

Media Framing Ahead of Re-Vote (PSU) West Sumatra Regional Representative Council 2024

Bingkai Media Menjelang Pemungutan Suara Ulang (PSU) Dewan Perwakilan Daerah Sumatera Barat 2024

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Abstract

In the electoral contestation process, the media does not only convey information, but also plays a role in shaping public opinion through framing an election event. This article analyzes how local online media frames the news ahead of the 2024 Re-Vote (PSU) of the Regional Representative Council of the Republic of Indonesia in West Sumatra in a very short span of time, namely 33 days from the Constitutional Court's decision on June 10, 2024 to the implementation of the election on July 13, 2024. This condition is a crucial issue because the availability of a short time has the potential to hinder the adequate flow of information to voters and affect voter participation. This study uses a qualitative method with Entman's framing analysis model, which includes 4 elements, define problems, diagnose cause, moral judgements, and treatment recommendation. Data was obtained from 68 local online media news (Harian Singgalang, Klikpositif.com, Laggam.id, and TopSumbar.co.id) and analyzed using NVivo 12 software to support the coding and visualization process. The results of the study show that the media tends to frame PSU as a technical-administrative problem with the main cause resulting from the Constitutional Court's decision and implementation challenges in a very short span of time. Moral judgments are more directed at appreciation of election organizers, while framing representations of voter votes tend to be minimal. The solutions offered by the media are normative, such as the appeal to participate and massive socialization. The dominant framing of procedural aspects shows a lack of emphasis on the substance of democracy, and can contribute to low voter participation.

Keywords

Media Framing; Democracy; re-voting; Regional Representative Councils; Voter Participation.

Abstrak

Dalam proses kontestasi elektoral, media bukan hanya sekedar menyampaikan informasi, tetapi juga berperan membentuk opini publik melalui framing suatu peristiwa kepemiluan. Artikel ini menganalisis bagaimana media online lokal membingkai pemberitaan menjelang Pemungutan Suara Ulang (PSU) Dewan Perwakilan Daerah RI Sumatera Barat tahun 2024 dalam rentang waktu yang sangat singkat, yaitu 33 hari sejak putusan Mahkamah Konstitusi pada 10 Juni 2024 hingga pelaksanaan pemilihan pada 13 Juli 2024. Kondisi ini menjadi isu krusial karena ketersediaan waktu yang singkat berpotensi menghambat aliran informasi yang memadai kepada pemilih dan berpengaruh terhadap partisipasi pemilih. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif dengan model analisis framing Entman, yang mencakup 4 elemen, define problems, diagnose cause, moral judgements, dan treatment recommendation. Data diperoleh dari 68 berita media online lokal (Harian Singgalang, Klikpositif.com, Laggam.id, dan TopSumbar.co.id) dan dianalisis menggunakan perangkat lunak NVivo 12 untuk mendukung proses coding dan visualisasi. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa media cenderung membingkai PSU sebagai persoalan teknis-administratif dengan penyebab utama akibat dari putusan Mahkamah Konstitusi dan tantangan pelaksanaan dalam rentang waktu yang sangat singkat. Moral judgements lebih banyak diarahkan pada apresiasi terhadap penyelenggara pemilihan, sementara representasi pembingkai terhadap suara pemilih cenderung lebih minim. Solusi yang ditawarkan oleh media bersifat normatif, seperti imbauan untuk ikut berpartisipasi dan sosialisasi yang masif. Pembingkai yang dominan pada aspek prosedural memperlihatkan minimnya penekanan terhadap substansi demokrasi, dan bisa berkontribusi terhadap rendahnya partisipasi pemilih.

Kata Kunci

Bingkai Media; Demorasi; Pemungutan Suara Ulang; Dewan Perwakilan Daerah; Partisipasi Pemilih.



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1. Introduction

Public participation in political decision-making requires the role of the media as the fourth pillar of democracy, the media is not only a channel for information, but also a tool that shapes public opinion. The mass media is the main intermediary in modern democracy, shaping public information and influencing political attitudes by filtering and framing political events (Newton & Van Deth, 2005; Syauket et al., 2024). News from the media can also spread quickly and reach a wide audience. In this context, the media is not only a bridge for information distribution, but also acts as a key actor to determine which issues deserve emphasis and how they are presented (Paramitha & Fahadayna, 2024).

In the dynamics of Indonesian politics, the role of the media is crucial in ensuring that the public receives relevant information in a timely manner. The internet has accelerated the flow of information and expanded its reach, making its development an essential component of democratic practice (Noorikhshan et al., 2023). Within the electoral context, mass media, especially online platforms, functions as a key channel for rapidly disseminating information to a wide audience (Syauket et al., 2024). The role of digital media today is no longer limited to merely conveying information; it has evolved to influence participation, mobilization, and even political polarization within the digital public sphere (Solakhudin & Al-Hamid, 2024). The function of the media in framing information directly influences public perception and political behavior, particularly during critical political moments such as the implementation of Repeat Voting (*Pemungutan Suara Ulang/PSU*). News coverage containing electoral or political content tends to attract significant attention, as it has a direct impact on people's lives (Marwantika & Nurwahyuni, 2021). The way media frames a political event can encourage voter participation; conversely, it may also generate apathy if it fails to convey urgency and clarity effectively. The presentation of information by mass media is not entirely neutral, as it is shaped by various internal factors such as editorial values, as well as external influences including political pressures and economic interests (Ahmad, 2018).

The urgency of the role of online media in conveying and framing information becomes particularly significant in the context of the 2024 re-voting for the Regional Representative Council in West Sumatra, where online media played a part in influencing voter participation due to the high level of internet usage (Arpandi, 2023), this issue presents a compelling subject of inquiry, particularly due to the notably short time span between the decision to conduct the repeat voting and the actual polling day, only 33 days. Such a limited time frame raises critical questions about how online media framed information regarding the repeat voting. The way online media frames this issue may significantly influence voter participation, one of the key characteristics of a democratic state, which is marked, among other things, by active public involvement in political processes (Suryanto, 2018), empirical data show that voter turnout during the repeat election for the Regional Representative Council in West Sumatra reached only 36%, reflecting a relatively low level of electoral participation (TVRI Sumatera Barat, 2024). The success of repeat voting is contingent upon the comprehensive readiness of the electoral commission, including effective risk management and strategic resource allocation to ensure smooth execution (Hasanuddin et al., 2021).

The repeat voting for the election of Regional Representative Council (DPD) members in West Sumatra originated from a legal challenge filed by Irman Gusman, one of the DPD candidates who was excluded from the Final Candidate List (*Daftar Calon Tetap/DCT*). This challenge was based on the instruction from the General Elections Commission of the Republic of Indonesia (KPU RI) to the Provincial KPU to use Supreme Court Decision No. 28 of 2023 as a reference in the preparation of the DCT. (Antaranews, 2023; Putusan Mahkamah Agung (MA) Nomor 28 Tahun

2023, n.d.). In its implementation, the General Elections Commission (KPU) followed up on the decision by issuing the Permanent Candidate List (DCT) for DPD members in the 2024 General Election ([Keputusan Nomor 1563 Tahun 2023 Tentang Daftar Calon Tetap Anggota Dewan Perwakilan Daerah Dalam Pemilihan Umum Tahun 2024, n.d.](#)), subsequently, the decision became the subject of a dispute brought before the Constitutional Court, which ruled to annul the KPU's decision regarding the determination of the Final Candidate List (DCT) and the results of the DPD election in West Sumatra. As a consequence, a repeat voting (PSU) was mandated to be conducted no later than 45 days from the date of the ruling. ([Putusan Mahkamah Konstitusi Nomor 03-03/PHPU.DPD-XXII/2024, n.d.](#)). The results of the 2024 repeat election (PSU) for Regional Representative Council (DPD) members in West Sumatra are presented in the table below:

Table 1. Re-Voting recapitulation of the West Sumatra Regional Representative Council 2024

No	Regency/City	Number of Voting Rights Users
1	Agam Regency	133.263
2	Dharmasraya Regency	59.578
3	Mentawai Islands Regency	30.012
4	50 Kota Regency	120.830
5	Padang Pariaman Regency	116.919
6	Pasaman Regency	83.796
7	West Pasaman Regency	106.703
8	South Coast Regency	145.496
9	Sijunjung Regency	64.918
10	Solok Regency	107.770
11	Solok Selatan Regency	42.695
12	Tanah Datar Regency	106.513
13	Bukittinggi City	24.311
14	Padang City	207.555
15	Padang Panjang City	15.053
16	Pariaman City	29.794
17	Payakumbuh City	32.399
18	Sawahlunto City	16.790
19	Solok City	16.663

Source: General Election Commission (KPU). 2024

Media consistently holds a significant role in influencing political behavior and fostering increased public participation ([Barokah et al., 2022](#)), low voter turnout may indicate public dissatisfaction with the political process or a lack of adequate information regarding the significance of the repeat election. Through mass media, electronic media, and particularly online media, the public gains access to information that influences their engagement in the political process ([Hasanuddin et al., 2021](#)). Media involvement in presenting certain issues is not only related to the quantity of information delivered but also to the particular emphasis with which that information is framed. The process of news reporting is inherently shaped by the subjectivity of the journalist or news producer ([Ridho, 2019](#)), therefore, this study examines how online media framed the 2024 re-voting for the Regional Representative Council in West Sumatra using Entman's framing approach. The analysis covers four key elements: problem definition, diagnose causes, moral

judgement, and treatment recommendation. In addition, the study also analyzes the dominant actors represented in the news coverage, thereby providing a more comprehensive overview (Efriyanto, 2005).

This research is important, considering the lack of studies that specifically discuss the media frame in the context of the re-voting of the Regional Representative Council (DPD) in Indonesia, especially in West Sumatra. Previous studies have focused more on framing the media in electoral contests for regional heads or presidential elections, for example finding that online media CNNIndonesia.com and Kompas.com actively shape the political image of presidential candidates. Most studies that use Entman's framing theory tend to focus on national dynamics and national media as the main object (Wardani et al., 2023), such as Nurhajati & Wijayanto (2021) highlighting the framing of money politics issues in the 2018 Regional Elections by large online media at the national level. The focus of this study is on the framing of local media on the West Sumatra Regional Representative Council (DPD) Re-Vote to fill the study void that often goes unnoticed. The results of this study can also be input for election organizers, mass media, especially online media, and the public in the process of building procedural democracy through voter participation. In the end, this study confirms that the quality of democracy is not only determined by legal and fair electoral procedures, but also greatly influenced by the political communication that overshadows it, especially through the role of online news media.

2. Methods

This study uses a qualitative approach with a framing analysis method. A qualitative approach was chosen to gain an in-depth understanding of the framing of online media on the news of the 2024 West Sumatra DPD Re-Voting (PSU). Qualitative research itself is research that intends to understand the phenomenon of what is experienced by research subjects holistically (Moleong, 2018). Framing analysis is an approach used to understand how the media shapes information and organizes certain discourses, not only conveying factual things, but also building social realities that highlight certain aspects. The analytical framework used refers to the Entman framing model, which consists of 4 main elements: defining problems, diagnosing causes, moral judgments, and treatment recommendations (Efriyanto, 2005).

In this study, framing analysis was used to explore how local media in West Sumatra framed the issue of the West Sumatera Regional Representative Council (DPD) 2024 Re-Vote (PSU). Using Entman's framing framework, this study identifies how the media determines the main problems of PSU, why it happens, how the media morally assesses actors and events, and what solutions are offered that are featured in the news. Framing analysis plays a key role in understanding the dynamics of local political communication, especially in critical electoral conditions.

The source of the research data is in the form of online media news obtained from four local online media that were selected purposively, namely: Harian Singgalang, Klikpositif.com, Langgam.id, and TopSumbar.co.id. These four media were chosen with consideration of credibility, local readership reach, and consistency in reporting on the West Sumatra Regional Representative Council (DPD) Re-Vote (PSU) in 2024. Data collection was carried out using an internal search feature on each news site with the keywords "PSU" or "Pemungutan Suara Ulang DPD" in the time range of news publication between June 10, 2024 and July 13, 2024, namely from the Constitutional Court's decision ordering the PSU until election day.

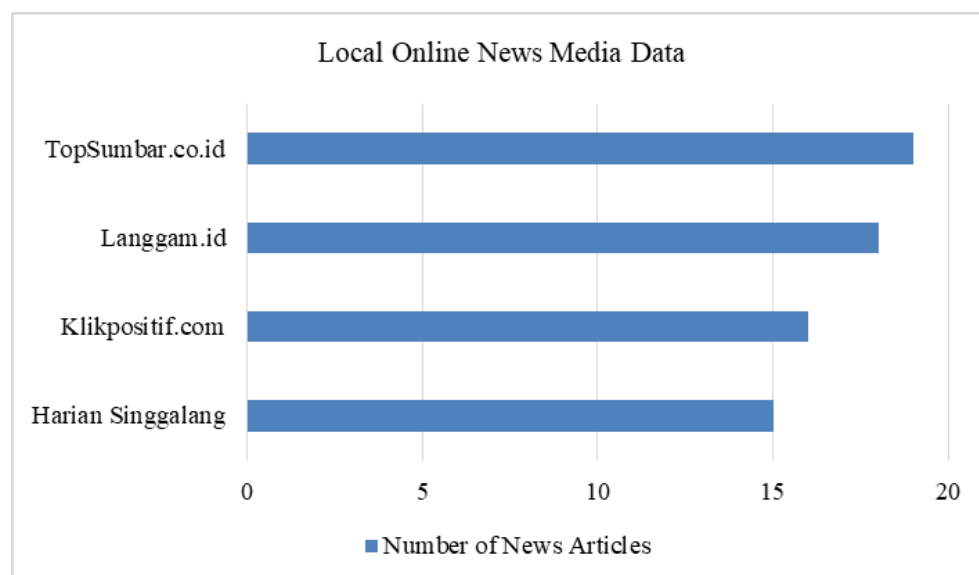


Figure 1. Number of News Articles Related to PSU DPD West Sumatra 2024

Source: Data Processed by Authors, 2025

Overall, the number of news collected was 68 news articles with the following distribution: Harian Singgalang (15 news), Klikpositif.com (16 news), Langgam.id (18 news), and TopSumbar.co.id (19 news). Data analysis is carried out through the stages of data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion drawing to support the analysis process (Miles et al., 2013), this study uses NVivo 12 software tools in processing and visualizing data. All news data is imported into the NVivo 12 software, then a categorization process is carried out based on Entman's framing theory.

After the coding process is carried out, the data is then visually explored using hierarchy charts, sunburst charts and wordcloud. The visualization processed with NVivo 12 helps illustrate the intensity and relationship of the news and clarifies the narrative built by the media ahead of the 2024 West Sumatra Regional Representative Council Re-Vote (PSU). The interpretation of the coding results was then analyzed narratively by comparing the emergence of certain themes, the frequency of mentions of actors, moral values and recommendations inserted in the news packaging, so that the interpretation was obtained based on empirical trends in the news text. The findings of the analysis are organized into four sections based on the Entman framework supported by the visualization of the coding results.

3. Results and Discussion

Framing has two main essences, first, how an event is conceptualized by the media, and second, how the media presents it (Wardani et al., 2023). In simple terms, framing is used to understand how events, groups, and actors are framing by the media (Aisyah & Suratnoaji, 2025). To explain the framing employed by local online media in West Sumatra regarding the West Sumatra Regional Representative Council Re-Vote (PSU) 2024, this study applies Entman's framework, which consists of four elements: problem definition, diagnosis of causes, moral judgement, and treatment recommendation (Efriyanto, 2005; Entman, 1993).

3.1. Problem Definition

In the framing of online media coverage regarding the 2024 re-voting for the Regional Representative Council in West Sumatra, problem definition aspect emerges as the most prominent and strategic. This is because media tend to emphasize particular issues, and a clear tendency is observed in how most outlets define the core problems surrounding the PSU. These include the technical and

administrative preparations by the General Elections Commission (KPU), the challenges arising from the extremely limited timeframe, and the absence of a formal campaign period, all of which are correlated with concerns over potentially declining voter turnout.

Stakeholders such as the General Elections Commission (KPU) and regional leaders framed the issue as an institutional challenge requiring swift resolution in line with the Constitutional Court's deadline, highlighting the need for cross-sector collaboration and electoral preparedness. Most media outlets framed the repeat voting as a legal consequence of the Constitutional Court's binding and final decision, often reported through normative narratives. In this context, the emphasis lies not only on the legality of the decision itself, but also on how its implementation could be effectively carried out within the 45 day window set by the Court. Consistently, media coverage presents the re-voting as a constitutional mechanism to restore electoral justice, particularly for Irman Gusman, a previously disqualified candidate. This suggests that the primary issue is framed as the need to uphold procedural and constitutional fairness.

From an institutional perspective, media reports also highlight the readiness of General Elections Commission (KPU) and its supporting bodies as a central challenge covering logistical preparedness, voter data updates, recruitment of ad hoc officers, and the assurance of technical procedures at all polling stations. In a report quoting Guspardi Gaus, a member of Commission II of the House of Representatives, for instance, it was stressed that General Elections Commission (KPU) must "act swiftly" to anticipate any technical issues that could hinder the re-voting process (Tanjung, 2024a). Accordingly, the problem is defined as a threat to the credibility of the re-voting if logistical and technical aspects are not addressed properly and in a timely manner.

Problem definition also includes concerns about declining voter turnout due to insufficient public outreach and the absence of a campaign period. In news reports from the West Sumatra Provincial Government and several local leaders, such as Governor Mahyeldi and Solok Mayor Zul Elfian, it was emphasized that one of the key issues is the lack of public awareness regarding the re-voting, which could affect the legitimacy of the election outcome (Syafriadi, 2024; Tanjung, 2024c). As a result, some media highlighted the need for intensive public outreach efforts by the General Elections Commission (KPU), community leaders, and all levels of government from district to village level, including the use of billboards and local media. Extensive media framing directly influences public opinion, as the repeat voting serves as a re-legitimation process determining West Sumatra's political representation in the Regional Representative Council. Voter perceptions of the importance of participation, the transparency of the process, and the quality of media information are likely key factors shaping their decision to vote or abstain.

The results of the coding analysis in NVivo under the "problem definition" node support these findings. The hierarchy chart generated from all news sources indicates that problem definitions were concentrated around three major themes: the technical preparations for the re-voting, the organizational challenges faced by election officials, and the potential for low voter participation.

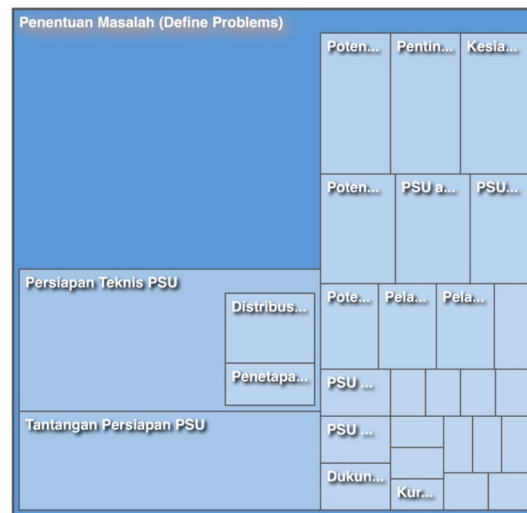


Figure 2. Hierarchy Chart Visualization (Define Problems)

Source: Processed by Authors, using Nvivo 12, 2025

Theoretically, this finding aligns with Entman's argument that problem definition is a critical component of framing, as it sets the direction of the narrative within news coverage (Efriyanto, 2005). In this context, the media placed significant emphasis on the preparedness of the General Elections Commission (KPU) as the technical organizer. To a lesser extent, several news articles also included narratives expressing concerns over potential violations of voting rights and the possibility of renewed legal challenges should the re-voting process not be properly implemented. Thus, it can be said that the media functions not only as a conveyor of information but also as a public opinion-shaping actor, framing the PSU as a multidimensional issue. This aspect of problem definition plays a critical role in shaping public perception regarding the process and outcome of the 2024 DPD re-election in West Sumatra.

3.2. Diagnose Causes

Interpretation of causes in the media framing aims to explain the reasons behind the situation that necessitated the 2024 re-voting for the Regional Representative Council in West Sumatra. Based on content analysis of all news articles coded in NVivo, it was found that the causes highlighted by the media primarily revolve around several dominant factors, including the Constitutional Court's decision as the formal trigger for the re-voting and administrative errors by the General Elections Commission (KPU), which constituted malpractice leading to electoral violations (Saputra et al., 2025), as a result, Irman Gusman was excluded as a candidate in the Representative Council election, prompting a legal challenge filed with the Constitutional Court. Beyond formal causes, further analysis indicates that other electoral political factors such as the absence of a campaign period and voter fatigue following the general election also contributed to the declining turnout ahead of the repeat voting, while relevant, these issues did not emerge as dominant frames in media coverage.

The majority of media outlets reported that Constitutional Court Decision No. 03-03/PHPU.DPD-XXII/2024 was the formal cause of the re-vote. This was explicitly stated through quotations from government officials, election organizers, and political elites. For instance, a circular letter issued by the Governor of West Sumatra clearly stated that the PSU was mandated by the Constitutional Court and, as a constitutional body, its decisions are final and binding (Redaksi, 2024b). The implementation of the re-voting was also emphasized by the Chief Justice of the Constitutional Court, Suhartoyo, who declared that the petitioner's request (Irman

Gusman) was fully granted. Consequently, the vote count for the DPD candidates in West Sumatra must be re-conducted (Redaksi, 2024a).

In general, the media framed the cause of the re-voting in a normative manner as a consequence of upholding legal supremacy and fulfilling the political rights of a candidate whose rights had not been accommodated. In the NVivo visualization, this interpretation of causes can be seen through a hierarchy chart (sunburst) that illustrates the intensity of framing related to the causes behind the implementation of the PSU.

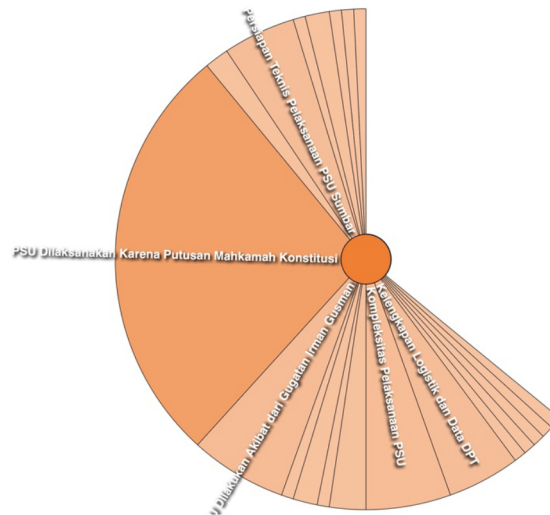


Figure 3. Hierarchy Chart Visualization-Sunburst (Diagnose Cause)

Source: Processed by Authors, using Nvivo 12, 2025

This framing reflects the media's efforts to balance two narratives between, the enforcement of election laws due to constitutional violations, especially related to the exclusion of one of the candidates from the list of permanent candidates with a narrative that maintains the credibility of the election organizing institution that is committed to carrying out the decision procedurally. Re-voting is described as a form of legal accountability, while on the other hand, the KPU is framed as a rule-abiding institution despite the controversial previous decision.

3.3. Moral Judgment

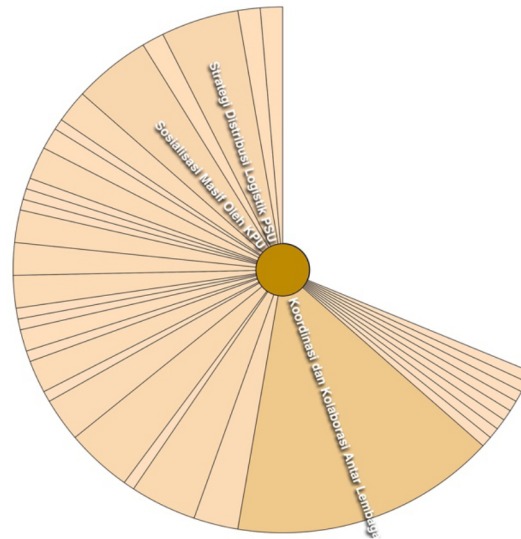
Moral judgement, refers to the way the media presents the values, norms, or ethical principles that accompany the events that are reported. This element does not only judge right or wrong, but rather shows the moral standards used to judge events and actors in them. Based on the analysis, it was found that the media developed various forms moral judgment which leads to several dominant things, including the professionalism and neutrality of the General Election Commission (KPU) as the organizer. The General Election Commission (KPU) has responsibility for the readiness of the re-vote implementation, ensuring procedurally appropriate implementation. Furthermore, the importance of the involvement of all parties to make the re-vote a success and the importance of voter participation so that the legitimacy of the re-vote remains high.

The media provides a large portion in presenting the General Election Commission (KPU) as an institution that carries out the mandate of the constitution and the decisions of the Constitutional Court (MK) in an orderly and responsible manner. This is reflected in the narrative that highlights the KPU's technical readiness, logistics distribution process, and appeals to voters to continue to participate in giving their voting rights in re-vote. The moral values raised in the news also emphasize the importance of active involvement of all stakeholders,

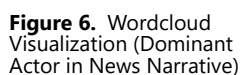
Evaluasi Moral (Moral Judgement)	Menyeksikan PSU a...	Pentingnya Partil...	Pangawas...		
	PSU Harus Tetap...	Pang...	PSU ...	Kinar...	Kesla...
Profesionalitas & Netralitas KPU	Menjalankan PS...	Pelibatan ...	Dokum...	Dokum...	
		PSU Men...	Pendin...		Ka...
Pentingnya Keterlibatan Semua Elemen Masyar...	PSU Bagian Pant...	Masyarakat...	Pending...		
		Komitmen...	PSU Te...	Kanid...	
			PSU A...	KPU ...	

Visualization hierarchy chart showing that the dominant theme produced is the professionalism and neutrality of the General Election Commission (KPU), this shows that the media consistently assesses the KPU as the main actor in the implementation of the PSU that must maintain its integrity and neutrality. Node This was followed by the theme of the importance of the involvement of all elements of the participation community which illustrated the moral call from the media, government, and community leaders for citizens to participate actively in the re-voting. These findings reinforce the narrative that the responsibility of PSU is not only the responsibility of the organizers, but more broadly also expects participation from residents.

Treatment recommendation element in framing analysis refers to the solutions or strategies proposed in media coverage to address the issues being highlighted. In the context of the 2024 re-voting for the Regional Representative Council in West Sumatra, local online media consistently presented recommendations focused on the importance of cross institutional coordination, active support from local governments, and technical strategies from the General Elections Commission (KPU) as the electoral management body. These recommendations are clearly reflected in the concrete steps reported by the media and form a dominant narrative in the media framing, as illustrated in the following visualization:



In media framing studies based on Entman's approach, the presence of actors within news texts plays a crucial role in shaping public perception. Who is given media exposure and how they are quoted reflects the direction of media alignment. The most dominant actor across nearly all coverage was the General Elections Commission (KPU), both at the national (KPU RI) and regional (provincial and locals) levels. The KPU's presence was particularly prominent in narratives related to the technical execution of the repeat voting, including logistics distribution, polling station preparation, voter data verification, and implementation of the Constitutional Court's decision. Local General Elections Commission (KPU) chairpersons from regions such as Padang, Solok, West Pasaman, and Lima Puluh Kota were frequently quoted in contexts involving the verification of logistical readiness, supervision of ballot distribution, technical training (bimtek) for polling officers (KPPS), and preparation of electoral infrastructure. At the national level, KPU RI was also cited regarding the implementation of the Constitutional Court's mandate and the establishment of new electoral stages for the PSU. The role of the KPU as the implementing body of the PSU conveys the impression that the credibility and success of the PSU heavily depend on the institution's professionalism and technical precision.



The wordcloud visualization in NVivo illustrates the high frequency of references to the General Elections Commission (KPU) within the "main actors in news coverage" node, showing dominance across nearly all analyzed articles. The second most prominent actor, albeit more implicitly, is the Constitutional Court (MK). Although mentioned less frequently than the KPU, the MK holds a significant position as the origin of the repeat election (PSU). The MK ruling No. 03-03/PHPU. DPD-XXII/2024 served as the main legal basis for the news coverage and was frequently cited to explain the necessity of the PSU. The decision mandating a repeat vote and reinstating Irman Gusman as a candidate was framed positively by several media outlets and local governments.

Local government officials such as the Governor of West Sumatra, Mahyeldi, Solok Mayor Zul Elfian, and other regional apparatuses featured prominently in the coverage. They were portrayed as key figures in driving administrative support, ensuring election security, and encouraging voter participation. Governor Mahyeldi, for instance, emerged as a central actor through the issuance of a Circular Letter (Surat Edaran) urging the public to vote frequently quoted in the media as a formal measure to boost turnout. The Mayor of Solok added participatory strategies such as

mosque based outreach and prize incentives for active voters, reflecting local creativity and commitment.

The inclusion of regional government actors signifies an expansion of PSU responsibility beyond the technical organizers (KPU) to a broader distribution of roles among various governance elements. The media also highlighted the roles of institutions such as the National Police (Polri), Military (TNI), Satpol PP, Kejaksaan, and the Regional Leadership Communication Forum (Forkopimda) as essential to maintaining neutrality and security during the re-voting. News reports depicted these security forces as guarding logistical distribution, securing polling stations, and ensuring the repeat voting process proceeded in an orderly and peaceful manner. Although Representative Council candidate Irman Gusman was the central figure behind the PSU, his presence was not always dominant in the coverage. However, compared to his fellow candidates, his media exposure was significantly greater, primarily due to his Constitutional Court lawsuit concerning his exclusion from the official list of legislative candidates by the General Elections Commission (KPU).

4. Conclusion

Based on the analysis of 68 local online media articles using Entman's framing framework, it can be concluded that the media played a strategic role in shaping public perception of the lead-up to the 2024 re-voting for the West Sumatra Regional Representative Council. The main emphasis was on the element of problem definition, where media consistently framed the PSU as a technical and administrative issue, particularly concerning logistical preparedness, time constraints, and the potential for low voter turnout. This focus reflects the media's choice to highlight the operational aspects of the repeat election process, rather than substantive issues such as political representation or the quality of electoral democracy.

In the element of diagnose causes, the media framed the cause of the re-voting by underscoring that it was a consequence of a binding and final decision by the Constitutional Court. The administrative violation by the General Elections Commission in excluding Irman Gusman from the official list of candidates was identified as the primary reason behind the PSU. However, the media did not involve on the legal controversy but rather centered its narrative on how the process could proceed in an orderly manner in accordance with the Constitutional Court's ruling.

Regarding moral judgement, the media placed significant emphasis on the professionalism and neutrality of the KPU as the technical organizer. The prevailing narrative positioned the General Elections Commission (KPU) as an institution fulfilling its responsibilities procedurally and in accordance with the law. Media coverage also emphasized community involvement as an indicator of the re-vote's success, suggesting that active public participation is a form of moral responsibility in a democratic society. This evaluation illustrates that media framing conveyed specific moral standards directed at both institutions and the public.

In terms of treatment recommendation, the media presented solutions centered on inter-agency coordination, full support from provincial and local governments, and the KPU's operational strategies, including public outreach, logistics distribution, and polling officer training. This framing of solutions highlighted the importance of efficient and collaborative electoral governance. Dominant actors in media coverage were formal institutions such as the General Elections Commission (KPU), the Constitutional Court, regional leaders, and security forces. Their presence in news texts shaped the public representation of re-voting implementation. Meanwhile, political actors or candidates such as Irman Gusman

appeared primarily as the trigger of the re-voting, following his successful legal challenge in the Constitutional Court.

Thus, the media framing of the 2024 Re-voting for the West Sumatra Representative Council demonstrated a strong orientation toward procedural compliance, institutional neutrality, and technical collaboration. However, it did not sufficiently address the substantive dimensions of democracy, such as political representation and the quality of citizen participation. These findings are critical as a point of reflection for strengthening the media's role in safeguarding an electoral democracy that is not only legal and legitimate, but also meaningful to citizens as part of a democratic society.

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