

---

## The Role of Digital Journalism in Countering Disinformation in Indonesia: A Constitutional Law Perspective

Novia Sri Falinda<sup>1</sup>, Tiara Mustika<sup>2</sup>, Disya Fatriana<sup>3</sup>

Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, Universitas Selamat Sri<sup>1&3</sup>, Faculty of Law, Universitas Selamat Sri<sup>2</sup>

Email Korespondens: [noviasrifalinda@uniss.ac.id](mailto:noviasrifalinda@uniss.ac.id)

---

Article received: 01 November 2025, Review process: 11 November 2025

Article Accepted: 25 Desember 2025, Article published: 12 Januari 2026

---

### ABSTRACT

*Disinformation is understood to be a serious challenge to national resilience due to its potential to erode public trust in the government, trigger social conflict, and weaken public solidarity. This research aims to examine the role of digital journalism in countering disinformation from a constitutional law perspective, with an emphasis on fulfilling citizens' constitutional rights to access accurate information, protecting freedom of expression, and strengthening the quality of democracy. This research uses a qualitative approach with literature review and normative content analysis, drawing on sources from laws and regulations, constitutional institution decisions, literature related to digital journalism, and studies of communication ethics in the digital realm. The results indicate that digital journalism has strategic potential as a primary filtering mechanism for disinformation through the application of strict verification principles, adherence to journalistic codes of ethics, and responsible use of digital platforms. Implementing the value of *tabayyun* (information clarification) and the principle of fairness in communication on social media also strengthens this role, while minimizing the negative impact of misinformation on social cohesion and public trust in state institutions. However, the continued weakness in adherence to journalistic ethical standards, the widespread practice of disseminating unverified news, and the circulation of inaccurate information demonstrate the high vulnerability of the digital space to disinformation. Therefore, constitutional law plays a crucial role as a balancing instrument between regulations for combating disinformation and protecting press freedom, while strengthening digital journalism's position as a democratic infrastructure in maintaining a public space based on accurate and accountable information.*

**Keywords:** Digital journalism, Disinformation, Press Freedom, Constitutional Law, Public Information Oversight.

### ABSTRAK

*Disinformasi dipandang sebagai ancaman nyata terhadap stabilitas nasional karena mampu melemahkan kepercayaan publik kepada pemerintah, memicu ketegangan sosial, dan merusak kohesi masyarakat.. Penelitian ini bertujuan menganalisis peran jurnalisme digital dalam menangkal disinformasi dari perspektif hukum tata negara, dengan fokus pada pemenuhan hak konstitusional atas informasi yang benar, perlindungan kebebasan berekspresi, dan kualitas demokrasi. Penelitian dirancang sebagai studi kualitatif dengan metode studi pustaka dan analisis isi normatif, menggunakan sumber berupa peraturan perundang-undangan, putusan lembaga konstitusional, literatur tentang jurnalisme digital, dan kajian etika komunikasi di ruang digital. Temuan penelitian menunjukkan*

*bahwa Jurnalisme digital berpotensi menjadi filter utama terhadap disinformasi melalui penerapan disiplin verifikasi, kode etik jurnalistik, serta pemanfaatan platform digital secara bertanggung jawab. Penerapan prinsip tabayyun (verifikasi) dan keadilan komunikasi di media sosial memperkuat fungsi ini, sekaligus mencegah dampak negatif misinformasi terhadap kohesi sosial dan kepercayaan publik pada institusi negara. Namun, lemahnya kepatuhan pada standar etika, praktik pemberitaan tanpa verifikasi, dan penyebaran informasi yang tidak akurat menunjukkan masih besarnya kerentanan disinformasi di ruang digital. Untuk itu hukum tata negara menjadi penyeimbangkan regulasi anti-disinformasi dengan perlindungan kebebasan pers, sambil memperkuat jurnalisme digital sebagai infrastruktur demokratis untuk menjaga ruang publik yang berbasis informasi benar dan akuntabel.*

**Kata Kunci:** *Jurnalisme digital, Disinformasi, Kebebasan Pers, Hukum Tata Negara, Pengawasan Informasi Publik.*

## INTRODUCTION

Advances in information and communication technology have significantly transformed the media landscape in Indonesia, making online and social media the primary means of producing and distributing information. This expanded access to information not only brings benefits but also raises serious issues related to the validity, integrity, and social consequences of content circulating in the digital space. One of the most prominent challenges is the increasing spread of hoaxes and disinformation, which have the potential to undermine the quality of democracy and national life (Rosemarwati & Lindawati, 2023; Triwulan, Ramadhani, Zannah, Naibaho, & Effendi, 2024). From a constitutional law perspective, this phenomenon directly impacts the principle of popular sovereignty, the quality of political participation, and the fulfillment of citizens' constitutional rights to obtain accurate and reliable information.

Disinformation is seen as a real threat to national stability because it can undermine public trust in the government, trigger social tension, and undermine community cohesion (Fadia Az-Zahra Puteri et al., 2025). In the post-truth era, social media has become a highly effective medium for the spread of political hoaxes and identity-based issues that mislead public opinion and have the potential to disrupt democratic processes, including general elections (Evanalia, 2022), (Fadia Az-Zahra Puteri et al., 2025). From a constitutional law perspective, this situation presents a normative dilemma, as the state has an obligation to maintain public order and national security, while simultaneously guaranteeing freedom of expression and the right to information as mandated by the constitution.

Various regulatory policies, such as the Electronic Information and Transactions Law and certain restrictions on digital expression during the COVID-19 pandemic, reflect the state's efforts to control the circulation of false information in cyberspace (Putra, Kriswandaru, & Imaliya, 2024), (Darussalam, 2024). Several studies have deemed this measure effective in suppressing the spread of fake news, but many have criticized it for its unclear formulation of norms and the potential for abuse of authority that could threaten democratic principles and human rights protection (Putra et al., 2024) and (Darussalam, 2024). This situation underscores the

importance of a more balanced approach, one in which countering disinformation does not rely solely on repressive instruments but also strengthens a healthy and responsible information ecosystem.

Within this framework, digital journalism occupies a strategic position as a non-state actor contributing to democratic governance in the digital space. Platform-based journalism practices, whether carried out by mainstream media, social media channels, or innovative formats such as homeless media, create a model for rapid and interactive information delivery, while still being guided by principles of verification, accuracy, and professional ethics (Rohmatillah & Zaini, 2023), (Triwulan et al., 2024), and (Alexander & Junaidi, 2022). By emphasizing fact-checking, cross-verification, and critical analysis of social media content, digital journalism has the potential to serve as an initial filter against the flow of disinformation before it reaches the public.

Empirical findings indicate that social media journalism managed by professional press institutions has a real capacity to suppress the spread of hoaxes through the application of news values, verification procedures, and consistent fact-checking practices. A study of Kompas TV's social media journalism, for example, showed that the implementation of strict verification on digital platforms can reduce the circulation of political hoaxes and strengthen the quality of democracy amidst a post-truth culture. Similar practices are also seen in homeless media, which presents accurate information in creative formats, making it easier to reach the younger generation while fostering critical attitudes towards political and social issues (Alexander & Junaidi, 2022).

From a constitutional law perspective, digital journalism's contribution to countering disinformation is directly related to fulfilling citizens' constitutional rights to accurate information and protecting freedom of expression, the restrictions of which can only be implemented legally, proportionally, and based on evidence (Putra et al., 2024), (Rohmatillah & Zaini, 2023). The massive spread of disinformation has the potential to undermine democratic principles, such as transparency, accountability, and meaningful public participation, which are the main foundations for the development of democratic constitutional law in Indonesia (Rohmatillah & Zaini, 2023). Therefore, the existence of independent, credible, and integrity-based digital journalism is a crucial part of the normative infrastructure of a democratic constitutional state.

However, digital journalism also faces ethical and structural challenges. The pressure of speed of publication and a focus on traffic often encourages instant reporting practices, lacking in depth, and lacking accuracy, including the use of sensational headlines that have the potential to mislead the public. This over-focus on clicks over accuracy actually opens up space for the circulation of misinformation and undermines public trust in the media (Triwulan et al., 2024). From a constitutional perspective, declining public trust in mainstream media can encourage people to turn to unverified sources of information, thereby weakening the quality of public discourse and deliberation.

Therefore, strengthening the role of digital journalism in countering disinformation needs to be placed as part of the constitutional law reform agenda. On the one hand, regulatory reform is needed so that hoax countermeasures are carried out through a clear, proportional legal framework that aligns with human rights principles and democratic values (Putra et al., 2024), (Darussalam, 2024), (Rohmatillah & Zaini, 2023). On the other hand, the state needs to support the development of a professional digital journalism ecosystem by protecting press freedom, strengthening self-regulatory mechanisms such as the role of the Press Council, and improving public digital literacy. With this approach, efforts to combat disinformation will not rely on criminalization, but rather on the production and distribution of accurate, critical, and responsible public knowledge (Rosemarwati & Lindawati, 2023), (Evanalia, 2022), and (Alexander & Junaidi, 2022).

## METHODS

A research method is a collection of procedures, schemes, and algorithms used as measuring tools or instruments in conducting research. Research methods help researchers collect data and find solutions to specific problems (Timotius, 2017). This study applies a qualitative approach through a literature study to examine the role of digital journalism in addressing disinformation from a constitutional law perspective. Data collection was conducted by systematically exploring various literature sources, including academic books, reputable journal articles, laws and regulations, court decisions, and public policy documents related to disinformation, freedom of expression, and digital media governance (Khmyrov, Khriapynskyi, Svoboda, Shevchuk, & Dotsenko, 2023) and (Petrov & Kumar, 2025). Source selection was based on several key criteria, namely suitability to the research topic, relevance to constitutional principles, and the academic credibility of the sources used, such as indexed journals and reputable publishers. The desk study method was chosen because it allows for a comprehensive analysis of the phenomenon of disinformation and the state's normative responses without relying on statistical data processing. This approach emphasizes a holistic and contextual understanding of the relationship between digital media, the state, and citizens (Diaz Ruiz, 2025) and (Arcos, Gertrudix, Arribas, & Cardarilli, 2022). The data collection stages included keyword formulation, initial source selection, in-depth reading, and identification of central themes related to disinformation dissemination patterns, digital journalism strategies, and the legal frameworks governing it. Data validity was maintained through source triangulation, the use of reputable scientific literature, and cross-comparison between academic studies, international human rights instruments, and relevant national regulations.

Data analysis was conducted using qualitative-normative content analysis techniques, which involve systematic interpretation of legal texts and scholarly literature to assess the alignment between digital journalism practices, counter-disinformation policies, and constitutional principles, particularly freedom of expression, the right to information, and democratic protections (Petrov & Kumar, 2025), (Diaz Ruiz, 2025), and (Khmyrov et al., 2023). The analysis process was carried

out in stages through repeated readings, coding of meaningful units, grouping codes into thematic categories such as digital journalism strategies, disinformation regulatory models, and potential restrictions on freedom of expression, as well as identifying key normative themes. The normative approach was used to examine the extent to which counter-disinformation policies and strategies, including fact-checking practices, collaboration with digital platforms, and content regulation, adhere to the principle of proportionality and do not develop into excessive censorship mechanisms. The theoretical framework of this research refers to the study of constitutional law and digital platform governance in the European Union, particularly the concept of co-regulation and the risk-based regulatory model in addressing disinformation (Diaz Ruiz, 2025) and (Khmyrov et al., 2023). The reliability of the analysis is strengthened through a transparent presentation of the analytical steps, critical reflection on the researcher's position, and a consistent link between the literature findings and normative constitutional arguments.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

At the beginning of the paragraph this section begins with the words "Research results" The growth of digital journalism in Indonesia is paralleled by the high level of internet and social media usage. This situation simultaneously expands public access to information while accelerating the spread of political disinformation and hoaxes (Evanalia, 2022), (Wahidin, Utami, Amalia, Aqida, & Aidah, 2025). Within the framework of constitutional law, this reality presents a serious challenge to the constitutional protection of freedom of expression and citizens' rights to obtain accurate information as guaranteed in the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia. Digital media can no longer be understood merely as an economic entity or a means of entertainment, but as an important instrument in the implementation of citizens' constitutional rights (Maharani, 2024), (A. Luthfia, M. Muslikhin, V. Prahassacitta, 2025). The digitalization of the public sphere also shifts the regulatory focus from conventional media to online platforms, thus placing digital journalism in a strategic position as the first line of defense in facing disinformation within Indonesia's constitutional democratic system. The following diagram outlines the main dimensions of digital journalism's role in countering disinformation from a constitutional law perspective:

**Table : 1 Dimensions of Digital Journalism's Role in Countering Disinformation**

Main Components	Key Sub-elements	Role Against Disinformation
Digital Journalism Capacity	Verification, fact-checking, ethics, positive journalism.	Filtering and correcting hoaxes, preventing the reproduction of manipulative content
Constitutional Law Framework	ITE Law, Criminal Code, Press Law, Social Media.	Regulations Establishing legal boundaries,

Digital Democracy Ecosystem	Fact-checking, digital literacy, citizen journalism, activism	sanctions for hoaxes, and protecting press freedom. Strengthening resilience against disinformation and polarization.
-----------------------------	---	---

Various studies on press freedom and journalistic ethics in the digital era show that the presence of online platforms and social media has changed editorial work patterns and increased the risk of spreading false information. Digital journalists face a tension between the demands of speed in news production and the obligation to maintain accuracy. On the other hand, algorithmic pressures and a click-based business orientation encourage the use of sensational headlines that have the potential to generate misinformation (Maharani, 2024). From a constitutional law perspective, systemic ethical violations can erode the role of the press as a pillar of democracy guaranteed by the constitution (Sanjaya, Y., & Phahlevy, 2024). Therefore, strengthening compliance with journalistic codes of ethics and verification standards is seen as a normative prerequisite for digital journalism to perform its corrective function against disinformation.

This effort is also closely related to the state's responsibility to protect press freedom through a clear, proportional, and non-restrictive regulatory framework (Maharani, 2024). A study of social media journalism practices at Kompas TV shows that the implementation of multi-layered verification and fact-checking is a key instrument in countering hoaxes, particularly those related to political issues and elections in the post-truth era (Evanalia, 2022). The study revealed that Kompas TV's editorial process prioritizes news value, source validation, and fact-checking as mandatory steps before content is disseminated through digital platforms. This mechanism has been proven effective in reducing the risk of the spread of manipulative videos, false narratives, and old content repackaged as current news, which have dominated the national hoax landscape. From a normative media theory perspective, this practice aligns with demands that the media not only guarantee freedom of expression but also provide accurate, relevant, and balanced information to the public (Mufti Nurlatifah, Billy Sarwono, 2020). Constitutionally, this type of editorial process contributes to the formation of a rational public sphere as a foundation for shaping citizens' political will.

Other research highlighting digital journalism on social media confirms that news accounts on platforms like Instagram strive to adapt basic journalistic principles such as accuracy, balance, and verification into short, quickly consumed visual formats (Evanalia, 2022). However, the drive to increase audience engagement and achieve virality often blurs the lines between journalistic content and promotional or entertainment material. In the context of constitutional law, this lack of clarity has the potential to undermine the media's role as a check on power and a provider of accountable public information. Therefore, developing specific ethical guidelines for social media journalism is crucial to ensure that the distribution of digital information continues to respect citizens' rights to accurate information

(Maharani, 2024) and (Evanalia, 2022). This step aligns with the state's obligation to build a regulatory ecosystem that supports an independent, professional, and responsible press.

From a legal perspective, digital journalism views journalism as an institution normatively obligated to support the democratic deliberation process by providing accurate, verifiable, and responsible information. Within this conceptual framework, digital journalism is not understood solely as a form of technological adaptation, but rather as a new space for the implementation of the social and political functions of the press (Mufti Nurlatifah, Billy Sarwono, 2020). The main focus of this study lies in the placement of digital journalism within communication studies and its impact on the quality of democratic life. The normative approach emphasizes that digital journalism practices must be based on the public interest and democratic values, not simply following market mechanisms or algorithmic logic (Mufti Nurlatifah, Billy Sarwono, 2020). From a constitutional law perspective, this concept positions digital journalism as an integral part of the system of safeguarding constitutional values, particularly freedom of expression and citizens' rights to political participation.

The development of regulations related to disinformation and hoaxes in Indonesia shows significant dynamics, particularly through provisions in the Electronic Information and Transactions Law and updates to the Criminal Code that criminalize certain forms of spreading fake news. Comparative studies between Indonesia and other countries in the region show that Indonesia's penal policy is designed to protect public order, social welfare, and democratic values by balancing freedom of speech with efforts to combat hoaxes. However, various studies highlight serious challenges in its implementation, including the risk of excessive restrictions on freedom of expression and the potential criminalization of journalistic work. Therefore, non-penal approaches such as strengthening media self-disciplinary mechanisms and utilizing digital forensics are seen as important complements. From a rule of law perspective, the designed policy must ensure that criminal law instruments are not used to silence legitimate criticism through digital journalism.

Restrictions on freedom of expression on social media, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic, demonstrate that restrictive policies are considered effective in suppressing some misinformation, but are also considered ambiguous and prone to abuse. The Electronic Information and Transactions (ITE) Law is often the basis for these restrictions, but its implementation has drawn criticism as inconsistent with democratic principles and the protection of human rights as guaranteed by the constitution. The knock-on effect of this situation is evident in the removal of content critical of the government, which has triggered a deterrent effect and encouraged self-censorship among users and journalists (Mufti Nurlatifah, Billy Sarwono, 2020). From a constitutional law perspective, this situation indicates the urgency of policy reformulation to be more transparent, proportional, and evidence-based, so that digital journalism is not hampered in carrying out its corrective role against disinformation and its oversight function.

Social media, within the constitutional law framework, affirms that the state has the authority to regulate digital platforms in the public interest. However, such

regulations must be designed in a balanced manner so as not to excessively restrict freedom of expression (Putra et al., 2024). Overly restrictive regulations have the potential to narrow the space for public discourse and reduce citizen participation in the democratic process, while the absence of adequate regulations actually opens up a wide space for the circulation of disinformation that harms the public's right to accurate information (Putra et al., 2024). Therefore, an adaptive legal framework is needed, responsive to digital dynamics, and capable of protecting a safe space for critical digital journalism. In this context, digital journalism is positioned as a strategic partner for the state in maintaining the quality of public discourse, not simply an object of oversight.

State governance in the digital era also demonstrates that advances in information technology have transformed the way citizens communicate, participate, and influence public policy. The internet and social media have become primary mediums for shaping public opinion and articulating constitutional aspirations. However, these changes also bring new challenges, such as protecting privacy, freedom of expression, and addressing harmful content and misinformation (Darussalam, 2024). Therefore, several studies recommend explicitly integrating digital aspects into the constitutional framework and developing adaptive regulations (Darussalam, 2024) (Nuruddin & Iqbal, 2024). In this context, digital journalism serves as a social mechanism that bridges complex constitutional issues into a more accessible public language.

Research on digital democracy in Indonesia identifies misinformation, privacy issues, and the digital divide as major threats to the sustainability of democracy. A systematic literature review found that increasing digital literacy contributes significantly to reducing political polarization caused by misinformation. Collaboration between government, civil society, the media, and the private sector is seen as key to building an inclusive, transparent, and accountable digital democracy (Wahidin et al., 2025). Within this framework, digital journalism serves as a strategic hub connecting public policy with citizen literacy through education, fact-checking, and in-depth coverage. The success of combating disinformation depends heavily on the synergy between legal policy, journalistic practice, and the public's digital literacy.

From an electoral political perspective, studies of social media journalism in the post-truth era show that official media accounts that implement strict verification standards are able to mitigate the impact of election hoaxes. However, the use of algorithmic optimization strategies, viral issues, and digital trends to expand reach also creates tensions between the demands of visibility and journalism's normative mission. From a constitutional law perspective, deviations from this normative mission have the potential to degrade the quality of political information that forms the basis for rational voter will (Evanalia, 2022). Nevertheless, the practice of maintaining balanced reporting during the election period reflects the media's commitment to the principles of justice and equality in political contestation.

Research on the role of social media in law enforcement shows that digital platforms can be an effective means of disseminating legal information and public

oversight of judicial processes. The public uses social media to uncover cases, monitor legal processes, and demand accountability from officials. However, without strong verification standards, this practice also risks giving rise to the phenomenon of trials by public opinion and the spread of misinformation (Tarigan, Darmayanti, Khadafi, & Simatupang, 2025). In this context, digital journalism, grounded in ethics and professionalism, functions as a filter for circulating legal information and bridges public aspirations with formal legal mechanisms. Constitutionally, this role reinforces the principles of openness and accountability in a democratic state based on the rule of law.

A study of media control in Indonesian digital politics reveals the emergence of new forms of pressure on critical media outlets, such as the use of buzzers, trolls, doxing, and hyper-partisan media. This non-state pressure encourages self-censorship among journalists due to security threats and digital intimidation. This phenomenon creates a paradox: the digital space opens up opportunities for the expansion of investigative journalism, but simultaneously becomes an arena for delegitimization and intimidation of journalistic work (Masduki, 2021). From a constitutional law perspective, this situation threatens the function of the press as a pillar of democracy and obscures the fulfillment of citizens' constitutional rights to objective information. Therefore, more effective legal protection for digital journalists is an urgent need.

International research on debunking and countering disinformation strategies in Indonesia highlights the critical role of fact-checking organizations, journalists, and NGOs in utilizing artificial intelligence-based verification technology and various digital tools. A multi-stakeholder approach has proven more effective than a single strategy in countering disinformation. Digital literacy initiatives and public engagement strengthen the public's ability to recognize and reject false information (A. Luthfia, M. Muslikhin, V. Prahassacitta, 2025). From a constitutional law perspective, these findings emphasize that combating disinformation cannot rely solely on penal instruments but must be supported by socio-educational and technological approaches that respect freedom of expression. Digital journalism occupies a central position as a producer and curator of authentic information.

Comparative studies at the ASEAN level indicate that Indonesia relies on a combination of anti-hoax regulations and strengthened oversight bodies, but still faces obstacles in law enforcement and low digital literacy. Compared with countries that adopt more repressive approaches, these studies recommend strengthening regional collaboration and adapting communication policies to the dynamics of social media (Nasution, M., & Sazali, 2025). In a national context, strengthening digital journalism capacity and public literacy is seen as more sustainable than over-reliance on criminalization. This proportional approach is more in line with the protection of freedom of expression and the role of the press in the constitutional system.

Conceptually, the literature on digital democracy in Indonesia emphasizes that the quality of citizen participation in online spaces is largely determined by the quality of the information they receive. While social media expands civic

participation, it also reinforces polarization and echo chambers when disinformation is not balanced by the production of quality information (Sanjaya, Y., & Phahlevy, 2024). Within the framework of a state based on the rule of law, this situation demands the existence of institutions capable of serving as a reference point for relative truth, one of which is independent and professional digital journalism. Reforms to media regulations and freedom of expression are recommended to reduce legal uncertainty while strengthening protection for digital journalism practices.

Overall, various studies show that the effectiveness of digital journalism in countering disinformation in Indonesia from a constitutional law perspective rests on three main pillars (Maharani, 2024) and (Evanalia, 2022). First, the media's internal capacity, which includes quality verification, ethical compliance, fact-checking practices, and the ability to adapt to algorithms without compromising the public interest. Second, the design of a legal framework that guarantees freedom of expression and the press, while providing proportional instruments to combat disinformation that truly endangers the public interest. Third, a digital democracy ecosystem supported by digital literacy, cross-actor collaboration, and comprehensive protection for journalists from physical, digital, and legal threats. If these three pillars are developed in a balanced manner, digital journalism has the potential to optimally serve as a guardian of the constitutional public space and a bulwark of democracy against the flow of disinformation.

## CONCLUSION

The results of this study show that online-based media plays a crucial role as guardians of public space within the constitutional framework, particularly through the provision of verified, balanced, and accountable information to the public. However, several studies have revealed that digital journalism practices still face various problems, such as violations of the code of ethics, weak implementation of verification standards, and political pressure and economic interests that have the potential to erode editorial independence in carrying out the function of controlling and correcting misinformation (Sari, M., & Okditazeini, n.d.), (Maulana, 2024). From a constitutional law perspective, digital journalism is positioned as an integral part of democratic infrastructure that plays a direct role in fulfilling citizens' constitutional rights to freedom of expression and access to correct information. Therefore, the quality and integrity of journalistic practices have direct consequences for the quality of democracy itself. Regulatory frameworks, such as the Electronic Information and Transactions Law, anti-hoax provisions, and regulations regarding elections in the digital space, need to be designed and implemented proportionally to effectively address disinformation without reducing press freedom or space for criticism of the government (Maulana, 2024). Thus, the success of digital journalism in stemming disinformation depends heavily on the integration of the ethical and professional capacities of editors, regulatory design that aligns with the principles of a democratic rule of law, and the existence of concrete protections for journalists from intimidation and criminalization.

Based on these findings, several research recommendations can be put forward for future research. First, more comprehensive empirical research is needed on the relationship between regulatory design, such as the ITE Law, the revised Criminal Code, and election regulations, and the practices of digital newsrooms in producing and responding to disinformation, including through a comparative approach across platforms and regions. Second, further research is recommended to integrate constitutional law analysis with political communication studies and data science approaches, for example by quantitatively measuring the impact of fact-checking content and investigative reporting on public perception and the level of polarization on social media. Third, it is important to develop studies on collaborative governance models involving state institutions, media outlets, digital platforms, and civil society organizations in responding to disinformation, with an emphasis on mechanisms that uphold freedom of expression and editorial independence. Fourth, further normative research can be directed at examining the strengthening of constitutional guarantees for press freedom and the right to information in the digital era, including the formulation of constitutional principles related to algorithm regulation and content moderation. Fifth, research on developing the capacity of digital journalists, including training in information verification, digital security, and reporting ethics, needs to be expanded so that formulated legal policies do not stand alone but are supported by increased professionalism and resilience within the digital journalism ecosystem as a whole. The author would like to thank the management of the Al-Zayn journal: Journal of Social Sciences & Law for their constructive input and suggestions that contributed to the improvement of this article.

## LIST OF REFERENCES

Luthfia, M. Muslikhin, V. Prahassacitta, B. P. W. and A. R. C. (2025). Debunking Technology and Efforts in Combating Dis/Misinformation. International Conference on Ubiquitous Information Management and Communication (IMCOM), 1-7. <https://doi.org/10.1109/IMCOM64595.2025.10857576>

Alexander, F., & Junaidi, A. (2022). Peran Homeless Media dalam Melakukan Penyebaran Informasi di Media Sosial Instagram (Studi pada Opini.id). *Kiware*, 1(2), 363. <https://doi.org/10.24912/ki.v1i1.15703>

Arcos, R., Gertrudix, M., Arribas, C., & Cardarilli, M. (2022). Responses to digital disinformation as part of hybrid threats: A systematic review on the effects of disinformation and the effectiveness of fact-checking/debunking. *Open Research Europe*, 2, 1-19. <https://doi.org/10.12688/openreseurope.14088.1>

Darussalam, M. (2024). Implikasi Hukum Tata Negara Terhadap Pengaturan Media Sosial Di Era Digital: Perspektif Kebebasan Berpendapat. *AL-BALAD : Jurnal Hukum Tata Negara Dan Politik Islam*, 4(2), 47-62. <https://doi.org/10.59259/ab.v4i2.181>

Diaz Ruiz, C. (2025). Disinformation on digital media platforms: A market-shaping approach. *New Media and Society*, 27(4), 2188-2211. <https://doi.org/10.1177/14614448231207644>

Evanalia, S. (2022). Peran Jurnalisme Media Sosial dalam Mewujudkan Demokrasi Indonesia di Era Post Truth. *Jurnal Adhyasta Pemilu*, 5(1), 32–43. <https://doi.org/10.55108/jap.v5i1.86>

Fadia Az-Zahra Puteri, Monica Biyant Balqis, Dimas Setiawan, Maia Safira Choirunnisa, Inggrid Manusatun Nadia, & Sultan Falih Rheinsalazar. (2025). Peran Content Creator sebagai Agen Bela Negara dalam Menangkal Disinformasi: Studi Kasus Konten Ferry Irwandi. *Jurnal Ilmiah Multidisiplin Ilmu*, 2(3), 29–35. <https://doi.org/10.69714/6eec1s75>

Khmyrov, I., Khriapynskyi, A., Svoboda, I., Shevchuk, M., & Dotsenko, K. (2023). The impact of disinformation on the state information policy. *Revista Amazonia Investiga*, 12(71), 93–102. <https://doi.org/10.34069/ai/2023.71.11.8>

Maharani, E. (2024). The Fourth Estate Unbound: Examining Press Law and Ethics in the Digital Age in Indonesia. *Indonesia Media Law Review*, 3(1). Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.15294/imrev.v3i1.78901>

Masduki. (2021). Media control in the digital politics of indonesia. *Media and Communication*, 9(4), 52–61. <https://doi.org/10.17645/mac.v9i4.4225>

Maulana, M. R. A. (2024). Analisis Tantangan Konstitusional Dan Problematika Hukum Tata Negara Dalam Pelaksanaan Pilkada 2024. *Constitution Journal*, 3(2), 211–232. <https://doi.org/10.35719/constitution.v3i2.114>

Mufti Nurlatifah, Billy Sarwono, dr. I. (2020). PERSPEKTIF HUKUM PADA JURNALISME DIGITAL. *Jurnal Media Dan Komunikasi Indonesia*, 1(2), 98–113. Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.22146/jmki.51487>

Nasution, M., & Sazali, H. (2025). REGULASI MEDIA SOSIAL DAN PENANGANAN DISINFORMASI ANALISISKOMPARATIF KEBIJAKAN KOMUNIKASI DI INDONESIA DAN ASEAN. *FIKRUNA: Jurnal Ilmiah Kependidikan DanKemasyarakatan*. Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.56489/fik.v7i3.339>

Nuruddin, M. I., & Iqbal, M. R. (2024). Dinamika Sistem Hukum Tata Negara dalam Konteks Perubahan. *Reslaj: Religion Education Social Laa Roiba Journal*, 6(4), 2089–2098. <https://doi.org/10.47476/reslaj.v6i4.2067>

Petrov, I., & Kumar, R. (2025). Disinformation and Legal Responsibility: Regulating Digital Speech Without Curtailing Dissent. *Interdisciplinary Studies in Society, Law, and Politics*, 4(2), 303–314. <https://doi.org/10.61838/kman.isslp.4.2.26>

Putra, R. K., Kriswandaru, A. S., & Imaliya, T. (2024). Kajian Hukum Tata Negara terkait Pembatasan Kebebasan Berpendapat di Media Sosial di Era Pandemi COVID-19: Pendekatan Deskriptif Kualitatif. *Hakim: Jurnal Ilmu Hukum Dan Sosial*, 2(4), 857–872. <https://doi.org/10.51903/hakim.v2i4.2195>

Rohmatillah, A., & Zaini, A. A. (2023). Tantangan Dan Prospek : Implementasi Prinsip-Prinsip. *JOSHL: Journal of Sharia*, 2(2), 90–100.

Rosemarwati, U., & Lindawati, L. (2023). Jejak Digital Dalam Jurnalisme: Media Sosial Dan Media Daring Di Indonesia. *Jurnal Media Dan Komunikasi (MEKAS)*, 1(1), 1–13. <https://doi.org/10.69688/mekas.v1i1.14>

Sanjaya, Y., & Phahlevy, R. (2024). Social Media's Crucial Role in Shaping Indonesian Democracy. *Indonesian Journal of Law and Economics Review*. Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.21070/ijler.v19i3.1204>

Sari, M., & Okditazeini, V. (n.d.). Analisis Pemberitaan Pencemaran Limbah PT. Kemilau Permata Sawit di Pesisir Selatan dalam Perspektif Jurnalisme Lingkungan. *Kiwari*. Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.24912/ki.v3i4.33143>

Tarigan, E. K., Darmayanti, E., Khadafi, M., & Simatupang, B. D. (2025). Peran Media Sosial Dalam Menegakkan Hukum Di Zaman Digital Di Indonesia. *Warta Dharmawangsa*, 19(1), 188-201. <https://doi.org/10.46576/wdw.v19i1.5849>

Timotius, K. H. (2017). Pengantar metodologi penelitian : Pendekatan manajemen pengetahuan untuk perkembangan pengetahuan. (Putri Christian, Ed.) (ed. 1). Yogyakarta: Andi.

Triwulan, D., Ramadhani, N., Zannah, N., Naibaho, M., & Effendi, E. (2024). Tantangan Etika dalam Jurnalisme Digital: Studi Kasus Peran Media Sosial dalam Penyebaran Berita. *Da'watuna: Journal of Communication and Islamic Broadcasting*, 4(3), 1225-1229. <https://doi.org/10.47467/dawatuna.v4i3.681>

Wahidin, D., Utami, I. S., Amalia, A. R., Aqida, A., & Aidah, S. (2025). Digital Democracy Transformation in Indonesia: Opportunities, Challenges, and Future Solutions. *JED (Jurnal Etika Demokrasi)*, 10(1), 15-42. <https://doi.org/10.26618/jed.v10i1.17001>