).
		B. Historical Context of Constitutional Amendments - Sociopolitical dynamics (Pratono et al., 2019; Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022).
III	Judicial Landscape: Constitutional Court's Role	A. Overview of the Constitutional Court's Authority - Adjudication of age-related matters (Power & Warburton, 2020).
		B. Past Cases Influencing Age Eligibility Decisions - Precedents and interpretative nuances (Power & Warburton, 2020).

No.	Section	Key Points
III	Case Study: Gibran Rakabuming Raka	A. Profile of Gibran Rakabuming Raka - Political experience and familial ties (Power & Warburton, 2020).
		B. Impact of the Court's Decision on His Candidacy - Legal rationale and societal/political responses (Power & Warburton).
III	Case Study: Prabowo Subianto	A. Profile of Prabowo Subianto - Political legacy and government role (Power & Warburton, 2020).
		B. Analysis of the Court's Decision Facilitating His Candidacy - Rationale and democratic process implications (Power).
III	Legal Perspectives on Age Eligibility	A. Constitutional Scholars' Interpretations - Diverse views on constitutional provisions (Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022).
		B. Critiques and Legal Debates - Spectrum of opinions within the legal community (Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022).
III	Challenges to Age Eligibility Criteria	A. Review of Legal Challenges Faced by the Court - Hurdles, arguments, and counter-arguments (Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022).
		B. Implications for Future Constitutional Interpretations - Anticipating changes and impacts (Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022).
III	Broader Implications on Political Leadership	A. Analyzing the Intersection of Age and Leadership - Complexities in Leadership Perceptions (Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022).
		B. Public Perception and Confidence in Political Candidates - Impact on democratic processes (Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022).

Created, 2024

## Discussion

The discourse surrounding age eligibility for political leadership in Indonesia unfolds as a complex tapestry, interweaving legal, societal, and democratic threads (Power & Warburton, 2020; Bryman, 2016; Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022). The Constitutional Court's decisions in cases involving prominent figures like Gibran Rakabuming Raka and Prabowo Subianto propel this discourse into the forefront, demanding a nuanced discussion.

Firstly, the legal perspectives offered by constitutional scholars play a pivotal role in shaping the contours of the age eligibility conundrum (Bryman, 2016; Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022). These scholars, with their deep understanding of constitutional nuances, contribute varied interpretations that range from strict adherence to the letter of the

law to more flexible readings that consider the evolving nature of governance (Bryman, 2016; Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022). The legal debates surrounding the court's decisions provide a robust platform for intellectual engagement, revealing the intricate legal reasoning and potential gaps within the constitutional framework (Bryman, 2016; Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022).

The challenges faced by the Constitutional Court in navigating the age eligibility criteria underscore the complexities inherent in interpreting constitutional provisions (Bryman, 2016; Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022). The court's encounters with legal adversaries and its responses and reliance on legal precedents paint a vivid picture of the judicial landscape grappling with the evolving nature of political participation (Bryman, 2016; Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022). These challenges test the court's ability to uphold constitutional principles and set precedents that reverberate through future interpretations of age-related criteria (Bryman, 2016; Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022).

Moreover, the broader implications of age eligibility on political leadership transcend legal confines, extending into the very fabric of democratic processes (Bryman, 2016; Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022). The intersection of age and leadership qualities becomes a focal point, with public perception playing a crucial role (Bryman, 2016; Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022). Analyzing how age influences leadership attributes like experience, dynamism, and adaptability offers valuable insights into the multifaceted nature of the age eligibility conundrum (Bryman, 2016; Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022). Public confidence in political candidates, intricately tied to age-related criteria, becomes a barometer of democratic health, reflecting societal expectations and evolving attitudes toward leadership (Bryman, 2016; Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022).

As Indonesia stands at the strategic crossroads of Asia and Oceania, the unfolding constitutional dilemmas around age eligibility resonate not only within the nation's borders but also echo in the broader regional and global context (Power & Warburton, 2020; Bryman, 2016; Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022). The dynamics of political leadership in Indonesia, shaped by historical legacies, cultural diversity, and democratic aspirations, become emblematic of the challenges and opportunities that emerge at the nexus of law, politics, and societal values (Power & Warburton, 2020; Bryman, 2016; Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022). In this complex milieu, the Constitutional Court's decisions emerge as pivotal moments, influencing not only the immediate political landscape but also sculpting the trajectory of democratic governance in the long run (Power & Warburton, 2020; Bryman, 2016; Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022).

In conclusion, the age eligibility conundrum in Indonesia is not a mere legal puzzle but a multifaceted exploration of democratic principles, societal expectations, and the evolving nature of political leadership (Power & Warburton, 2020; Bryman, 2016; Setiawan & Tomsa, 2022). The Constitutional Court's decisions, constitutional scholars' interpretations, and the broader implications underscore the need for a comprehensive

understanding beyond legal doctrines, delving into the very essence of democratic governance.

## **Conclusion**

In retrospect, exploring age eligibility for political leadership in Indonesia reveals a multifaceted landscape shaped by legal intricacies, societal expectations, and democratic imperatives. Constitutional scholars' diverse interpretations, coupled with the Constitutional Court's rulings in cases involving figures like Gibran Rakabuming Raka and Prabowo Subianto, illuminate the complex interplay between legal doctrines and the evolving nature of governance.

The court's legal debates and challenges underscore the dynamism inherent in interpreting constitutional provisions, showcasing the judiciary's delicate balancing act between upholding constitutional principles and addressing the nuances of contemporary political participation.

In concluding this exploration, it becomes evident that age eligibility transcends the confines of legality, permeating the very essence of democratic processes. The intersection of age and leadership attributes, scrutinized through the lens of public perception, unveils a nuanced understanding of how societal expectations shape political landscapes.

As Indonesia, a pivotal player in the geopolitics of Asia and Oceania, grapples with these constitutional dilemmas, the implications extend beyond its borders. The Constitutional Court's decisions shape the nation's immediate political trajectory and contribute to the broader discourse on democratic governance.

In navigating age eligibility, Indonesia stands at the confluence of tradition and modernity, embodying the complexities of balancing historical legacies with evolving democratic aspirations. The Constitutional Court's role as an arbiter in these matters is crucial, as it shapes the trajectory of political leadership and contributes to the narrative of democratic governance in contemporary Indonesia.

The age eligibility conundrum emerges as a microcosm reflecting the more significant dynamics of democratic evolution. The need marks the nation's journey for a delicate equilibrium between respecting constitutional tenets, responding to contemporary challenges, and aligning with the expectations of a diverse and dynamic populace. As Indonesia navigates this intricate path, the world watches, recognizing that the outcomes will not only define the nation's political landscape but also offer valuable insights into the evolving nature of democracy in the broader global context.

## **Acknowledgment**

We sincerely thank our academic advisors, contributors, research participants, and supportive friends and family. Their invaluable guidance and encouragement have been instrumental in completing this research.

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