

**GLOBAL NETWORK OF ELECTORAL JUSTICE
NUSA DUA, BALI 2022**

DECLARATION

On October 11, 2022, 37 participants from electoral and judicial authorities of 19 countries, 4 independent electoral experts, 10 representatives from 8 international organizations, 8 experts from 8 academic institutions and 2 participants from 2 non-governmental organizations gathered in Indonesia for the 5th General Assembly of the Global Network on Electoral Justice (GNEJ) to uphold their commitment to the strengthening of just electoral mechanisms, which serves as an important pillar of trust and accountability. The BAWASLU, together with other Indonesian electoral management bodies, civil society organizations, and electoral practitioners, are privileged to host this event, which we dedicate as a commemoration of our mission to promote and protect democracy globally.

Undeniably, the Covid-19 Pandemic has had a profound impact on our democratic practices, challenging established electoral processes and, ultimately, causing the degradation of electoral rights in some states. At the same time, we are witnessing an abundance of misinformation and disinformation, which have very corrosive effects on our democracy. These pose a threat to the very foundation of democracy, which has been painstakingly built throughout the years, sometimes at the cost of lives. Now, more than ever, we must recognize the importance of bringing electoral justice closer to citizens, and more accessible to all vulnerable sectors.

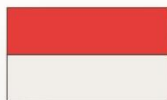
We, the delegates, would like to take this opportunity to commit ourselves to uphold our mandate as advocates of electoral justice amid these challenging times. We commit to adopt innovative and responsive actions that consider not only the law, but the interests of citizens as holders of these electoral rights.

We also commit to be inclusive in advocating for electoral justice and advance our electoral systems. We recognize the importance of mutual cooperation (*gotong royong*¹) to include civil society organizations, educational institutions, media, political parties, and other democratic institutions to foster harmonious dialogue. This effort is particularly important in our collective efforts to resolve and mitigate the dangerous effects of mis- and dis-information in our society, especially as it impacts electoral processes.

We also express our commitment to advocate for inclusion and greater participation in the global movement that promotes electoral justice and democracy. This recognizes the voices of all,

¹ *Gotong royong* is a word from Bahasa Indonesia (the Indonesian Language) used to describe the act of sharing responsibility. The word is used traditionally within the idea of collective, consensual and cooperative society.

FIFTH PLENARY ASSEMBLY OF THE GLOBAL NETWORK ON ELECTORAL JUSTICE



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regardless of differences in language, culture, and history. We also recognize such diversity as a source of strength as we build towards stronger and more resilient elections in the future.

Hence, this Assembly hereby adopts the deliverables developed in the three observatories and endorses their dissemination as useful reference tools for electoral justice worldwide.

The participants in the Fifth Plenary Assembly would like to express their deep gratitude to the Bawaslu for their extraordinary role as Presidency of the GNEJ and hosts of this meeting. We reiterate that all members of the GNEJ, whether institutions or individuals, shall fully comply with the principles set forth in Article 3 of the Constitutive Act of the GNEJ and underline our commitment to support all efforts to maintain this increasingly relevant Global Network on Electoral Justice.

