

## Significance of Comparing Electoral Systems: Indonesia and the United Kingdom

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### ABSTRACT

Elections are a mechanism that allows people to voice their choices. This process is used as a tool to exercise sovereignty in the country's system of representative democracy and to maintain government power in an orderly and peaceful manner by the mechanisms determined by the constitution or applicable laws. This paper will discuss the electoral systems in Indonesia and the United Kingdom (UK) and compare the two. Based on research into the law, it is known that Indonesia's electoral system uses a proportional system, which calculates the number of seats based on the number of voters in the electoral district. Countries with large populations will get more seats in representative bodies. Meanwhile, the UK uses a majoritarian system or District System, where each electoral district has only one seat with a simple majority calculation (simple majority: A>B>C>D, where A is the winner).

## Introduction

Elections are the bedrock of democracy, with legislative elections playing a pivotal role. In modern democracies, not all citizens are directly involved in governance.<sup>1</sup> Instead, they are represented by a small group of people who occupy the legislature and executive positions.<sup>2</sup> Legislative elections are of paramount importance due to their political-related functions, such as lawmaking, budgeting, and oversight, which are more intricate than the executive and have a more direct impact on society.<sup>3</sup> Therefore, elections should not just be ceremonial and formal events.<sup>4</sup> They must be a moment that truly embodies the elements of culture and

<sup>1</sup> Michael Maley, "Transplanting Election Regulation," *Election Law Journal: Rules, Politics, and Policy* 2, no. 4 (December 2003): 479–97, <https://doi.org/10.1089/153312903322483191>.

<sup>2</sup> Eugenia Brandao Da Silva et al., "A Model of Election Supervision Based on Village Judicial Institutions; A Review of Legal Anthropology in Madura," *Trunojoyo Law Review* 6, no. 1 (February 28, 2024): 96–119, <https://doi.org/10.21107/tlr.v6i1.23230>.

<sup>3</sup> Muhammad Zhafran Shobirin et al., "A Comparison of Presidential Threshold Systems in Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections in Indonesia and Brazil," *Journal of Indonesian Constitutional Law* 1, no. 1 (2024): 1–14, <https://doi.org/https://ejournal.pustakaparawali.com/index.php/jicl/article/view/7/1>.

<sup>4</sup> Ansori Ansori, Agung Ali Fahmi, and Mukhlis Mukhlis, "A Normative Review of The Simultaneous General Election and Regional Head Election Delay," *Trunojoyo Law Review* 4, no. 1 (August 8, 2022): 36–44, <https://doi.org/10.21107/tlr.v4i1.16340>.

ensures that the people's representatives in the legislature can effectively convey and carry out the aspirations of their constituents. To achieve this, careful thought is needed on the most suitable electoral system that allows the aspirations of citizens to be effectively absorbed.<sup>5</sup>

Essentially, an electoral system is a mechanism that converts votes obtained in an election into legislative seats. The choice of electoral system greatly influences who will be elected and which party will come to power.<sup>6</sup> What is interesting about electoral systems is that different systems can turn the same vote results into widely varying numbers of seats. Because of its significant impact, choosing the electoral system is as important as selecting the candidates. The chosen system may have unforeseen consequences or undermine democratic life in the country.<sup>7</sup>

Indonesia's legislative general election system has used an open proportional system from 2009 to 2019.<sup>8</sup> However, for the 2024 elections, there was a discourse to switch to a closed proportional system. Some groups even submitted a judicial review to the Constitutional Court regarding Law No. 7/2017 on Elections. In this judicial review, the applicants argued that Article 168 paragraph (2), Article 342 paragraph (2), Article 353 paragraph (1) letter b, Article 386 paragraph (2) letter b, Article 420 letters c and d, Article 422, Article 424 paragraph (2), and Article 426 paragraph (3) of Law No. 7/2017 are contrary to the 1945 Constitution. They argue that an open proportional system can trigger the practice of money politics and increase campaign costs, which has the potential to damage the integrity of elections and reduce the quality of democracy.<sup>9</sup>

Indonesia applies a proportional electoral system because it is seen as fairer in reflecting the diverse political views of the people. This system allows political parties to gain seats based on the percentage of votes they get in the election so that various opinions and interests can be represented in parliament.<sup>10</sup> The legal basis for the proportional electoral system in Indonesia is regulated in Law Number 7/2017 on

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<sup>5</sup> Eugenia Brandao Da Silva and Lin Asyiqoh, "The Idea of Legal Pluralism in Dispute Resolution of Village Head Election in Madura," *Journal of Indonesian Constitutional Law* 1, no. 1 (2024): 61–83, <https://doi.org/ejournal.pustakaparawali.com>.

<sup>6</sup> Dede Sri Kartini, "Demokrasi Dan Pengawas Pemilu," *Journal of Governance* 2, no. 2 (2017): 146–62, <https://doi.org/10.31506/jog.v2i2.2671>.

<sup>7</sup> Tom Gerald Daly, "Understanding Multi-Directional Democratic Decay: Lessons from the Rise of Bolsonaro in Brazil," *The Law & Ethics of Human Rights* 14, no. 2 (November 25, 2020): 199–226, <https://doi.org/10.1515/lehr-2020-2014>.

<sup>8</sup> Muwaffiq Jufri et al., "Standardisation of the Legislation as a Follow-Up to the Constitutional Court's Decision on Judicial Review of Omnibus Law," *Jurnal Konstitusi* 21, no. 3 (September 1, 2024): 366–91, <https://doi.org/10.31078/jk2132>.

<sup>9</sup> Yoes C Kenawas, "The Irony of Indonesia's Democracy: The Rise of Dynastic Politics in the Post-Suharto Era," *Asian Journal of Comparative Politics* 8, no. 3 (September 29, 2023): 748–64, <https://doi.org/10.1177/20578911231195970>.

<sup>10</sup> Muhammad Ali Farhan, "Application of Presidential Threshold In Indonesia And Comparison With Several Countries," *YURISDIKSI: Jurnal Wacana Hukum Dan Sains* 18, no. 1 (June 30, 2022): 56–67, <https://doi.org/10.55173/yurisdiksi.v18i1.124>.

Elections.<sup>11</sup> This law stipulates that general elections are conducted in a direct, general, free, secret, honest and fair manner and are run with the principle of proportionality. In addition, the Indonesian constitution also contains democratic principles that underlie the use of a proportional system in general elections.<sup>12</sup>

In the United Kingdom, the electoral system used is the district system. This system is also known as the majority system, single-member constituency, or plurality system. In general terms, the understanding of a district electoral system is "An electoral method in which the territory of a country holding an election to elect representatives to parliament is divided into electoral districts corresponding in number to the number of seats available in parliament (the seats contested in the election, hence the name district system).<sup>13</sup> Each district elects a single representative to parliament from among the candidates in the district (therefore, a single-member constituency), with the candidate who receives the majority of votes in the election winning the seat (hence, the majority electoral system).<sup>14</sup>

The legal basis for the district electoral system in the UK comes from legislation enacted by the Parliament of the United Kingdom. The single-member (First Past the Post) electoral system is governed by various legislation, including the Representation of the People Act 1983 and the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011.<sup>15</sup> These laws set out the procedures and principles for elections in each electoral district. This system is different from the proportional system implemented in Indonesia.

Previous research is an effort by researchers to find new comparisons and inspiration for future research. In addition, this study also helps researchers position their research and show its originality. In this section, researchers include various previous research results related to the research to be carried out and summarise the published and unpublished research. The following are previous studies that are relevant to the theme studied by the author.

Rendy Sueztra (2023) wrote a journal entitled "Comparison of the United States Presidential Election System with Indonesia". The journal presents an analysis of the electoral systems in the two countries. Although the focus is equally on the electoral system in Indonesia, this journal distinguishes itself by using a comparative approach

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<sup>11</sup> Mr Ardiansyah, "General Election In Indonesia," in *Proceedings of the International Conference on Democracy, Accountability and Governance (ICODAG 2017)* (Paris, France: Atlantis Press, 2017), 176–89, <https://doi.org/10.2991/icodag-17.2017.14>.

<sup>12</sup> Edward Aspinall, Sebastian Dettman, and Eve Warburton, "When Religion Trumps Ethnicity: A Regional Election Case Study from Indonesia," *South East Asia Research* 19, no. 1 (March 18, 2011): 27–58, <https://doi.org/10.5367/sear.2011.0034>.

<sup>13</sup> Damian Tambini, "Regulation of Election Communication," in *Handbook of Digital Politics* (Edward Elgar Publishing, 2023), 401–31, <https://doi.org/10.4337/9781800377585.00038>.

<sup>14</sup> Bob Watt, *UK Election Law* (Routledge-Cavendish, 2020), <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003059189>.

<sup>15</sup> M.S. Lewis-Beck, R. Nadeau, and E. Bélanger, "General Election Forecasts in the United Kingdom: A Political Economy Model," *Electoral Studies* 23, no. 2 (June 2004): 279–90, [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0261-3794\(02\)00071-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0261-3794(02)00071-9).

that includes aspects of legislation and case studies, in contrast to the case-only approach used in this research.

Syauiyid Alamsyah, Nurdin (2023) reviewed in his journal "Public Representative Institutions: Power Dynamics in the Context of Comparison of the Presidential and Parliamentary Systems in Indonesia and the UK". This research compares the implementation of the presidential system in Indonesia with the parliamentary system in the UK. Although the focus is similar to the previous study, this study emphasises the analysis of power dynamics in a comparative perspective of the two political systems. In contrast, the last research highlighted more aspects of differences in the electoral system between the two countries without delving deeply into power relations.

In an article by Dandi Herdiawan Syahputra in 2023 titled "Comparison of Constitutional Theory and Practice: Case Studies of Indonesia, the United Kingdom, and the United States", this research examines the evolution of constitutional theory and practice. While this article is similar to the journal's exploration of political systems, it focuses on analysing the correlation between theory and practice and presenting a more comprehensive analytical framework on political systems. On the other hand, this study limits itself to the electoral aspect.

## Methods

This research uses the normative juridical method, which involves analysing the legal rules in the literature and secondary documents obtained from reliable sources. It is descriptive and analytical, focusing on in-depth analysis of relevant legal materials.

## Discussion

### General Election System in Indonesia

An effective mechanism is needed to realise a democratic electoral process. The third amendment to the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia was implemented and ratified on November 10, 2001, as stated in Article 22E paragraph (1) of the NRI Constitution. Currently, in Indonesia, a proportional-based electoral system is used, which considers the ratio between the number of seats and the population/voters in each electoral district.<sup>16</sup>

According to Jimly Asshiddiqie, a proportional system is an election method in which parliamentary seats are distributed to political parties based on the proportion of votes they get.<sup>17</sup> This means regions with significant populations will get more

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<sup>16</sup> Mahesa Rannie, "Legal Regulations for The General Election System In Indonesia from The 1955 Election to The Concurrent Election of 2019," *Nurani: Jurnal Kajian Syari'ah Dan Masyarakat* 20, no. 2 (December 31, 2020): 247–64, <https://doi.org/10.19109/nurani.v20i2.6927>.

<sup>17</sup> Jimly Asshiddiqie, *Pengantar Ilmu Hukum Tata Negara* (Jakarta: Rajawali Pers, 2018), 213.

seats in the representative body. This system also converts votes into parliamentary seats, allows political parties to nominate multiple candidates in each constituency, and allows small parties to gain seats in the election.<sup>18</sup>

The proportional representation system was implemented in Indonesia after it was decided by the Constitutional Court in 2009. The implementation of this system resulted in different perceptions among Indonesians:<sup>19</sup>

- 1) The implementation of an open proportional system increases political costs significantly. The impact is that legislative candidates must face enormous campaign costs, increasing the risk of abuse of power to get a return on campaign investment. Candidates backed by corporations tend to be more concerned with the votes of the party than the votes of the people, creating a pattern of oligarchic power where power is concentrated in a handful of individuals or groups.
- 2) Implementing an open proportional system increases the propensity for money politics. This situation is triggered by Indonesia's low economic level, where people prioritise financial gain over the quality of democracy. Political parties tend to select candidates based on popularity, wealth, and political connections, ignoring the quality of candidates who may be low regarding financial resources and popularity. As a result, the democratic process in Indonesia tends to mimic more of a liberal democratic pattern that follows market demand.
- 3) The simultaneous implementation of an open proportional system has shifted people's focus to the presidential election. For example, in the 2024 election, the complexity of using five ballot papers caused the legislative election to be less popular and ignored by the public. This situation creates the impression that the election is only about Jokowi and Anies, while the legislative candidates should also receive the attention they deserve.
- 4) Implementing an open proportional system encourages highly competitive competition, where political party members compete intensively, even to the point of attacking each other, causing internal tensions that can disrupt party stability. Although the proportional system aims to increase democracy in elections, the reality shows that party management often tends to be authoritarian and centred on specific individuals rather than the expected democratic principles.

From this understanding, it is essential to re-evaluate the effectiveness of the open proportional electoral system.<sup>20</sup> In Indonesia, political parties should actively

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<sup>18</sup> Jimly Asshiddiqie, *Konstitusi Dan Konstitusionalisme Indonesia* (Jakarta: Sekretariat Jenderal dan Kepaniteraan Mahkamah Konstitusi Republik Indonesia, 2006), 111.

<sup>19</sup> Muhammad Syafei and Muhammad Rafi Darajati, "Design of General Election in Indonesia," *LAW REFORM* 16, no. 1 (March 27, 2020): 97–111, <https://doi.org/10.14710/lr.v16i1.30308>.

<sup>20</sup> Mei Susanto et al., "Should the Muslim President Become a Constitutional Convention in Indonesia? Based on Constitutional Debates about Islam and State, and the Constitutional Practice," *Cogent Social Sciences* 9, no. 1 (2023), <https://doi.org/10.1080/23311886.2023.2196815>.

provide political education to their cadres and communities.<sup>21</sup> Therefore, clear regulations for selecting legislative candidates with transparent and measurable due diligence are needed.<sup>22</sup> This aims to ensure that the running of the delegates is of good quality.

## Electoral System in the United Kingdom

The United Kingdom was formed as a unitary state in 1707, known as the United Kingdom. Its system of government was originally a monarchy in the 9th century, changing to a constitutional monarchy in the 17th century.<sup>23</sup> Unlike most countries, the UK does not have a written constitution but follows an unwritten one. The constitutional monarchy in the UK places the king or queen as a symbol of state sovereignty without political power. At the same time, the day-to-day government is run by the executive and led by the Prime Minister, who is directly elected through elections with a parliamentary system.<sup>24</sup>

A parliamentary system is a system of government in which parliament plays a significant role. Parliament has the power to appoint and dismiss the prime minister. The parliament is divided into the House of Commons and the House of Lords, which holds the legislative role. The UK is often called The Mother of Parliaments as it pioneered the parliamentary system. Through democratic processes and parliamentary procedures, the UK overcame social challenges and improved its welfare. The UK political system is also known for its robust two-party system, where power often shifts between the Conservative and Labor parties.<sup>25</sup>

The UK has a bi-partisan system with two main parties among several. In the context of elections, only two parties dominate: the ruling party and the opposition party (the losing party), which plays a role in criticising government policies and has the potential to switch positions. Conceptually, the process of electing legislators in the UK follows this bi-partisan system supported by a district electoral system.<sup>26</sup>

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<sup>21</sup> Sinta Devi Ambarwati, M. Roziq Saifulloh, and Stella M.S. Aritonang, "Rekonstruksi Sistem Presidential Threshold Dalam Sistem Pemilu Di Indonesia," *Jurnal Hukum Lex Generalis* 1, no. 5 (August 17, 2020): 80–95, <https://doi.org/10.56370/jhlg.v1i5.213>.

<sup>22</sup> Saifuddin Tahe, H. M. Yasin, and Alwi Jaya, "Peran Dan Fungsi Badan Pengawas Pemilihan Umum Dalam Penegakan Hukum Pemilu Tahun 2019 Menuju 2024," *Al-Isblab: Jurnal Ilmiah Hukum*, 2021, <https://doi.org/10.56087/aijih.v24i1.63>.

<sup>23</sup> Toby S. James, "'Modernising' Elections? Election Administration in the United Kingdom," in *Elite Statecraft and Election Administration* (London: Palgrave Macmillan UK, 2012), 125–68, [https://doi.org/10.1057/9781137035097\\_5](https://doi.org/10.1057/9781137035097_5).

<sup>24</sup> Heather Green, "The Quasi-Constitutional Right to Vote in the United Kingdom," *Election Law Journal: Rules, Politics, and Policy* 13, no. 4 (December 2014): 493–516, <https://doi.org/10.1089/elj.2013.0193>.

<sup>25</sup> Erin Crandall and Andrea Lawlor, "Third Party Election Spending in Canada and the United Kingdom: A Comparative Analysis," *Election Law Journal: Rules, Politics, and Policy* 13, no. 4 (December 2014): 476–92, <https://doi.org/10.1089/elj.2013.0227>.

<sup>26</sup> Katharine Dommett and Sam Power, "Monitoring Digital Election Campaigns: Assessing the Transparency Ecosystem in the United Kingdom," *Politics* 44, no. 1 (February 14, 2024): 119–39, <https://doi.org/10.1177/02633957231156084>.

A district electoral system is a method in which a country is divided into districts or electoral areas equal to the number of members to be elected in the legislature. For example, if the House of Representatives has 500 members, then the country will be divided into 500 districts or electoral areas.<sup>27</sup> Thus, each district or electoral area will represent one elected representative to sit in the House of Representatives (DPR).

The district system is an electoral method in which the country's territory is divided into electoral districts corresponding to the number of parliamentary seats available.<sup>28</sup> Each district elects one representative from candidates nominated by their respective political parties, hence the term Single-Member Constituency. The winner is determined based on the highest number of votes obtained in the district. The district election system has both advantages and disadvantages. One of the advantages:<sup>29</sup>

- a) The attachment between voters and their representatives is very close, so political parties carry less popular or less qualified candidates.
- b) This system encourages political parties to collaborate or even merge to support highly popular and quality candidates, given that only one candidate can be elected.
- c) This district system will naturally reduce the number of political parties.
- d) With this system, the implementation of elections becomes more straightforward and less complex.
- a. Based on this, the negative aspects of the district system are:
- e) There is the potential to lose two votes in this process.
- f) This system can prevent small political parties and minority groups from achieving parliamentary seats, making it difficult for them to gain political representation.
- g) There is a risk of opinion distortion at the first two levels.

The various electoral systems in the UK result in one party holding power or the winner in each constituency gaining one seat in parliament. At the same time, the losing candidate is not recognised.

## Advantages and Disadvantages of Proportional System

In Indonesia, the electoral system adopts a proportional approach. This model is divided into two variants: open and closed systems. Law No. 7/2017 on Elections

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<sup>27</sup> Richard Nadeau, Michael S. Lewis-Beck, and Éric Bélanger, "Election Forecasting in the United Kingdom: A Two-Step Model," *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties* 19, no. 3 (August 18, 2009): 333–58, <https://doi.org/10.1080/17457280903074276>.

<sup>28</sup> Caroline Morris, "Sofas and Fizzy Drinks: Critiquing Election Law in the United Kingdom," *Election Law Journal: Rules, Politics, and Policy* 6, no. 3 (August 2007): 295–98, <https://doi.org/10.1089/elj.2007.6307>.

<sup>29</sup> Rachael Craufurd Smith, "Fake News, French Law and Democratic Legitimacy: Lessons for the United Kingdom?," *Journal of Media Law* 11, no. 1 (January 2, 2019): 52–81, <https://doi.org/10.1080/17577632.2019.1679424>.

regulates various aspects of this process, including applying an open system in the election of DPR, Provincial DPRD, and Regency or City DPRD members.

Indonesia chooses an open proportional system because it allows voters to choose between political parties or legislative candidates from those parties.<sup>30</sup> Seats in parliament are distributed based on the votes obtained by each party, and the candidates who receive the most votes from each party will get the seats. However, both systems have their advantages and disadvantages:

### **1) Advantages of Closed Proportional System**

- a) A closed proportional system is considered effective in reducing money politics and political corruption because the cost of elections is more affordable than that of an open proportional system.
- b) In this system, political parties carry ideas and programs to parliament.
- c) Strengthen the responsibility of political parties, where parties are fully responsible for determining candidates and elected MPs, thereby increasing control over party cadres.
- d) The public can quickly assess the performance of political parties in a closed proportional system based on the composition and quality of successfully elected cadres.<sup>31</sup>

### **2) Disadvantages of Closed Proportional System**

- a) In a closed proportional system, political parties' monopolised power in determining the candidates' list can lead to oligarchic practices and nepotism. This not only hampers the development of democracy but also prevents the emergence of qualified candidates equally.
- b) In this system, there is no direct relationship between candidates and voters, so there is no personal closeness between them. This can reduce voters' trust and engagement with the candidates who represent them.
- c) Candidates in a closed proportional system tend to lack aspirations because they depend on political parties. They may focus more on party interests rather than the aspirations of individual voters, which may reduce the quality of political representation and initiative of elected candidates.
- d) In a closed proportional system, people's political education can be neglected because they tend to vote for political parties without

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<sup>30</sup> Jimly Asshiddiqie, "Building A Constitutional Aware Culture to Create A Democratic Law State," *PETITA: JURNAL KAJIAN ILMU HUKUM DAN SYARIAH* 8, no. 1 (April 1, 2023), <https://doi.org/10.22373/petita.v7i2.128>.

<sup>31</sup> Nick Anstead, "Data-Driven Campaigning in the 2015 United Kingdom General Election," *The International Journal of Press/Politics* 22, no. 3 (July 18, 2017): 294–313, <https://doi.org/10.1177/1940161217706163>.



considering individual candidates. This can potentially reduce political awareness and active participation in the electoral process.<sup>32</sup>

### 3) Advantages of Open Proportional System

- a) There will be a closer relationship between voters and candidates.
- b) Voters can directly vote for their favourite candidates according to their preferences.
- c) Increase public participation and oversight to support improved party and parliamentary performance.
- d) Improving internal party dynamics helps the party machine operate effectively while increasing the popularity of candidates, which can increase the party's electability.<sup>33</sup>

### 4) Disadvantages of Open Proportional System

- a) There is potential to reduce the role of political parties structurally
- b) Opportunity for competition between candidates within the party
- c) It allows for great opportunities for money's influence in politics.<sup>34</sup>

## Advantages and Disadvantages of the District System

This system is also known as the Plurality and Majority System or Single Member Constituency.<sup>35</sup> According to Encyclopedia Britannica, this system is the most straightforward method of determining election results. The district system operates based on the geographical location of the constituency rather than population.<sup>36</sup> Each district elects one representative to parliament, except in the block vote and party block vote variants. The implementation of the district system divides the country into several districts. The candidate with the most votes in each district will be the winner.<sup>37</sup> Votes cast for other candidates who do not get the most votes are considered to have no effect, even if the difference in votes is slight. One of the advantages of the district system is:<sup>38</sup>

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<sup>32</sup> Luthfi Widagdo Eddyono, "The Constitutional Court and Consolidation of Democracy in Indonesia," *Jurnal Konstitusi* 15, no. 1 (March 29, 2018): 1, <https://doi.org/10.31078/jk1511>.

<sup>33</sup> Peter Ondrejka, "Mapping Election Results in Proportional Electoral Systems," *Journal of Maps* 12, no. sup1 (November 4, 2016): 591–96, <https://doi.org/10.1080/17445647.2016.1239558>.

<sup>34</sup> Encik Muhammad Fauzan, *Hukum Tata Negara Indonesia* (Malang: Setara Press, 2016), 75.

<sup>35</sup> Ainun Najib et al., "Regulation on Freedom of Expression on Social Media in Indonesia and Malaysia," *Journal of Indonesian Constitutional Law* 1, no. 1 (2024): 46–60, <https://doi.org/https://ejournal.pustakaparawali.com/index.php/jicl/article>.

<sup>36</sup> ALEXANDER FOURNAIES, "How Do Campaign Spending Limits Affect Elections? Evidence from the United Kingdom 1885–2019," *American Political Science Review* 115, no. 2 (May 21, 2021): 395–411, <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0003055420001008>.

<sup>37</sup> Kenneth Benoit, "Models of Electoral System Change," *Electoral Studies* 23, no. 3 (September 2004): 363–89, [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0261-3794\(03\)00020-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0261-3794(03)00020-9).

<sup>38</sup> ERIC C. C. CHANG and MIRIAM A. GOLDEN, "Electoral Systems, District Magnitude and Corruption," *British Journal of Political Science* 37, no. 1 (January 13, 2007): 115–37, <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0007123407000063>.

- a) Encourages the integration of political parties as there is only one seat up for grabs;
- b) Potentially reduces party fragmentation and the tendency for new parties to form;
- c) Support natural simplification in the party structure;
- d) Elected representatives can be closer to voters due to the relatively small districts, so they are more likely to fight for the interests of the home district;
- e) Favoring major parties through distorting the preferences of other voters, allowing them to gain a majority;
- f) The district system is relatively simple and can be easily implemented.
- g) There is also a negative side to the district system, namely:
- h) To date, there is still a view that the needs of small parties or minor groups have not been fully met;
- i) The district system is considered not to reflect adequate representation;
- j) For culturally diverse societies, the district system is considered inefficient;
- k) Elected representatives are feared to be more concerned about the interests of their districts and constituents than the national interest as a whole.

## Conclusion

The electoral system in the UK adopts the district approach, also known as the single majority or single-member constituency system. This system generally refers to a method whereby a general election to elect parliamentary representatives is divided into districts corresponding to the number of parliamentary seats available. Each district elects one representative to parliament from several candidates, with that representative being determined by the majority of votes obtained in that election.

Indonesia applies a proportional system in its general election process, which is divided into two types: open and closed proportional systems. According to Law No. 7/2017 on Elections, various aspects of general elections are regulated, including using an open proportional system to elect members of the DPR, Provincial DPRD, and Regency or City DPRD. This decision is based on the ability of voters to choose a political party or legislator candidate from that party. Seats in parliament are then distributed based on the votes obtained by each party, with the candidate who gets the most votes from their party obtaining the seat. However, both systems have their advantages and disadvantages.

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