

THE APPLICATION OF DAVID EASTON SYSTEM THEORY IN THE POLICY-MAKING PROCESS OF USING FOREIGN WORKERS IN INDONESIA

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ABSTRACT

The policy on the use of foreign workers is an important concern in the context of economic and social development of a country like Indonesia. In this case, David Easton's System Theory provides a relevant foundation to analyze the related policy-making process. This article discusses the application of systems theory in the context of foreign labor policies in Indonesia. First, the article identifies inputs in the policy process, such as global pressures, labor needs, and political considerations. Then, through a conversion process, the government processes these inputs into concrete policies, including regulations regarding the acceptance and use of foreign workers. The output of this process is policy implementation, which is reflected in official decisions and practical steps taken by the government. In addition, this article also highlights the feedback mechanism that leads to policy evaluation and adjustment to accommodate changing external and internal conditions. By analyzing this process through the lens of David Easton's Systems Theory, this article provides a more in-depth understanding of the dynamics of foreign labor policymaking in Indonesia and its relevance in the context of the current global political and economic system.

Keywords: System Theory, Foreign, Indonesia

BACKGROUND

The policy on the use of foreign workers is one of the issues that has increasingly become the focus of attention in the context of economic and social development of a country like Indonesia. In this era of globalization, cross-border labor mobility is becoming increasingly significant, with various implications for labor market, economic, and social dynamics. In Indonesia, policies related to the use of foreign workers not only reflect the need for specific human resources, but also involve complex political, security, and legal considerations. In this context, David Easton's Systems Theory can provide a useful analytical framework to understand the policy-making process related to the use of foreign workers in Indonesia. This theory emphasizes the importance of viewing policy as the result of interactions between inputs, conversions, outputs, and feedback within a political system. By analyzing the policy-making process through the lens of systems theory, we can gain a more holistic understanding of the factors that influence policy-making, as well as its impact on the implementation and evaluation of such policies. This article aims to explore the application of David Easton's Systems Theory in the context of foreign labor policy-making in Indonesia. Through this approach, we can identify the key factors that influence policy-making, understand the process of converting inputs into policy outputs, as well as analyze the feedback mechanisms that influence future policy evaluation and adjustment. This article not only contributes to the theoretical understanding of the policy-making process, but also has practical relevance in the context of foreign labor policy development in Indonesia. It is hoped that the results of this study can provide valuable insights for relevant policymakers, researchers, and practitioners in an effort to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of foreign labor policies in Indonesia.

METHOD

The research method used is a qualitative approach that combines policy analysis with David Easton's Systems Theory framework. This approach allows researchers to thoroughly understand the factors that influence policy making, as well as the process of converting inputs into policy outputs. The data source used is library data.

DISCUSSION

According to David Easton, a political system is a system of interactions in any society in which binding assignments are made (Varma, 1992). David Easton sees political life as a system of interrelated activities. Activities find systemic connections or relationships by influencing how decisive decisions are formulated and implemented. Input from other components into the system is the energy for the system itself that makes the system work or run. David Easton describes four characteristics of the political system (Varma, 1992). The first is the nature of identification to distinguish political and social systems. The second is the existence of inputs and outputs in the political system. In order for a political system to always produce products, every political system requires continuous public participation. A political system cannot function without inputs and outputs, it will make us unable to identify the work of the political system. Indicators that show the quality of the political system are the quantity and quality of political system inputs and outputs. The third is the differentiation of a system, which means that in the practice of a significant political system where the same units perform the same activities at the same time. The last is the integration of the political system which means that there needs to be a division of the political system. The system must have mechanisms that integrate its members to cooperate to a minimal degree so that they can make binding decisions.

As in the making of policies on the use of foreign workers in Indonesia, there must have been an interaction of interrelated systems. Labor is the holder of the most important role in the implementation of national development. Labor or employees themselves are the actors and targets of development. The goal of national development set by law is to strengthen the entire Indonesian nation and all Indonesian people. One of the efforts to finance development in Indonesia is to attract foreign investment to Indonesia. The entry of foreign investment is usually accompanied by the entry of foreign workers into Indonesia.

The entry of foreign workers in Indonesia must be accompanied by thorough and comprehensive regulations. Such as the stipulation of Government Regulation of the Republic of Indonesia Number 34 of 2021 concerning the Use of Foreign Workers. This Government Regulation consists of ten chapters and the most prominent in the whole is Chapter I which explains the general provisions of foreign workers who are allowed to enter Indonesia and Chapter VI which discusses the reporting, guidance, and supervision of foreign workers entering Indonesia. In principle, the placement of foreign workers in Indonesia has been facilitated by Presidential Regulation No. 20/2018 on the Use of Foreign Workers. The Indonesian people were stabbed with Presidential Decree No. 20 Year 2018 on the Use of Foreign Workers. Labor issues are still a big problem for some Indonesians. In addition, knowing the fact that employment opportunities are still minimal, causing the lower middle class to prefer migrant workers. Meanwhile, the government must guarantee that its citizens will get decent work, as stipulated in the Constitution. Opening job opportunities for foreign workers in Indonesia is indeed a great irony considering that the unemployment rate is still very high.

A policy often or inevitably raises pros and cons in society because the interests of various parties must also vary. The government's move will be seen as a mistake because on

the other hand there are still many problems or problems about the socio-economy within Indonesia itself. The government that opens up jobs for foreign workers is also intended to attract foreign investors to finance Indonesia's national development. This policy will run well and in harmony if accompanied by strict supervision of regulations, prohibitions, obligations, or supervision of restrictions on the number of foreign workers in Indonesia. As stated by David Easton in his System Theory which says that there is an interaction of interests which includes Indonesia's desire to get national development costs and Investors who want to invest by including their citizens as labor in Indonesia.

CONCLUSION

The analysis identifies input factors in the policy-making process, such as global pressures, labor needs, and political considerations. Furthermore, the conversion process transforms these inputs into concrete policies, which are reflected in regulations regarding the acceptance and use of foreign labor. Through the application of David Easton's Systems Theory, this article also highlights the feedback mechanisms that influence future policy evaluation and adjustment. This provides a more comprehensive insight into how policymaking on the use of foreign labor in Indonesia is influenced by internal and external factors, as well as political and economic dynamics. In conclusion, this article contributes to the theoretical understanding of the policy-making process, while providing practical relevance in the context of foreign labor policy development in Indonesia. It is hoped that the results of this study will be useful for relevant policymakers, researchers, and practitioners in an effort to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of foreign labor policies in Indonesia.

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