Character development of youth generation in facing global competition, Indonesia’s experience in the Jokowi era

Розвиток характеру молодого покоління перед глобальною конкуренцією, досвід Індонезії в епоху Джокові

1. Introduction

On June 15 2023, Indonesian President Joko Widodo launched the National Long-Term Development Plan (RPJPN) 2025–2045 as a national big agenda in order to realize the Vision of “Golden Indonesia 2045”. In this case, Indonesia aspires to become a country with a per capita income equivalent to that of developed countries to get out of the Middle-Income Trap (MIT). Indonesia has a fundamental capacity to use as capital to achieve this goal; this is not only related to the strategic location of Indonesia’s territory, which is very profitable in international trade; the influence of the seasons makes Indonesia an agricultural country and an abundance of natural resources with a wealth of reserves. Huge resources on a global scale are also bonus demographic opportunities that can be optimized.

In the future, Indonesia will be at the peak of the demographic bonus, with the lowest population dependency ratio and filled with many potential young people. In general, the next generation is filled by the younger generation known as Generation Z (Gen-Z) or born between 1995 and 2010 (Abram Brown, 2020) and those born after (Post Gen-Z). They grew up in the Industrial Revolution eras 3.0 and 4.0, with a very high level of technological literacy because they were already familiar with gadgets and social media; therefore, they are also called Generation. (Cathrine et al., 2017) or Generation Connected (Z.Kirchmayer & J.Fratričová, 2017; Krejčová & Tomášková, 2017; Z.Kirchmayer & J.Fratričová, 2017; Krejčová & Tomášková, 2017).
2014) because it is connected to cyberspace.

As part of the demographic bonus, the great potential of the young generation gives great hope for their contribution to building the nation toward golden Indonesia 2045 to achieve national goals. Youth in a generation bear various hopes, especially from generation other, so youth are expected to become generation-filling successors, and forward development relays sustainably (Mukhlis, 2007). However, this is also a challenge for Indonesia, so the potential opportunities for the younger generation as a nation-building modality can be realized. This problem is associated with the view that youth have dynamic, even passionate, and optimistic characters. Expected expectations are marking public. Public values can be developed by several parties, including business, government, and non-governmental groups. Various strengths in economics, politics, and society support them. The government is significant for the public man and on duty to promote inclusive development, demanding society arrangement and maintaining ambition together in an aligned way and orderly remembering diverse held opinions by member public (Wang et al., 2022).

Values strong public own control are emotionally stable, so it will be easy to accept change in the middle of social and cultural change (Taufik Abdullah, 1974). While the reality of the environment and the virtual world era has placed Indonesian young generation as if they live without boundaries, this can lead the younger generation to an increasingly strong attachment to functional integration on global scope, as well as to be faced with various ideologies or ideologies as well as the dynamics of issues in cyberspace. Strengthen perceptions related to intolerance, internal injustice of law enforcement, employment, power employment, health, education and others, thereby stretching the boundaries vertically and horizontally.

In this regard, the younger generation can be increasingly pressured from attachment to historical normative integration, which is based on a “feeling of shared destiny and shared responsibility” as a binder that unites every nation’s children and has formed the nation and state of Indonesia. They will be able to think that Indonesia is something that is ‘taken for granted’, which is reasonable or available to be owned so that there is no need to fight for and defend Indonesia anymore, thus forgetting the origins of the Indonesian nation, which was founded and built on a pile of bones, blood, and tears. Historically, the Indonesian nation was born or built by the founding warriors of the nation, not based on similarities in physical attributes such as religion, ethnicity, and race. The Indonesian nation has strong nationalism. Even in the academic world, there is much debate about the term nationalism (Meller, 2020). Indonesian nationalism was formed by a consensus based on the spirit of togetherness and the common will to be free from colonialism and imperialist forces to unite all the differences from various entities in the archipelago into one unified whole, becoming a state and unity Indonesian nation. The consensus agreed upon and achieved as the basis for the existence of the Indonesian nation-state requires continuous obedience.

2. Data and methods

The main problem of this study is that the younger generation is increasingly losing the character of nationalism, which is based on national values so that obedience is ignored or even denied; it will be the origin and beginning of tension, friction, friction and even conflict in the life of society, nation and state. Billy Graham (Sarbaini, 2016) revealed ed: “When wealth is lost, nothing is lost; when health is lost, something is lost; when character is lost, everything is lost”. In Billy Graham’s opinion, you can observe how important character is, where the character shows the existence of a nation.

Otto Bauer’s point of view (in Dartono et al., 2021), the unity of temperament or character that arises because of the unity of destiny is declared as nationalism, which can be interpreted as a common character, a manifestation of love, loyalty, and determination to unite as a nation. Ernest Renan also stated (in Abdul Halim, 2022) that nationalism is a strong sense of awareness based on the sacrifices that have been suffered together in history and on a willingness to endure such things.
in the future. Nationalism arises from a national consensus based on a profound sense of bond with the motherland, which was put forward by Hans Kohn (1955) as an understanding that holds that the highest individual loyalty must be left to the national state.

During the era of the struggle for independence, nationalism that grew from an attitude of love for the motherland based on historical similarities then merged into one to maintain loyalty to the nation and state, which became a unifying tool for the nation in order to win the independence of the Indonesian nation and state from colonialism. The formation of a nation based on nationalism fosters a sense of love for the motherland, which is manifested in the spirit of love for the motherland in fulfilling the survival of the nation and state and being willing to sacrifice to defend and defend the state and nation (Novitasari, 2013).

Michael S. Merry (2009) describes patriotism as the special bond one has to one’s homeland, which fosters deep psychological attachment and pride and can be manifested in many ways. Patriotism is attached to the military and past fighters but is necessary in the life of civil society. Individual enthusiasm and sentiment toward military strategy have had a generally positive but recently weak relationship with society (Feshbach, 1990). Ideals, whether secular or religious, which are the result of collective values supported by propaganda, are the fundamental driving force behind the spirit of defending the country (Shypovskyi, 2020). Therefore, it is hoped that the present and future generations of young Indonesians will have not only quality skills in dealing with the realities of life that are full of technological advances and modernization but also quality with a nationalist spirit in the form of full loyalty, which is directly perpetuated for the state and nation of Indonesia. as well as patriotic behavior by willingly sacrificing for the progress, glory, and prosperity of the nation.

Based on the description above, this study reveals the challenges and obstacles faced along with the accompanying global issues and the process of inculcating nationalism and nationalism in the younger generation as capital for nation-building.

This study uses a literature review approach with two stages. First, researchers develop questions to investigate the behavior of teenagers via social media. To understand problem development based on a complex picture and holistically formed in words, we report the detailed views of informants and background experiences conducted (Creswell, 2003).

The second step of collecting data related to answers to the problem formulation is carried out through a study of various references regarding the focus obtained through books, journals, and scientific and related documents in print and online. Data analysis techniques were carried out using the method for reviewing journals and articles that were discussed following the research. The data collection technique used is a literature study related to theoretical studies and other related references to values, culture, and norms that develop in social situations (Sugiyono, 2017). In this paper, the author tries to reveal the phenomenon of the younger generation as the capital of a developing nation.

3. Results and Discussion

3.1 Mentality of the Young Generation Impact of Globalization

The development of the strategic environment forces every nation and state, including Indonesia, to be prepared to face all kinds of risks, one of which is the risk originating from the social revolution and industrial revolution, which are full of technology and modernization – the globalization era. Globalization is the result of the birth of modernization, which is used to perform a series of revolutions in science, politics, economics, and technology (Nester, 2010).

Thus, globalization not only brings progress in the form of modernization in various fields, including political aspects, to social and economic problems related to democratization but also has an impact. Globalization makes the state (government) increasingly have no control over the flow
of information, ideas, cultural values, economic elements, and people that are fast, easy, and mostly unlimited, supported by technology that continues to develop more and more advanced. The impact among others is facilitating the exposure of various foreign values within the scope of the state, with facilities that are easier, cheaper, and more accessible, thus creating complex cultural and identity pressures in society, including among the younger generation.

Abdullah (1974) describes youth as individuals with dynamic, even turbulent, and optimistic characteristics but who have stable emotional control and are facing a period of social and cultural change. Meanwhile, today's young generation interacts much more broadly than the previous generation and has a wide and wide network with various paradoxes attached to it. This opens a window of risks that must be anticipated regarding the strategic role of the younger generation in implementing Indonesia's current and future national development.

Cultural and identity pressures will encourage them from among the younger generation to seek social affiliation and build a network of connections that can accept it, even across countries, cultures, and ideologies. The connection network that plays the most role today is the mass media, especially social media. Social media: Social media refers to online platforms where users can share content, interact, and connect with others. Social media has become a powerful tool for spreading news, influencing public opinion, and mobilizing social movements. Platforms like Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and TikTok have changed the media and communications landscape. The use of the mass media is very dependent on the government with many facilities; each government department takes part.

At the same time, political dynamics currently of globalization have presented the reality of power polarization in a uni-multipolar constellation that is increasingly complicated by the complexity of actors, both state and non-state actors, in the struggle for influence to pursue their global interests. This is proven, among others, by the phenomenon of global terrorism (Al-Qaeda, ISIS, etc.) with its ideological campaigns that promote radicalism in the global sphere. This connection among the younger generation in the search for a network of connections and social affiliation can be at risk of being exposed to radical messages to engage in radical group activities, which fills the void in the search for their identity. They experience radicalization, which refers to the view of Omar Ashour (2009) as a process of relative change in which a group undergoes ideological and behavioral transformations that lead to the rejection of democratic principles (including peaceful change of power and the legitimacy of ideological and political pluralism), and the possibility of using violence or increasing the level of violence to achieve political goals.

Their situation is the root of terrorism; like the approach of Fathali M. Moghaddam (2005) stated that feelings of dissatisfaction and perceived hardship (framed as perceived deficiencies) became the basis and fuel for stepping at the beginning of the road to terrorism. He conceptualizes terrorist acts as the last rung of a narrowing ladder, including five levels. In line with that, Silber and Bhatt (2007) stated that radicalization is the process of internalizing systems and extreme perspectives as the main key to gradual changes that direct individual daily behavior in involvement in terrorist activities, including the stages of pre-radicalization, self-identification, indoctrination, and jihadization.

The involvement of the younger generation in acts of terrorism in Indonesia has become a worrying phenomenon. The reality of this phenomenon can be seen from several incidents, such as the suicide bombing at the JW Marriott Hotel Jakarta on July 17, 2009, by a young man in his teens (Dani et al., 18 years old) who died in the incident. Furthermore, in the attack on the Cikokol Traffic Post, Tangerang, on October 20, 2016, a young teenager (Sultan Azianzah, 22 years) was shot dead by acting officers, as well as the stabbing which resulted in the death of an intelligence officer (Bripka Marhum Prencje) by a teenage perpetrator (Tendi Sumarno, 23 years) in the courtyard of the Brimob Intelligence Office Kelapa Dua, Depok, May 10, 2018, where shots fired by security forces in action killed the perpetrator.
Next was the suicide bombing carried out by a teenage perpetrator (Rabbi Muslim Nasution, 24 years old) who broke into the Medan Police Headquarters area on November 13, 2019, by killing himself. Then the suicide bombing at the Santa Maria Tak Blasphemy Catholic Church in Gubeng—Surabaya, on May 13, 2018, by the perpetrators of teenage brothers who rode motorbikes (Yusuf Fadil, 18 years old, and Firman Halim, 16 years old); until the suicide bombing in the Makassar Cathedral Churchyard, March 28, 2021, was carried out by a young couple (Lukman, 25 years old and his wife). This reality is a big challenge for the Indonesian nation in line with the dynamics of various changes during implementing national development related to the agenda towards Indonesia 2045. Referring to Eubank’s view (Gabriel Lele, 2005; William Eubank, 1998), countries that experience a transition toward democracy tend to experience turmoil and the emergence of radicalism in society.

3.2 Hopes and Opportunities of the Young Generation as Capital for Nation Development

According to Law Number 40 of 2009 concerning Youth, Article 1 paragraph (1) states that youth are Indonesian citizens who are entering a period of significant growth and development aged 16 (six-twelve) years to 30 (thirty) years. Friendly The definition of youth language is a person who is still young—either a boy or a girl who has reached a stage of maturity. Youth is a nation full of hope that requires heavier responsibilities to be born. All stakeholders put their hopes on the youth. Youth as the next generation of nation-building. Generation with superior abilities, smart, brave, optimistic, and tough to compete with other young generations of nations. This will be a good starting point in continuing the development of the Indonesian nation going forward. Youth have an important role in nation building. Youth is the hope and point of view of the lagging society so that it changes following the development of youth in every nation that has ideals, and youth is in the spotlight to become the ideals of successors with their own idealistic thoughts and skills in action.

As the next generation of nation-building, there are several roles that youth can play, as follows:

a. Agent of change, this can be realized with youth participation in supporting changes in the environment and society, both nationally and regionally. This is in a further direction it is good to come in the future. The successful generation is the young generation that creates progress, a nation that makes positive changes that can be made and overcomes all the challenges it faces.

b. The roles and responsibilities of development and youth institutions are responsible for launching and implementing the various types of development in various fields, both national and regional development.

c. Agent renewal, Indonesian youth must be able to analyze the change era to choose which ones need to be changed and which should be maintained.

In the military world, a well-known adage is popular: “Logistics will not win a war, but without war logistics, Nothing can win”, tight battle tempo. Logistics will push the troops. Move on and move forward to achieve victory; without adequate logistics troops will run out of attack time. Because in a vehicle battle, nothing can move forward, ammunition is limited, materials burn out, and lastly, troop morale is low; that is the meaning of the saying. In the context of national development toward the nation’s success. Nationalism is not quite the same as logistics. If logistics is an object form, nationalism is an object, not a form. Nationalism will not bring success to the nation; however, without nationalism, the success of the Nation No would have been possible.

Nationalism is the spirit, enthusiasm, glue, and burning intention of the nation’s children to try to work hard to build their nation. In context war, great, nationalism height is center gravity or center non-physical strength capable of multiplying the physical strength of a populated country.
Nationalism is a liquid entity that territorial boundaries cannot fence off. Nationalism flows anywhere to the ends of the earth as long as someone carries nationalism. No external factors are affected. A strong sense of nationalism will remain in the hearts of the nation’s children wherever they are. Some examples of nationalism that are possible to do are always using and supporting domestic products, maintaining national unity and integrity, being proud as Indonesian citizens, and maintaining the nation's good name.

Nationalism, no, regardless of how those principles are to be fulfilled, such as Unity, Freedom, Equality, Personality, and Performance. Unity or oneness is an absolute requirement in declaring nationalism a sine qua noncondition. There is a unifying feeling. No, it examines class, economic, social, or political differences. Furthermore, freedom includes independence. To put it forward, the equality of opinion divides each resident to develop their respective abilities. Personality (personality) is formed by experience, culture and history, nation, and achievement, in the sense of quality or achievement that is proud of by other nations. Introduce an image of positive importance implanted in the citizens and become the state brand for introduction to other countries (Shypovskiy, 2020).

If the nationalist state becomes fragile, it will be easily defeated. Center strength or center gravity is the wrong strategic goal that must first be done to destroy a nation as if it had lost its intention to war. This nationalism is something that a nation can do in times of peace, in ways that influence and rush through popular cultures tend to undermine the nation’s morals. The challenge comes against a sense of nationalism. This is getting bigger with globalization and the industrial revolution that is constricting the world. Globalization makes people free to move and interact with people from various parts of the world. The foreign product industry invaded Indonesia by manipulating images, which promoted to an attitude of worship of foreign brands. Thus, making Indonesian original products must have a self-image similar to foreign products so that the public can accept them.

3.3 Planting Plant mark nationalism and patriotism to the younger generation as the nation’s development capital

Some of the things that can be said as obstacles in the process of instilling national signs and love for the motherland in the younger generation as the nation’s development capital include the following:

- **3.3.1. Still, low awareness defends the country**

Bela Nagara is a firm citizen with an organized, integrated, and sustainable attitude and is active, based on love for the motherland and awareness of the nation and state of Indonesia. Belief will strengthen magical Pancasila as an ideology in every threat to and willing to sacrifice to eliminate every threat both from outside and within the country. Every inhabitant country is entitled and must follow business defend country and conditions about regulated defense with law. The awareness of defending the country is willingness to serve the country and sacrifice to defend the country.

National defense is not enough become not quite enough answer military (TNI) Police only; However, more is needed to answer all component nations, incl generation youth, as the nation’s development capital. As long as this is happening, defending the country is more interpreted as understanding the physical characteristics course, raising the impression that it defends the country. The same with “mandatory military”. Defense program country usually identical with parades, ceremonies, lectures or generation activities. In the field the impression that the defense program country means semi – military training or characteristic militaristic, so many young people are reluctant to follow as well as in the defense program country. Draft defend country Still needs to be fully understood by society, incl generation young moment this.

The defense program country is a response Ministry RI Defense in realizing the planned
mental revolution program by President Joko Widodo. Through this program, the expected public can give awareness and draft defend a country that consists of values, love of homeland, willingness to sacrifice, and belief in the ideology Pancasila. However, in practice, Stil’s conclusions are often considered too conceptual and difficult for the public to understand, so it is necessary to look for fresh ideas, innovation, and creativity in the New Order State Defense materials. Not impressed, militaristic, matrix, and not boring.

Educational programs and coaching awareness defense implemented country government are Not yet held optimally for the younger generation so many younger generations still need to be developed and related to awareness of defending the country. This can cause a lack of understanding among residents, especially the younger generation, to understand the importance of revitalization values and national defense awareness. On the other hand, Pancasila Moral Education (PMP) and Education History the National Struggle (PSPB) in the education curriculum at both the Elementary School (SD) and High School (SMA) levels can have implications for a decrease in the level of awareness of defending the country: homeland and a sense of pride as the nation of Indonesia.

Awareness of defending the country among generation young people in today’s era is still low; they lack care and responsibility in advancing the nation and state, there are still frequent conflicts between youth, and they still lack a sense of social solidarity but can sincerely accept differences. That exists, and the lack of attitudes toward the nation’s cultural values and attitudes of hedonic, pragmatic, and materialistic development and phenomenon other show Still low awareness of defending a trusted country will undermine national security.

3.3.2. Low nationalism and patriotism

The concept of nationalism and patriotism essentially refers to the awareness that something citizen country will attach importance to a single nation (nation-state). As time goes by, the sense of nationalism and patriotism fades. Generation Young No Again Know with Teak Self nation. Today’s Young Generation is generation “confused” with personal problems. This is evidenced by various attitudes in interpreting important things for the Indonesian Komodo dragon. A small example of how the waning sense of nationalism and patriotism is happening today, especially among the youth, is as follows:

a. A group of youth shows indifference or apathy toward the current situation and conditions.
b. The lack of youth awareness to put up a flag when commemorating holidays and mixing foreign languages into Indonesian to increase prestige.
c. More choose and wear foreign clothing products.
d. On commemorating national holidays, such as the Youth Pledge on August 17, it is only interpreted as a ceremony and entertainment without fostering a sense of nationalism and patriotism.
e. At the moment of the flag ceremony, the younger generation still needs to interpret the meaning of the ceremony diary.

The Young Generation is the nation’s successor; the nation will proceed with the attitude of youth with a high spirit of nationalism and patriotism. However, the development of the future era has led to the fading of the sense of nationalism and patriotism. Nationalism and patriotism are essential for life, nation, and state because respect and love only exist for the nation. On the basis that youth can do the best for their people, they can maintain the integrity and unity of the nation and increase the nation’s dignity before the world.

The decline in nationalism and patriotism can threaten and destroy a nation. Instilled to mark nationalism and patriotism in the younger generation as the nation’s development capital, where
the younger generation is given the mandate to perform the task of running and leading the Indonesian nation in the future, which is expected to have and develop potential as a dynamic, innovative generation for the benefit of the nation, it will eventually become someone who has the spirit of nationalism and patriotism.

It is natural to have pride in the nation and country and love for the homeland. That is the source of motivation and enthusiasm to encourage every citizen ready to fight and sacrifice to uphold the life of the nation and state in all aspects. The attitude of fighting and sacrificing to uphold the life of the nation and state has been demonstrated by the fighters for the Indonesian nation, both in seizing independence from the hands of the colonialists and defending independence. One thing that the younger generation can do now, as a form of nationalism and patriotism, is to use education and facilities that support the progress of the younger generation.

4. Conclusions

The government’s role becomes important in building the character nation as mark public. Desire together and become a brand country. The study from Indonesia’s experience, where the national agenda to achieve Golden Indonesia 2045 can be realized with the support of the nation’s young generation. Who has a national character in the framework of having strong nationalism and patriotism so that they are not easily divided and united? Contribute to the development of Indonesia. Without strong nationalism and patriotism of the younger generation, the country will be easily shaken by problems originating from within and outside, making it difficult to achieve national development goals.

Implementing defending the country among youth improved and actualized to grow nationalism and patriotism. Youth as the next generation of nation-building who can be superior, smart, brave, optimistic and tough to compete with other young generations.

Planting the values of nationalism and patriotism as a form of coaching generation necessary for youth improved through the defense program country. Generation Young was given a mandate to perform the task of conducting and leading the future that the Indonesian nation hopes to continue to have and develop its potential as a generation with desires and aspirations that lead to the future and as a dynamic, innovative generation. For the nation concerned will eventually become someone with a high spirit of nationalism and patriotism.

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6. Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

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