

Hoax Terkait Covid-19 di Indonesia: Sebuah Literasi untuk Memperkuat Kemitraan Pemerintah Terbuka

Hoax Related to Covid-19 in Indonesia: A Literacy to Strengthen Open Government Partnership

Apneta V Dihandiska, Rino A Nugroho, TB Santoso

Department of Public Administration, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences

email:rino.nugroho@staff.uns.ac.id

Abstrak

Di penghujung tahun 2019, dunia dihebohkan dengan kemunculan virus baru yaitu virus Covid-19. Virus ini pertama kali ditemukan di Wuhan, China pada Desember 2019. Menurut WHO, Covid-19 merupakan penyakit menular yang disebabkan oleh virus corona yang baru ditemukan. Jumlah kasus terkonfirmasi di Indonesia semakin hari semakin meningkat, sehingga dalam menangani wabah Corona, peran pemerintah dan masyarakat sangat penting untuk menekan laju penularan. Salah satu hal yang perlu menjadi perhatian pemerintah dan masyarakat dalam penanganan wabah ini adalah fenomena penyebaran hoax yang terjadi di masyarakat selama pandemi ini. Oleh karena itu, pemerintah dan masyarakat harus mengambil langkah-langkah strategis untuk mengatasi masalah tersebut, salah satu langkah yang dapat dilakukan adalah dengan memperkuat konsep kemitraan pemerintahan terbuka yang telah dijalankan oleh pemerintah Indonesia sejak tahun 2011. Salah satu peran yang dapat dilakukan pemerintah adalah Bermain adalah memperkuat data lapangan agar kebijakan yang diambil dapat menjadi strategis. Hal tersebut dapat dilakukan dengan menggunakan penelitian terkait hoax, namun pada kenyataannya masih sedikit penelitian terkait hoax selama pandemi. Penelitian ini akan memaparkan pola interaksi penyebaran infodemik di media sosial sebagai dasar pertimbangan pemerintah dalam pengambilan kebijakan dengan memperhatikan prinsip-prinsip OGP.

Kata Kunci: Open Government; Hoax, Covid-19; Era Pandemi

Abstract

In late 2019, the world was shocked by the emergence of a new virus, the Covid-19 virus. This virus was first discovered in Wuhan, China on December 2019. Covid-19 is, according to WHO, an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus. The number of confirmed cases in Indonesia is increasing every day, so in dealing with the Corona outbreak, the role of the government and society is very important to reduce the rate of spread. One sector that needs to consider by the government and the public in handling this outbreak is the phenomenon of hoax spreading that occurred in the community during this pandemic. Therefore, the government and society must take strategic steps to solve this problem; one of the steps that can be taken is to strengthen the concept of open government partnership that has been run by the Indonesian government since 2011. One of the roles the government can play is to strengthen field data so that

the policies taken can be strategic. This can be done by using research related to hoaxes, but in fact there are still few researches on hoaxes during the pandemic. This research will present the interaction pattern of the infodemic distribution on social media as a basis for government consideration in policy making by taking into account the principles of OGP.

Keywords: Open Government; Hoax; Covid-19; Pandemic Era

Introduction

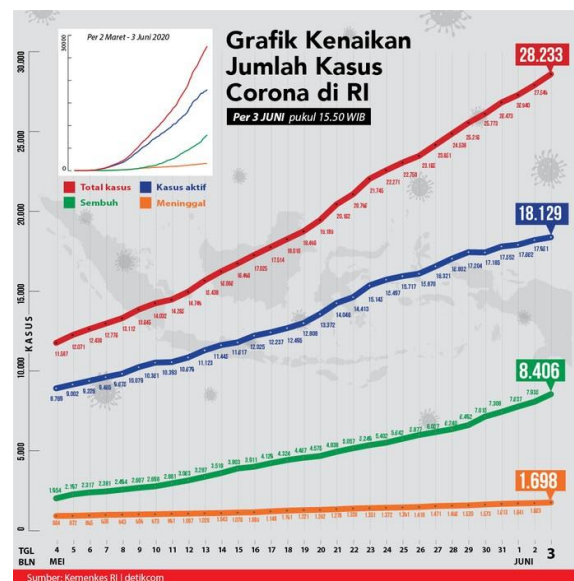
In late 2019, the world was shocked by the emergence of a new virus, the Covid-19 virus. This virus was first discovered in Wuhan, China in December 2019. This virus was first discovered in Wuhan, China on December 2019. Covid-19 is, according to WHO, an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus. Coronavirus is a group of viruses that can cause disease in animals or humans. Several types of coronavirus are known to cause respiratory tract infections in humans ranging from cold to more serious coughs such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). The newly discovered coronavirus causes the COVID-19 disease. The symptoms experienced by Covid-19 patients are almost similar to flu-like illness fever, fatigue, dry cough, stuffy nose, runny nose, sore throat and breathing difficulty. The virus which has a very fast spreading rate has spread to 213 countries, including Indonesia. This virus can be transmitted from person to person and has spread widely in China and more than 190 other countries and territories. On March 11, 2020, WHO declared COVID-19 a pandemic.

In Indonesia, the first cluster of the spread of Covid-19 began at the end of February 2020. The incident began when two seminars were held in Bogor City and unconsciously this incident was the first cluster of the Covid-19 virus spread in Indonesia. The participants of seminar who have returned to their respective areas transmit the Covid-19 virus to the people around them. The first case announced by President Jokowi and the Minister of Health, Terawan, stated that there were two positive patients in Surakarta City and one of them died on March 11, 2020, followed by the second patient who died on March 18, 2020. Along with the official statement from the government with positive patients in Indonesia, the number of positive patients is also increasing. This information is shown on a website provided by the government.

The graph above indicates that the number of confirmed cases in Indonesia is increasing every day, so in dealing with the Corona outbreak, the role of the government and society is very important to reduce the rate of spread. The role played by those sectors must be done multisectorally because as we know the impact of COVID is also multisectoral. One sector requiring much attention from the government and the public in handling this

outbreak is the phenomenon of hoax spreading that occurred in the community during this pandemic. Hoax itself is a phenomenon of chaotic information, and this chaos can be further divided into three types: misinformation, disinformation, and malinformation. Misinformation is a condition when false information is shared but no harm is meant, disinformation is a condition when false information is knowingly shared to cause harm and malinformation is when genuine information is shared to cause harm (OECD 2020). This widespread of hoaxes during the pandemic is also known as an *infodemic*. An infodemic is an overabundance of information—some accurate and some not—that occurs during an epidemic (World Health Organizations 2020). If this spread is allowed to continue, it will result in a fertile climate for the spread of the infodemic. Therefore, the government and society must take strategic steps to solve this problem; one of the steps that can be taken is to strengthen the concept of open government partnership that has been run by the Indonesian government since 2011.

Figure 1
Number of Covid-19 cases in Indonesia as of March-June 2020



information or knowledge by extracting value from large volumes and a variety of dynamic data through analysis and discovery (Anshari et al, 2018).

In its implementation, OGP holds four principles: transparency, participation, collaboration and innovation. The first principle that becomes the foundation of the OGP movement is, according to Hamdi and Sudarno (2017), the openness of public information; a government is said to be open if the data it controls can be accessed by civilians. The second principle is community participation; in every open government decision-making, not only it will involve the community in making decisions, but the community also has the right to be involved in monitoring the implementation of the policy and conducting evaluation. This is in line with the statement made by Horacio Rodríguez Larreta, the Head of the Government of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, stating that the research shows that policies involving citizens in some initial stages they are likely to be implemented more efficiently and quickly. Better, more legitimate public policies are generally the result. This second principle also supports the existence of legal guarantees for the community to have freedom of expression, association and grouping. The third principle is high standard integrity and accountability, meaning that in implementing open governance, we are committed to accountability and against corruption. The fourth principle in implementing OGP requires an improved access to new technology to increase transparency and accountability.

From those principles, one of the principles the government should taken into account when trying to stop the spread of infodemics is the principle of transparency referring to the openness of public information. In carrying out these principles, the government can take advantage of information communication technology whose development is getting more and more massive over years. Based on the Hootsuite report (hootsuite.com, 2020), it is known that the number of social media users in Indonesia has reached 160 million users. The number of social media users in Indonesia increased by 12 million (8.1 percent) between April 2019 and January 2020. Social media penetration in Indonesia reached 59 percent on January 2020 (Agustina, Kompas.com). These numbers gave the government a chance to use social media to provide information and to seek for public interaction and collaboration (Utama 2019).

The use of social media as a forum for providing official information is one of the strategies that can be taken by the government to strengthen open government partnership and suppress the spread of infodemics in society. However, to do this, the government needs strong scientific data about what is happening in the field, so that the steps taken to overcome the spread of infodemics can run optimally.

One of these data can be obtained through research on the spread of infodemics, related to both the type of infodemic spreading and the pattern of infodemic distribution, but unfortunately research on this is still very rare in Indonesia. Therefore, this study will try to present information related to infodemics occurring and infodemic distribution patterns so that later the results of this study are expected to be a reference for government and society to overcome this phenomenon.

Methods

To find out the type and pattern of infodemic that spread in social media, this research used a mixed study, referred to as mixed methods, which is a procedure for collecting, analyzing, and "mixing" or integrating quantitative and qualitative data at several stages of the study process in a single study to obtain a better understanding of the problem of the study (Tashakkori and Teddlie 2003; Creswell 2005). The design used in this study was a mixed methods sequential explanatory, the design of a study that consists of two different phases, quantitative and qualitative (Creswell et al., 2003). In this design, a researcher first collects and analyzes quantitative (numerical) data. Then, the qualitative data (text) are collected and analyzed to help explain or elaborate the quantitative results obtained in the first stage. The second phase, qualitative, is built on the first phase, quantitative, and the two phases are connected at an intermediate stage in the study. This approach was used because quantitative data and subsequent analysis provide a general understanding of the problem of the study. The qualitative data and the analysis refine and explain the statistical results by exploring participants' views in more depth (Rossman and Wilson 1985; Tashakkori and Teddlie 1998; Creswell 2003).

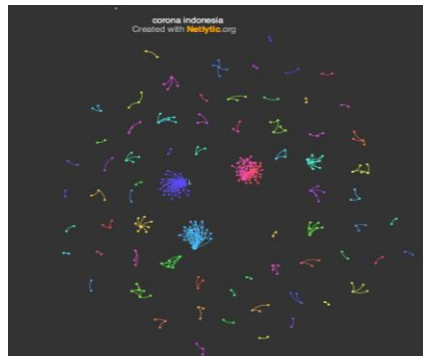
In this study, the quantitative method was used to describe the number of outdegree and indegree to examine the tweets on Twitter and the qualitative methods to deepen the findings on the previous results. The author used Social Network Analysis (SNA) to find out the buzzer accounts and the original accounts on Twitter. SNA can be described as a study investigating human relations by utilizing graph theory. (Tsvetovat & Kouznetsov, 2011: 1). Using the graph theory, SNA can examine the structure of social relations within a group to reveal informal relationships between individuals.

Result and Discussion

In this study, tweets were collected using the Twitter API via Netlytic. Netlytic is a cloud-based online software platform that can be used to analyze text and communication patterns that appear on social media. There were approximately 1990 data collected by

researchers to understand the phenomenon of the spread of hoaxes or infodemics about Covid on social media, especially Twitter. The data were collected using the keywords 'Covid Indonesia' and 'corona Indonesia', the addition of keyword *Indonesia* was used to narrow the search results into tweets that were only related to the condition of Covid in Indonesia. Out of 1990 tweets analyzed, 5 clusters were obtained which can be seen in figure 2.

Figure 2
Network Relation



Source: Researchers

Those clusters are further described in table to classify the types of hoax/infodemics tweets, as shown below.

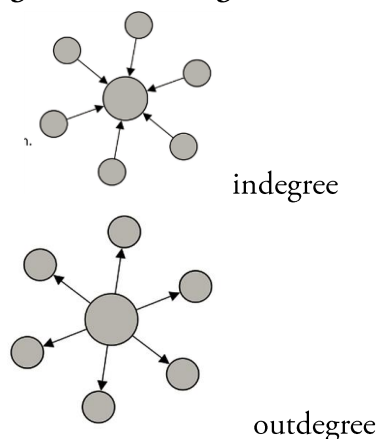
Table 1
Node Relation Total

Twitter Account	indegree	outdegree	Total
cluster 1	42	0	42
cluster 2	25	0	25
cluster 3	23	0	23
cluster 4	18	1	19

cluster 5	7	0	7
-----------	---	---	---

The table shows the Node Degree occurring from the search results. The node Degree is the number of edges adjacent to that node, Indegree is the number of edges pointing into the node and Outdegree is the number of edges pointing out of the node. In this study, the nodes referred to in this study are Twitter accounts. The nodes are described as follows:

Figure 3
In-degree and out-degree illustration



Source: McGlashan, J et al (2016)

In the indegree account, the variables with high indegree are impacted by other multiple variables. An indegree of 0 means that variable is not influenced by others in the system. Meanwhile, in the outdegree account, the high out-degree variables have an ability to change many others in the system. Variables with an outdegree of 0 do not directly influence others. From the table, it can be seen the first cluster with an independent number of 42 nodes, meaning that Twitter accounts in cluster 1 mention other accounts with the same topic, the second cluster with an indegree number of 25 nodes, cluster 3 with a total of 23 nodes. , cluster 4 with an independent number of 18 nodes and cluster 5 with 7 nodes. In this case all clusters have the same topic of discussion, i.e. hoaxes during a pandemic as it is today. As for the table, it can be seen that there is an outdegree of 1 node in cluster 4, meaning that there are accounts often mentioned by other users in the cluster.

With regards to cluster interactions of one to five researchers will provide examples of interactions in the table below:

Table 2.

Cluster 1	
Author	Tweets
miharja_ozzy	Friends, President @jokowi's decision to form a Covid& amp; The economic recovery which put @airlangga_hrt as Team Leader has hurt the people. Covid transmission shot up 60s lockdown countries in Indonesia. Fire Airlangga, who has FAILED TOTALLY, to save the people. https://t.co/vfIShjAXlo
Cluster 2	
AndrinaNilvia	Do we want to reduce the number of Covid-19 cases in Indonesia? It is easy: - Reduce the number of PCR tests in DKI Jakarta, because Jakarta is the highest 'contributor' of positive cases nationally. - Do not enter Cengkareng Airport test results into DKI numbers. Enter the numbers "overseas".
Kumis20191	After this September, only photos of Jokowi with masks were advertised.

	After 6 months the Covid-19 virus comes uncontrollable. Many people fight it themselves, pay for their own rapid tests, isolate themselves, and the outside world isolates Indonesia, etc. #Savecitizen https://t.co/55eBGihEV2
Cluster 3	
MondlightA	A Pentagon source said the "COVID-19 Pandemic" was being used as a Protection in Italy to Lock Up the Entire Population as "Tons of Gold, Documents and ... (Hidden by the Khazar Mafia who began to be panic and desperate. Is there a white military hat in Indonesia as the savior of the nation?)
Cluster 4	
Paulispoal (indegree)	After this September, only photos of Jokowi with masks were advertised. After 6 months the Covid-19 virus comes uncontrollable. Many people fight it themselves, pay for their own rapid tests, isolate themselves, and the outside world isolates Indonesia, etc. #Savecitizen https://t.co/55eBGihEV2
Syahganda	After this September, only photos of

(outdegree)	Jokowi with masks were advertised. After 6 months the Covid-19 virus comes uncontrollable. Many people fight it themselves, pay for their own rapid tests, isolate themselves, and the outside world isolates Indonesia, etc. #Savecitizen https://t.co/55eBGihEV2
Cluster 5	
ianwkwkwk9	ADMINISTRATION IS SILENT BETWEEN DPR & JOKOWI GOVERNMENT HAS GENERATED THIS HARAM Law: Corona Law MK Law 1 September 2020 BPIP Bill Minerba Bill Omnibus Law Bill BI / Monetary Board Bill "SL Crime Is Happening in Indonesia" https://t.co/8rdhFbFOC6 #Jokowimasterminofdestruction

These tweets indicate the spread of hoaxes on social media, in this case Twitter. As in cluster 1, it is a type of malinformation hoax where this information is known to be true but is used to threaten someone with that identity. In a tweet made by the miharja_ozzy account, it is known that the account issued a threatening tweet to the President regarding the policy issued and the tweet incites the hatred against the group, in this case the government. In the cluster, these two types of hoaxes belong to Misinformation hoaxes where the information provided is not clear and the information provider does not know the truth. From the two tweeter accounts in cluster 2, it can be seen that the person believes

in the truth of unknown information, as did the user of the Andrina Nilvia account who tweeted about the PCR test in DKI Jakarta which should not have included the Cengkareng Airport test result data into the DKI data. Enter the number "overseas" to reduce the level of Jakarta's figure as the first contributor to the number of positive Covid-19 patients in Indonesia. Then, another example of a tweet was made by the Kumis20191 account saying, "After this Sept, Jokowi's masked photo is advertised. After 6 months the Covid-19 virus comes uncontrollable. Many people fight alone, pay for their own rapid tests, isolate themselves, the outside world isolates Indonesia, etc.". Viewed from the facts since it was declared a pandemic by WHO on March 11, 2020, the Government is trying to promote a healthy lifestyle besides that the government has issued various policies to maintain national stability. In the tweet, the account user had spread false information regarding health and this information was disseminated without any verification from the competent authority, in this case the Indonesian Covid-19 Handling Task Force. This information is likely intended to harm others. Furthermore, Cluster 3 is a type of disinformation hoax, namely untrue information, and the person spreading it also knows that the information is not true. This information is a lie that is deliberately distributed to deceive, to threaten, and even to endanger other parties. In the third cluster the tweets made by the MondlightA account contain a conspiracy regarding Covid-19. Disinformation usually tends to contain false content and content that is manipulated into fake content. This account tends to create a conspiracy for the existence of Covid-19 which seems to be used as a protection in Italy to lock up the entire population while "Tons of Gold, Documents, and ... (Hidden by the Khazar Mafia who are starting to panic and desperate. Are there military white hats in Indonesia as Salvation of the Nation)". As happened in the first cluster, cluster 4 is also a type of malinformation hoax where this information is known to be true but used to threaten someone with that identity. Furthermore, cluster 5 is a type of misinformation hoax similar to the previous cluster where the information collected provided is misleading content on the example of a tweet made by ianwkwkwk9 containing "DIAM2 ADMINISTRATION BETWEEN DPR & amp; JOKOWI GOVERNMENT GENERATES THIS HARAM Law: Corona Law MK Law 1 September 2020 BPIP Bill Minerba Bill Omnibus Law Bill BI / Monetary Board Bill "Crime is Happening in Indonesia" #JokowiDalangKehancuran #JokowiDalangKehancuran ". Information is misleading content among the public, this information is incorrect information but the information provider has confidence in the information's reliability. In providing the information, Twitter account users also tend to give hate speech to the government and this information is disseminated without any verification from the authorities.

These findings indicate the types and patterns of hoaxes occurring on social media. In the future, these findings are expected to be taken into account by the government when formulating a strategy to strengthen open government through using social media to stop the spread of hoax and infodemic news.

Conclusion

Information control, especially regarding the condition of Covid-19, needs special attention from the government because so far there has been a lot of information about infodemics. Therefore, government and society must take strategic steps to overcome this problem, one of which is to strengthen the concept of open government partnerships that have been implemented by the Indonesian government since 2011. One of the roles the government can play is to strengthen field data, so that the policies taken can be strategic. This can be accomplished using research related to hoaxes, but in fact there are still very few researches related to hoaxes during the pandemic. This research shows that the distribution of infodemics on social media can be divided into three types, namely misinformation, disinformation and malinformation. The three types can be used as a reference for the government to regulate open government, the principle of transparency.

Reference

- Anderson, B. (1983). *Imagined communities*. London: Verso.
- Anshari, M., Almunawar, M. N., & Lim, S. A. (2018, February). Big data and open government data in public services. In *Proceedings of the 2018 10th International Conference on Machine Learning and Computing* (pp. 140-144).
- Austin, D. (2009). Fatty acids, breastfeeding and autism spectrum disorder. *E-journal of Applied Psychology*, 5(1), 49-52. Retrieved from <http://ojs/lib.swin.edu.au/>
- Bland, B. (2020, March 18). COVID-10 reveals cracks in Indonesia's leadership. *Channel News Asia*. Retrieved from <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/commentary/covid-19-coronavirus-jokowi-indonesia-government-responsehealth-12551876>
- Buzan T. (2007). Mind maps. September 3, 2009, retrieved from http://www.buzanworld.com/Mind_Maps.html.
- Deden Witarasyah Jacob *et al.*, (2019). Analyzing the Barrier to Open Government Data (OGD) in Indonesia. *International Journal of Advanced Trends in Computer Science and Engineering*, Vol. 8. No. 1.3, 2019, 136 - 139
- Fauzi, I. A. (2019). dkk,“. *Buku Panduan Melawan Hasutan dan Kebencian*,” Pusat Studi Agama dan Demokrasi, Yayasan Paramadina Masyarakat Anti Fitnah Indonesia (Mafindo), Bandung.
- Fung, M. (2006, December 12). Asthma rates are increasing. *Winnipeg Free Press*, pp. C4.

- Goddy-Worlu, R. N., Ayo, C. K., & Geteloma, V. O. (2019, December). A sustainable ubiquitous engagement platform for open government Implementation. In *Journal of Physics: Conference Series* (Vol. 1378, No. 4, p. 042037). IOP Publishing.
- Harris, M. (2011, August 16). Grades improve if classes start later, studies find. *The Calgary Herald*. Retrieved from <http://www.calgaryherald.com/>
- Kusumaningrum, D. (2016). Interdependence versus truth and justice: lessons from reconciliation processes in Maluku. *Jurnal Ilmu Sosial dan Ilmu Politik*, 20(1), 15. doi: 10.22146/jsp.17998
- Lee, G., & Kwak, Y. H. (2011, June). Open government implementation model: a stage model for achieving increased public engagement. In *Proceedings of the 12th Annual International Digital Government Research Conference: Digital Government Innovation in Challenging Times* (pp. 254-261).
- Lee, K. (2004). Reading and learning strategies: recommendations for the 21st century. *Journal of Developmental Education*, 28(2), 2-15.
- Mancusa, S., & Viola, A. (2015). *Brilliant green: the surprising history and science of plant intelligence* (J. Benham, Trans.). Washington, DC: Island Press.
- McGlashan, J., Johnstne, M., Creighton, D., de la Haye, K., & Allender, S. (2016). Quantifying a systems map: network analysis of a childhood obesity causal loop diagram. *PloS one*, 11(10), e0165459.
- OECD. (2020). Transparency, communication and trust: The role of public communication in responding to the wave of disinformation about the new coronavirus.
- Rossmann, G. B., & Wilson, B. L. (1985). Numbers and words: Combining quantitative and qualitative methods in a single large-scale evaluation study. *Evaluation review*, 9(5), 627-643.
- Smith, F. M., & Jones, W. (2004). The college student. In C. Wood & M. Meyer (Eds.), *Cross-cultural education* (pp. 75-105). London, Canada: MacMillan.
- Smith, G. (2012). Barthes on Jamie: Myth and the TV revolutionary. *Journal of Media Practice*, 13, 3-17. doi: [10.1386/jmpr.13.1.3_1](https://doi.org/10.1386/jmpr.13.1.3_1)
- Tashakkori, A., & Teddlie, C. (2003). The past and future of mixed methods research: From data triangulation to mixed model designs. *Handbook of mixed methods in social and behavioral research*, 671-701.
- TransCanada. (2006). *Annual report*. Retrieved from http://www.transcanada.com/investor/annual_reports/2006/media/pdf/TransCanada_2006_Annual_Report.pdf
- Tsvetovat, M., & Kouznetsov, A. (2011). Social Network Analysis for Startups: Finding connections on the social web. "O'Reilly Media, Inc."
- World Health Organizations. (2020). *Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) situation report – 86*