



Indonesia Civil Society Forum 2022
Advancing Inclusive Democracy in Indonesia
Jakarta, 30 - 31 March 2022



Day 2: Plenary Keynote Address and Panel Discussion

Inclusive Democracy and Civil Society

March 31, 2021, 08:00 – 10:00

Since democratic and decentralization reforms in 1998, Indonesia has enjoyed a vibrant democracy. Indonesian civil society organizations (CSOs) have both contributed to and benefitted from key democratic achievements, and there remains strong support for democracy and regional autonomy in Indonesia. However, during the past few years, a stagnation and decline in democracy has occurred, with declining scores in several key indexes. Indonesia might not have decline as rapidly as many other countries around the world, but neither is the country immune to authoritarian tendencies. Day 2 of the ICSF 2022 will discuss what civil society and CSOs can contribute to putting a brake on further democratic backsliding in Indonesia.

This session will explore how CSOs can strengthen the democratic practices at the local level and advance a democratic renewal. An active and empowered civil society and public is imperative to succeed in the fight against corruption and abuse of public power. It is not sufficient with a procedural democracy, but Indonesia should strive to become a deliberative democracy that involves citizens on a daily basis, not just during elections every five years. Musrenbang and other citizen participation channels are important contributions.

The session will begin with a keynote address by Prof. Azyumardi Azra focusing on the roles of civil society to shape and contribute to democratization in Indonesia. The plenary panel discussion and breakout sessions will expand on this, covering ongoing struggles to protect human rights for marginalized groups, the resilience of democratic value and norms, and challenges and opportunities for anti-corruption, and innovations in democratic governance, featuring prominent civil society activists and government reformers.

Guiding Questions:

1. The health of civil society in Indonesia in era of global democratic decline, and what are Indonesian CSOs to address the democratic deficit
2. How have recent pressures on freedoms and democracy affected CSOs?
3. How has an increase in populism and social conservatism affect civil society and the performance of democracy?
4. Recent development for women and vulnerable group in civil society
5. What are the strategies from government to deepen democracy and support a strong and independent civil society?

Keynote Speech:

Professor Emeritus Azyumardi Azra, Universitas Islam Negeri Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta

Moderator Plenary Panel Discussion:

Budhita Kismadi, INSPIRIT

Panelists:

- Adnan Topan Husodo, Indonesian Corruption Watch
- Hilmar Farid, Director General of Culture, Ministry of Education and Culture
- Bima Arya Sugiarto, Walikota Kota Bogor
- Bivitri Susanti, Jentera Indonesia
- Retha Dungga, IndoRelewan