

Politics Ethics and Civil Society Studies: A Systematic Literature Review (SLR)

Dilla Tri Erdawanti

Departement of Government Science, University of Muhammadiyah Malang

Corresponding author: dillatriedawantri23@gmail.com

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Abstract

Abstract: This research aims to explain the crucial role of civil society in a country because it plays an important role in overseeing policy making. In line with that, the government is also considered to have a vital role in ensuring the welfare of its citizens on the basis of established policies. The research method applied in this study was a systematic literature review which used 94 scientific articles sourced from the Scopus database. Review articles using the Vosviewer application. The research results show that political ethics and civil society are closely related, where political ethics is the basis for the government in managing political issues properly, while civil society helps monitor and ensure the implementation of the concept of political ethics. This research emphasizes the importance of understanding the relationship between political ethics and civil society in the context of developing and maintaining a just, democratic and sustainable state. The results of this research contribute to the development of a research roadmap on politics ethics and civil society. The limitation of this research is that the articles used only come from the Scopus database so that the research findings cannot comprehensively describe the issue of politics, ethics and civil society.

Abstrak: Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menjelaskan peran krusial masyarakat sipil dalam suatu negara karena berperan penting dalam mengawasi pembuatan kebijakan. Sejalan dengan itu, pemerintah juga dinilai memiliki peran vital dalam menjamin kesejahteraan warga negaranya atas dasar kebijakan yang telah ditetapkan. Metode penelitian yang diterapkan dalam penelitian ini adalah tinjauan pustaka sistematis yang menggunakan 94 artikel ilmiah yang bersumber dari basis data Scopus. Tinjauan artikel menggunakan aplikasi Vosviewer. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa etika politik dan masyarakat sipil saling berkaitan erat, di mana etika politik menjadi dasar bagi pemerintah dalam mengelola isu politik dengan baik, sementara masyarakat sipil membantu mengawasi dan memastikan terlaksananya konsep etika politik. Penelitian ini menekankan pentingnya memahami hubungan antara etika politik dan masyarakat sipil dalam konteks membangun dan memelihara negara yang adil, demokratis, dan berkelanjutan. Hasil penelitian ini berkontribusi pada pengembangan peta jalan penelitian tentang etika politik dan masyarakat sipil. Keterbatasan penelitian ini adalah artikel yang digunakan hanya berasal dari basis data Scopus sehingga temuan penelitian tidak dapat menggambarkan isu politik, etika, dan masyarakat sipil secara komprehensif.

Introduction

Start Civil society in a country is an important part because it plays a role in overseeing policy making in a country. Likewise, the importance of government in ensuring the well-being of every individual is widely recognized. Political etiquette of the working class is a concept that strengthens the relationship between the working class and the government in achieving ethical and successful goals. This highlights the ethical political theory that undermines the government's goal of creating a population based on moral principles and human decency (Macklin, 2000). The relationship between ethics and politics is very important in civil society. Political action procedures are the core of political ethics, therefore these procedures are very important (Zhu, 2000). In a political context, ethics maintains an important role in maintaining harmony and equality in society. Political ethics can regulate individual behavior in participating in politics, build a fair legal system, and help society achieve prosperity (Russell, 2024).

Many previous studies on the relationship between political ethics and civil society have focused on various topics. In China explains when the political state seeks to take credit for all charitable acts, the population's fear of apathy lets them avoid socialist morality when discussing civic engagement (Grasso, 2024). Based on the normative definition, relations between government, business and civil society are part of the government's transformative vision that seeks structural change in opposition to environmental degradation and marginalization (Gao & Teets, 2020). Other research suggests that democratic backsliding generally implies that civil society organizations (CSOs) serve as an antidote to democratic backsliding, even if it has not fully examined how civil society influences the process of backsliding. In this research it was also found that despite rapidly developing civil society in the three countries, CSOs have not been able to stop the decline of democracy in Bangladesh, Thailand or the Philippines to date. This makes CSOs easier to capture by political elites in democracies with poor institutionalization, highlighting the organization's propensity for undemocratic behavior (Pinckney et al., 2022).

Although many previous studies have explained the relationship between politics, ethics and civil society. However, only a few previous studies have used article review techniques using the Vosviewer program or systematic literature review methodology with articles taken from the Scopus database (Bretas & Alon, 2021). Therefore, this research focuses on review articles that use the SLR methodology sourced from 94 scientific publications included in the Scopus database. This aims to understand research problems based on previous research using the SLR method because it has advantages and benefits. The focus of this research study is on efforts to answer the research question, namely "how does civil society play a role in influencing political ethics in government policy". The research method used is qualitative content analysis using the SLR approach and article analysis using Vosviewer (Fouad et al., 2024). This research contributes to the development of science, especially government science related to the relationship between political ethics and civil society.

Many studies also explain issues related to political ethics and civil society. The relationship between political ethics and civil society shows the connection that political ethics refers to moral norms that should give rise to attitudes and actions between people in the world of politics. In contrast, civil society refers to a collection of individuals united to achieve common goals through democratic processes and ethical behavior (Lidén, 2022). There are several aspects to the idea of political ethics, such as foundation, theory, meaning, essence and understanding of politics. Because ethics is a socio-political morality that focuses on the formation of interconnected moral relationships, political ethics is closely related to civil society. Political ethics is important because it is the basis for the government to manage political problems correctly and correct problems that exist in society. Political ethics helps the government to make correct decisions and correct problems that exist in society. Political ethics also helps the government to control political problems properly and correct problems that exist in society. Civil society is considered important because it helps the government to understand the problems that exist in society (Rusfiana & Kurniasih, 2024). Civil society helps the government to identify problems that exist in society and also provides suggestions for correcting these problems. Not only that, civil society also helps the government to control political problems properly and fix existing problems in society.

In the context of civil society, political ethics aims to help understand the relationship between ethics and politics, as well as improving the quality of government and more democratic decision making (Strebel et al., 2018). Civil society also plays an important role in monitoring and assisting the government in implementing political ethics concepts such as transparency, justice and concern for society. Apart from that, political ethics in democratic countries also plays an important role in improving the political climate and reducing injustice. In a democracy, political ethics plays an important role in regulating the relationship between government and society, as well as providing better state governance (De Sousa & Coroado, 2022). So, political ethics helps understand morality and norms that should be applied in the world of politics, while civil society plays an important role in monitoring and assisting the government in implementing concepts in political ethics. Politics can also be interpreted as a collective good, not just the interests of individuals or small groups. In addition, political involvement inspires participation from various parties, including universities, community groups, and political parties (Loconto et al., 2020). If political theory is understood as it is, then there is the possibility of a deviation from political accountability because society does not properly understand its own interests, both as individuals and as a collective entity (Callari, 2016). Kung describes how the minimum requirements for the existence of a human, pluralistic society require an ethical agreement that becomes the norm, not just a minimal consensus, regarding the fundamental need to accept different political, social, and religious perspectives.

German government regulations such as physical distancing and limiting group sizes, designed to curb the spread of COVID-19, have far-reaching consequences for the foundations of social life (Forbes, 2021). They have, among other things, changed greetings and farewells, blurred the private and public worlds, and complicated basic communication

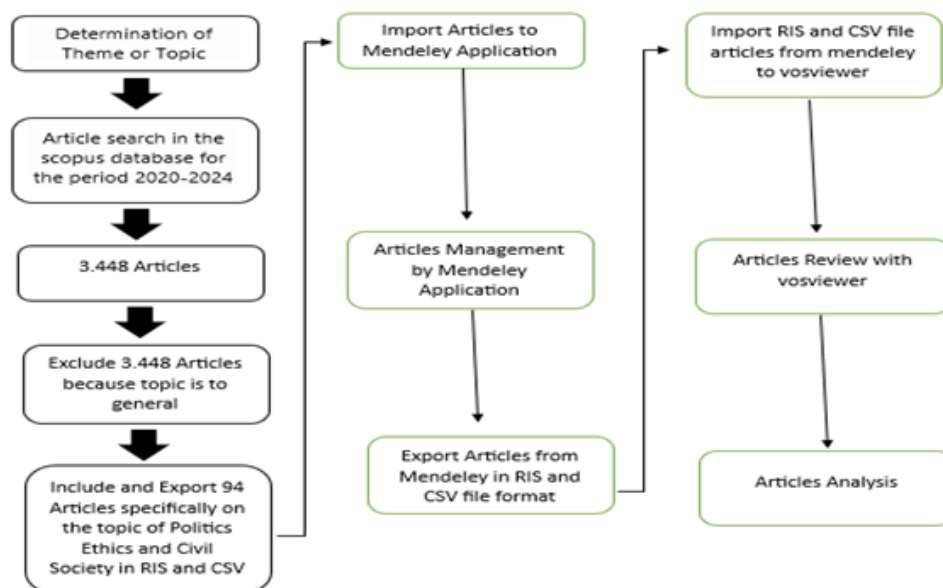
with mandatory mask-wearing. Supporting the improvement of society's welfare is the most basic responsibility of civil society, and the government also has the same goal in this regard (Arnold & Bischoff, 2023). Those in the public sector involved in economic development are largely responsible for these efforts. In development, they seek to improve the economic welfare of underprivileged or disadvantaged communities (Lhotska et al., 2019). Oneway civil society groups are trying to alleviate poverty is by creating more opportunities for women and farmers. By coordinating efforts with domestic and international financing organizations, they want to increase the income of low-income communities. Most charity groups run by members of civil society provide food, clothing and other basic necessities to those in need, especially those from low socioeconomic backgrounds (Reis Brandão & Cabral, 2019).

There are various challenges faced by civil society when they want to carry out their political role in building democracy. This study found that there are several intellectual civil society groups who have different views about the political role of civil society in building democracy (Kreft, 2019). Critical intellectual groups who view the political role of civil society can build democracy if civil society can function as a controlling force against regime power. Moderate intellectual group. This group views that the political role of civil society is still a long process and has a future in bringing democracy to a progressive democracy that has a dynamic future. The latter is a simultaneous intellectual group. The hybrid intellectual group views that the political role of civil society in building democracy in Indonesia cannot be judged as failure or success (Ellerich-Groppe et al., 2021). This is because for the intellectual group, the simultaneous political role of civil society in building democracy will be determined through history whether the political role of civil society can bring Indonesian democracy towards progressive democracy or whether it will actually cause problems in the democratic climate.

The integralistic state is a school of thought that is heavily influenced by Hegel's ideas and emerges from the harmony of organic society which prioritizes common interests above personal gain (Marra, 2022). The state, according to integralist theory, is an integrated society that is built integrally. In society, humans do not exist in isolation, but rather as an organic unit, working together to achieve a common goal. To achieve this fundamental goal, the leader must assume the role of shepherd, directing the flow of other biological components toward a state of harmony between himself and those he leads (Khan, 2011).

Research Method

This research examines various articles that are closely related to politics, ethics and civil society. Articles of international scale and reputation were the main reference sources in preparing this research. The focus of the studies discussed in this research is based on several fundamental factors, especially in terms of understanding concepts, impacts and patterns related to political ethics and civil society. The researcher tries to summarize the research that has been reviewed by previous researchers to find a common thread to understand how ethics and civil society politics operate in the current era.



Gambar 1. Alur tahapan metode yang di gunakan dalam review ini dengan PRISMA.

Figure 1. The flow of the stages of the method used in this review with PRISMA

Shows that this research began by searching for articles with the keywords "politics ethics and civil society" in the Scopus database for the 2020–2024 period. This search identified 3,448 articles which were then reviewed based on stages: article search, article import in application software, and discussion topic mapping. Researchers obtained several articles that had a strong connection based on the following procedure: first, article identification, trying to sort and select various articles so that only those related to the topic were used. This was done by entering the keywords "politics ethics and civil society" in the search column, with restrictions from 2020 to 2024. Based on the search process, 3,448 articles related to this topic were obtained. The second stage is to verify the various articles found to find out whether they are really needed and closely related to the issue of democracy in the digital era. Verification is carried out by limiting the subject (social sciences), type of document (article), publication stage (final), and language (English). The verification process identified 94 articles/journals that were relevant to political ethics and civil society. These articles are used as references for studying "politics ethics and civil society.

The research framework in this study is based on the concepts and findings of previous research, the concept of political ethics with civil society, namely, Political ethics is a collection of moral norms that direct good political action and are in accordance with human rights, good attitudes, and also individual freedom (Cohen & Arato, 2020). Meanwhile, civil society, which consists of individuals, organizations and institutions that are not related to the government, has a vital role in ensuring good political ethics and monitoring the use of power by the government. Civil society helps maintain transparency, accountability and integrity in government. Civil society itself has the meaning (the free public sphere) is a place where people are free to think, act and reflect without interference from the government or

other official networks. This shows how important it is to have open public spaces. Local residents are welcome to use it in their free time as a public place (Feng et al., 2024). Joining a church or other religious group, a professional organization, a union representing employees or farmers, or any number of other community-based organizations constitutes civil society. Another way to look at civil society is as a place where people come together to form groups that are not influenced by the government when they are first founded. Apart from exercising social control over the implementation of the work of executive, legislative and judicial institutions, civil society can also carry out its duties and functions as partners and cooperative partners with these institutions.

Results and Discussion

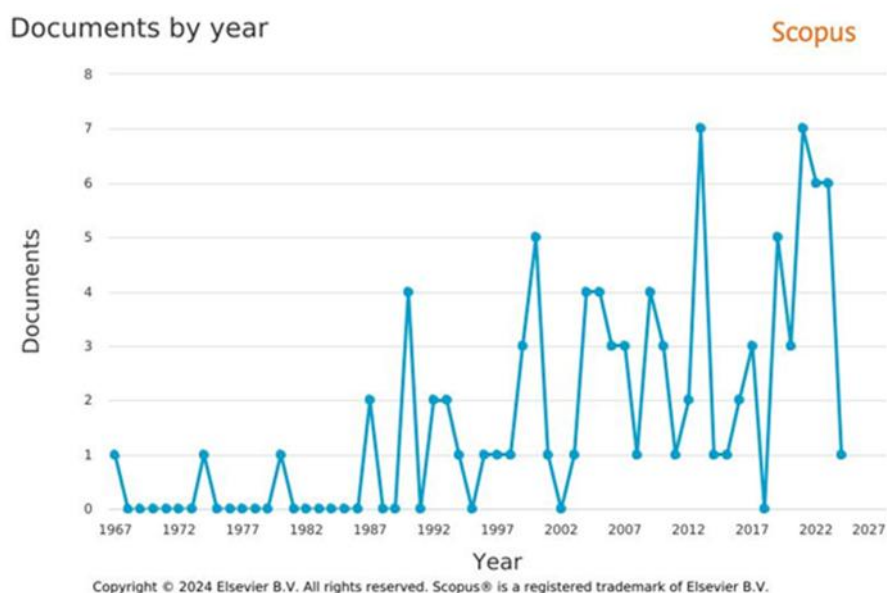


Figure 2. Trends in politics ethics and civil society publications in the period 1967-2023

Articles on the topic of ethics, politics and civil society are one of the most popular types of studies and continue to increase every year. Figure 2 shows that the topic trend from 1967 to 1982 was stagnant, in 1987 there was an increase until 1990 and there was a decline in 1992 then it increased again in 1993 and 1994, it fell drastically from 1995 and 1996, in 1997 and 1998 the topic whether it is constant or there is no change, there was a fairly high spike in 1999-2001, then it fell very drastically in 2002, then the topic rose again and was often discussed from 2003 to 2022. Trend topic regarding ethics and civil society The Scopus database based on this image shows the trend of the topics that are most frequently discussed and there is a fairly high spike, occurring from 2003 to 2022, where 2012 and 2022 are the highest years for discussing this topic.

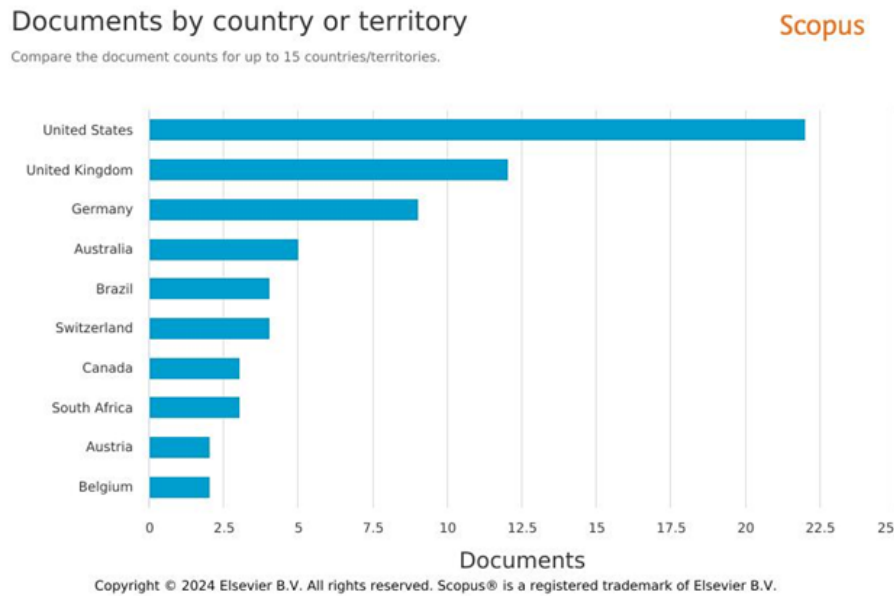


Figure 3. Documents by country or territory

Furthermore, based on Figure 3, the 10 countries with the highest number of publications related to Politics Ethics and Civil Society show that the countries that have the largest participation in publications on Politics Ethics and Civil Society include the United States with 21 documents. Followed by the United Kingdom with 11 documents. Next, then Germany with 9 documents, the next country is Australia with 5 documents, Brazil with 4 documents, Switzerland with 4 documents, Canada with 3 documents, South Africa with 3 documents, Austria with 2 documents and lastly Belgium as many as 2 documents.

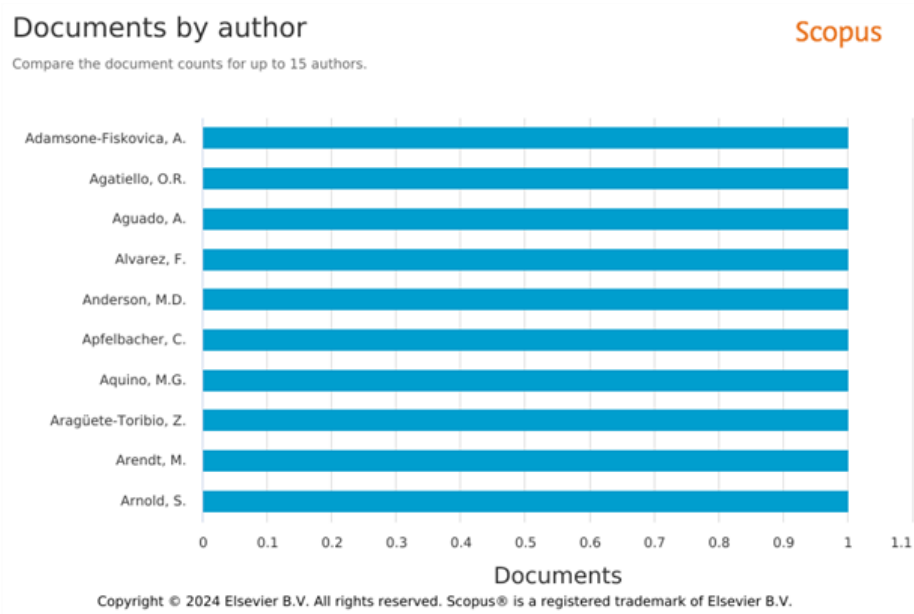


Figure 4. Documents by author

There are 94 documents or data obtained from Scopus which discuss the themes taken, namely ethics, politics and civil society. This theme discusses the relationship between political ethics and the role of civil society in making policies. With this document created by the author, the aim is to convey his thoughts which contain data and various factual events that occurred. Basically, this research is based on the systematic literature review method, therefore, in writing this research or scientific work, it is hoped that the author must be able to understand the purpose of his writing and be accompanied by various documents or the latest data in order to achieve the desired results. Figure 4. Shows the 10 authors with the highest number of publications related to politics, ethics and civil society. That in Figure 4 the number of documents about ethics, politics and civil society by researchers or authors is related to topics that have been researched in depth by the researchers. The picture shows the authors who have made the largest contributions to publications regarding politics, ethics and civil society. There are 10 top authors who contributed, including Adamsone Fiskovica, Agatiello, Aguado, Alvarez, Anderson, Apfelbacher, Aquino, Araguete Toribo, Arendt, Arnold with one document.

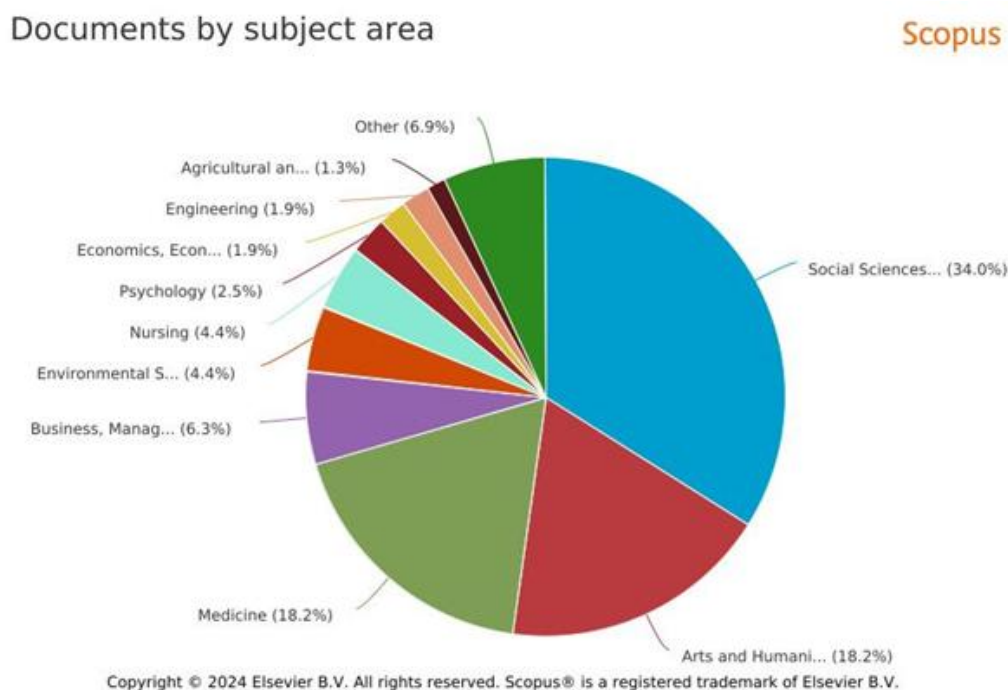


Figure 5. Disciplines in the study of politics, ethics and civil society

This research is accompanied by a subject area document, in the sense that the subject itself in the research contains the meaning of people who can provide information to answer the problem formulation regarding the role of civil society in influencing political ethics in government policy. These findings are also accompanied by various data to compile perceptions from various previous research findings so that they become one sub-discussion. So that later the discussion will provide the latest information regarding the influence of policies on the basis of political ethics and the role of civil society. Figure 5 shows that the subject area that has the largest contribution to publications regarding politics, ethics and civil society is Social Science at 34.0%. Followed by Medicine and Arts and

Humanities at 18.2%. Furthermore, business management was 6.3%. Environmental Science and Nursing at 4.4%. Followed by physics at 2.5%. Next is Economic with 1.9%. The Engineering subject is 1.9% and Agricultural is 1.3%. Furthermore, other subjects.

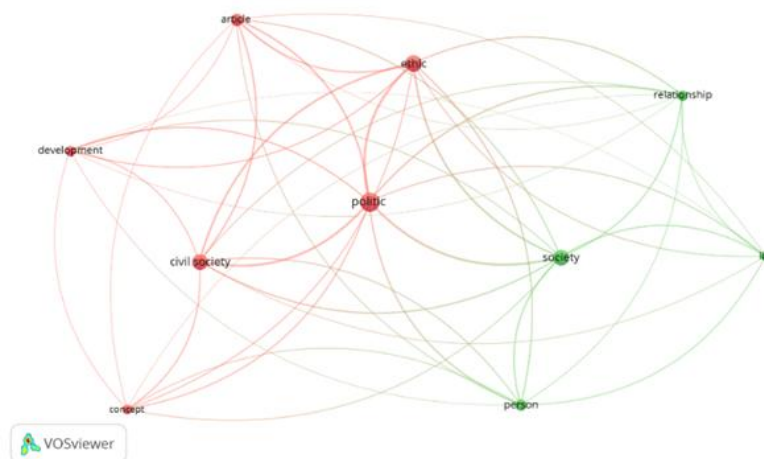


Figure 6. Keyword clusters

Figure 6 shows that VOSviewer analyzed a minimum of 10 relevant keywords from 94 articles and found 10 keywords. These keywords are divided into 2 large clusters. In Figure 5 there are 2 main clusters, namely treatment (green) and sample (red). This means that the keyword is the most dominant or most widely used. The treatment cluster contains keywords regarding society, person, life, and relationship. The sample cluster contains the keywords politics, ethics, civil society, article, development and concept. Each main cluster forms relationships with other main clusters. Likewise in the main cluster itself, it is connected to one another. This shows that the study of politics ethics and civil society is related to one another.

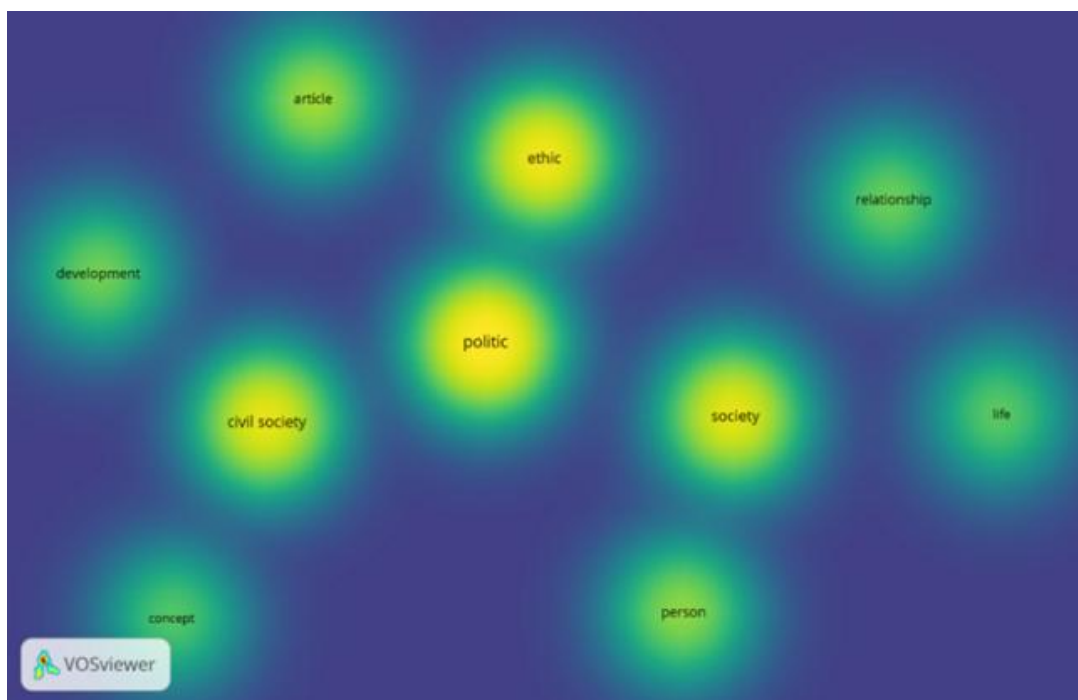


Figure 7. Object destiny

The image above has the meaning of density which has been processed using the Vosviewer application as software specifically designed for analysis and visualization of bibliometric data. With the main aim of simplifying the process of analyzing and understanding the relationships between various clusters in the database. Based on Figure 7, object density, there are several keywords that indicate the most research being studied, marked in bright yellow, which means there is more research related to the theme that will be discussed. On the other hand, if the color is opaque/not bright, then the amount of research in the dot will be less. In Figure 7, these keywords include politics, ethics, civil society, society. On the other hand, there are several keywords that have not been studied much, namely they are marked with a fading green color and the font size is smaller. The keywords are person, life, relationship, article, development, concept.

The results of this research show that studies on ethics and civil society in the Scopus database show trends in the topics that are most frequently discussed and there is a fairly high spike, occurring from 2003 to 2022, almost three times as much. Even though the topic from 1967 to 1982 was stagnant, in 1987 there was an increase until 1990 and a decrease in 1992 then increased again in 1993 and 1994, dropping drastically from 1995 and 1996, in 1997 and 1998 the topic was constant or not. there were changes, there was a fairly high spike in 1999-2001, then it fell very drastically in 2002, then the topic rose again and was often discussed from 2003 to 2022. This indicates that the theme developed by researchers in 2021 and 2022 will be the same as previous years. Figure 3 shows that among countries producing politics, ethics, and civil society journals, the United States ranks first. This is because schools in the US are strongly encouraged by the government to continue studying various aspects of political ethics for the good of society. Apart from that, the

scientific work produced by students at several world-renowned universities can certainly become a benchmark for other institutions throughout the world.

From the 2 reasons above, it is very relevant that the United States is the largest contributor in publishing journals about politics ethics. Apart from that, the author has the largest contribution to publications regarding public relations, government communication. There are 10 top authors who contributed including Adamsone Fiskovica, Agatiello, Aguado, Alvarez, Anderson, Apfelbacher, Aquino, Araguete Toribo, Arendt, Arnold with 1 document (figure 8). Based on this information, the author concludes that several American authors helped push the United States to become a leading publisher of politics and ethics journals. Figure 6 displays the most popular search terms used by ethics, politics, and civil society publications, and shows that these terms are grouped into at least two related groups. This shows that political ethics and civil society are interrelated, where civil society mostly consists of organizations that are not related to the government.

The findings from this research show that the relationship between civil society and the state cannot be separated (Brandsen et al., 2017). Civil society plays an important role in implementing policies provided by the government. Civil society contains people who are brought together into one because of common interests and goals. One of the goals of civil society is to stem the power of the government, by monitoring all ongoing government activities (Smidt et al., 2024). Apart from that, civil society with political ethics is also the basis for the government in managing political problems properly, while civil society helps monitor and ensure the implementation of the concept of political ethics.

In previous research, it was found that the relationship between political ethics and policy, which is important to understand, is that political ethics is the moral basis used in forming and directing policy (Hutchings, 2004). Political ethics are moral norms that concern political decision making and actions necessary to ensure the welfare of society. Policies made by the government must pay attention to political ethics to ensure that the decisions taken are balanced, transparent and tangible for all parties. Political ethics also helps in ensuring harmony in political relations, so that an unethical political action will disrupt political harmony (Paul et al., 2021). The reason is that, when we talk about something "moral", we always talk about humans as ethical objects. Human nature is the foundation of political ethics, which further confirms the main ethical principle that good deeds originate from the human condition.

Political ethics aims to inform the ethical principles used to regulate politics in society. The goals of political ethics concern how politicians are responsible for their political actions and their moral legitimacy. Political ethics also aims to create rules in the recognition of power that are relevant to people's lives (Dempsey et al., 2023). The scope of political ethics. In a country, political ethics is one of the ethics that shapes a nation's outlook on life. Political ethics views human responsibility as citizens and as human beings. The scope of political ethics is limited to theories that discuss responsible ways of legitimizing political activities. Political ethics is not built on presumptions and emotions. The basic principle of political ethics is rational reasoning with an objective point of view (Lutz, 2022). Political ethics is also not involved in the study of political practice, but only provides an objective assessment

of issues of political thought. The urgency of political ethics. Ethics are moral values that guide humans in deciding what is good and bad. In today's political context, ethics is a guideline for politicians and government officials to do good and avoid evil. Under any circumstances, whether normal, safe, orderly, controlled, or disorderly or chaotic, it cannot be separated from the existence of political ethics. In chaotic situations, political ethics becomes increasingly important.

Civil society relations in influencing political ethics in government policy have a monitoring role. The purpose of supervision carried out by civil society in political ethics is to ensure that the system of government being fought for is in accordance with the required moral norms. The forms of supervision generally carried out by civil society in each region generally vary, this is part of the response from society (Barros & Taylor, 2020). However, in all areas, there are the same options, submitting demands to legislative bodies, holding rallies, and providing comments through various media. For example, there were several attempts made by environmental civil society organizations to organize workers to carry out a mass strike, but these efforts did not produce results. In carrying out the supervisory function, there are aspects that need to be taken into account in the context of maintaining relations between social entities and the state.

Conclusion

The relationship between ethics, politics and civil society in a country cannot be separated. The role of civil society plays an important role in implementing policies provided by the government. One of the roles of civil society is to have a role in influencing political ethics in government policy making which leads to supervision by community groups. The relationship between political ethics and policy that is important to understand is that political ethics is the moral basis used in forming and directing policy. With civil society in implementing a policy, there needs to be supervision to ensure that the government can run the government well and based on the needs of the community. Apart from that, it is also to stem the power of the government from being arbitrary. By monitoring all ongoing government activities, the supervisory function carried out by civil society is to supervise and control government activities, especially in matters relating to public policy. One way of monitoring civil society can be carried out through various methods, such as participatory supervision of citizens.

The contribution in this research is the development and deeper understanding of political ethics and civil society as well as providing new insights into the relationship between politics, ethics and civil society. Through the analysis and exploration that has been carried out, this research shows that political ethics and the role of civil society have an interrelated relationship, political ethics is the basis for the government in managing political problems properly, while civil society helps monitor and ensure the implementation of the concept. political ethics. Through analysis and exploration, this research makes an important contribution to the development of government science, especially in understanding the relationship between politics, ethics and civil society. The results of this research contribute to the development of a research roadmap on politics ethics and civil

society. Although this article has limitations in using data that only comes from the Scopus database, so that the research findings cannot comprehensively describe the issue of politics, ethics and civil society, the mapping of references and topics in this article can be used as a basis for determining and developing political ethics studies. and civil society so that in the next stage research on politics, ethics and civil society will increasingly receive attention from many scholars, which will then have implications for the development of political ethics both conceptually and practically. Therefore, future research needs to utilize scientific articles sourced from other reputable international databases, such as Web of Science and Dimensions Scholars. This section provides conclusions regarding the level of achievement of community empowerment activity targets. It provides information on the suitability of community empowerment methods to the problems, needs, and challenges present in the community empowerment activity area. It provides conclusions regarding the impact and benefits of community empowerment activities. It provides suggestions for further community empowerment.

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