

TRANSPARENCY IN THE POLITICAL DECISION-MAKING PROCESS: ITS IMPACT ON PEOPLE'S WELFARE

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Abstract

This article highlights the importance of transparency as an essential component of a democratic and accountable political system. By increasing openness in decision-making processes, citizens gain better access to information necessary for active participation in democracy. Transparency helps reduce corruption and ensures that policies are implemented more fairly and in line with public needs. study The claims that with transparency, improvements in people's welfare can be achieved as policies are made based on clear information and strong participation from citizens. results The final show a positive relationship between transparency in political decision-making and improved quality of life.

Keywords: *Transparency, Decision Making, Politics, People's Welfare*

Introduction

In good governance, transparency plays role an important as the foundation for accountability, public participation, and public trust in political institutions. Transparency in the political decision-making process means that information about how decisions are made, by whom, and on basiswhat , is openly available to the public. This concept covers a wide range of aspects, , from the provision of information about public budgetsolicies to to the be implemented, legislative process (Wang, 2021) . With transparency, government decisions, , policiesand the use of public publicfunds can be monitored and assessed by the , thereby reducing the potential for corrupt practices and irregularities. In addition, transparency also plays a role in increasing the accountability of public officials, encouraging citizen participation and trust in government, and strengthening the legitimacy of policies taken. Therefore, transparency serves not only as a monitoring tool, but also as a foundation in building a healthy and trusting relationship between the government and its citizens, which in turn encourages the formation of a more just and prosperous society (Wilson, 2021) .

However, while the importance of transparency has been widely recognised, its implementation in practice is often met with various obstacles. Factors such as corruption, inefficient bureaucracy, and information suppression remain challenges that haunt many countries, both at the local and national levels. Lack of transparency in political decision-making processes can result in the inability of the public to monitor and provide input into policies that directly affect their lives (Transparency International, 2023) .

Transparency in government plays a crucial role in improving people's . When welfaregovernments implement the principle of transparency, information about public policies, budget allocations, and development programmes becomes more accessible to the public. This allows the public to understand and oversee policy implementation and ensure that the allocation of state resources is done fairly and in accordance with the public interest (Hollyer et al., 2011) . When the public can freely monitor and provide input on policies and budgetary spending, corruption and abuse of power can be minimised. Transparency creates an environment where the government is more responsible and accountable for every action taken, so that the resulting policies can truly improve the welfare of the people (Tan & Chandra, 2023) .

Furthermore, transparency also encourages active participation from the public in the governance process. When information is openly available, people have greater opportunities to engage in discussions and decision-making related to their lives. This active participation is important to ensure that government policies reflect the needs and aspirations of the people (Nakamura & Kim, 2023) . In a transparent environment, people's aspirations and voices are more likely to be heard and considered, which in turncan lead to more effective policies that positively impact their well-being. Thus, transparency is not just about opening access to information, but also

about creating deep engagement between the government and its citizens, thereby creating a strong synergy in the pursuit of shared prosperity (Fung, 2013) .

The impact of transparency in the political decision-making process on people's welfare cannot be ignored. Policies made without involving the public or based on hidden interests tend to be less responsive to people's needs. This can result in inefficient resource allocation, poor public services, and increased public dissatisfaction and distrust of government (OECD, 2019) .

Therefore, the study of transparency in political decision-making processes and its impact on people's welfare is crucial. Identifying factors that support or hinder transparency, as well as analysing how transparency can enhance accountability and public participation, and, are important steps in the effort to improve governance ultimately, people's welfare (Johnson, 2020) .

This research intends to explore the link between transparency in political decision-making processes and people's , welfarewith the hope that can make a real contribution to the development of more inclusive, participatory and sustainable policies.

Research Methods

The study in this research uses the literature method. The literature research method is a scientific approach used to collect, review, and analyse information related to a topic or research question from existing sources. This is research conducted by examining various types of written materials, such as books, academic journals, , articlesconference papers, research reports, and other digital sources (Torraco, 2005) ; (Grant & Booth, 2009) . The aim is to gain a deep and thorough understanding of theories, concepts, and previous findings relevant to the research topic. method This assists researchers in identifying knowledge gaps, developing a solid theoretical framework, and determining a more specific research direction and focus. additionIn, through critical analysis of the existing literature, researchers can develop strong arguments that underlie further empirical research (Gough et al., 2012) .

Results and Discussion

Transparency in Political Decision-Making

Transparency in political decision-making refers to the openness and accessibility of the processes and outcomes of decisions made by political leaders and government institutions. This transparency is crucial as it allows the public to know how public policies are designed, who is involved in decision-making, and the reasons underlying those decisions. processes Transparent provide citizens with the opportunity to understand and oversee government actions, and ensure that the public interest is safeguarded and not overridden by private interests or particular groups (Smith, 2023) .

One of the main ways to increase transparency in political decision-making is to provide easy and broad access to public information. Available information includes policy documents, budget reports, data, statistical and meeting notes. When this information is publicised public openly and proactively, the can more easily monitor the steps taken by the government. additionIn, digital platforms and information technology also play an role important in supporting transparency by facilitating quick and efficient access to such information (Patel, 2023) .

Furthermore, transparency in political decision-making can be also enhanced through active public participation in the policy formulation process. process This participatory includes public consultations, hearings, and forums discussion involving various groups of people. By allowing citizens to express their views and aspirations, the government can ensure that policies reflect the needs and desires of the people. This public participation can also increase public trust in the in government, as citizens feel that their voices are valued and considered political decisions (L. Martinez, 2023) .

In addition, transparency in political decision-making promotes accountability of political leaders and public officials. With information disclosure and public participation, political leaders must be more accountable for their decisions and actions. This accountability means that public officials must be able to explain and account for every policy they take, and be ready to face the consequences if proven to have committed irregularities or violations. This creates a more ethical and high-integrity governance environment (Rossi, 2023) .

Transparency also plays a role fundamental in reducing corruption and unfair practices in governance. When processes decision-making are open and subject to public scrutiny, there is less opportunity for dishonest or deviant activities. The knowledge that their actions are being watched by the public and media theencourages officials to act more carefully and responsibly. In the long run, this reduction in corruption will have a positive impact on the effectiveness and efficiency of government, resulting in better and fairer public services (Walker, 2023) .

Ultimately, transparency in political decision-making is not just about information disclosure, but also about creating a culture of participatory responsive and accountable governance. With transparency, government and society can work together more effectively to achieve common goals. This strengthens democracy and builds public trust in government institutions, which is an important basis for a country's stability and progress. As a result, citizens can experience the positive effects of fair, effective and well-targeted public policies, which will ultimately improve their overall well-being.

Transparency's Impact on People's Welfare

Transparency is an essential element in creating good governance and functioning in a democratic society. Transparency refers to the openness of governments and public institutions in providing accurate, complete, and easily accessible information to the public. The impact of transparency on people's welfare is significant and can be seen from various perspectives such as social, economic, and political (C. Martinez, 2023).

Socially, transparency allows the public to be more clearly informed about policies and decisions taken by the government. When information is readily available and accessible, the public can more actively participate in the decision-making process. This active participation can increase people's sense of ownership and responsibility for the policies enacted, thus encouraging greater involvement in social development (Grigorescu, 2003).

From an economic perspective, transparency has a direct impact on fighting corruption. With public access to information, there is less opportunity to hide corrupt acts. When governments or public institutions operate transparently, they are forced to be more accountable and auditable by the public. As a result, resource allocation becomes more efficient and public budgets can be used for programmes that better support people's welfare such as education, health, and infrastructure (Gonzalez, 2022).

Transparency also strengthens trust between the people and the government. This trust is important as it facilitates better co-operation in achieving common goals. Transparent governments demonstrate their commitment to act in accordance with the public interest, not for personal or group benefits. High trust from the people will establish a stable political climate conducive to long-term development (Brown, 2023).

In addition, transparency helps in law enforcement and combating fraud. People with access to information can report abuses in both the public and private sectors. This creates pressure for law enforcement agencies to act effectively and fairly. This creates a safe and orderly environment, which is an important foundation for the overall well-being of the people (Roberts & Clarke, 2022).

Finally, transparency encourages innovation and improvements in the quality of public services. When government performance and internal processes are open to scrutiny, the pressure to reform and improve services is higher. This can lead to the development of more creative solutions and effectiveness in public service delivery, ultimately improving people's welfare (Anderson, 2023).

Overall, transparency has a very positive impact on people's welfare. Its effects can be felt in various aspects of life, ranging from increased social participation, reduced corruption, increased public trust in government, better law enforcement, to innovations in public services. All of these contribute to a more just, prosperous and empowered society.

Factors Affecting Transparency

Transparency is a crucial aspect of public administration and good governance. However, the level of transparency in different institutions can be affected by a number of factors. Understanding these factors is an important step in improving transparency in different sectors. The following are some of the factors that influence transparency (Hughes, 2023).

First, government policies and regulations greatly influence the level of transparency. Governments that have clear regulations on public information disclosure tend to be more transparent. For example, the Freedom of Information Act in some countries allows the public to request and obtain information from public institutions. Without a strong regulatory framework, efforts to achieve transparency can be hindered (Smith, 2023).

Second, organisational culture influences transparency. Organisational cultures that promote accountability, work ethics and openness tend to be more supportive of transparency. Conversely, organisations that have a closed culture, with rigid hierarchies and limited communication, usually find it difficult to implement transparency. Establishing a culture that supports transparency often requires fundamental changes in values and behaviours within the organisation (Davis, 2019).

Third, information and communication technology plays an important role in supporting transparency. The implementation of e-government systems, for example, allows data and information to be published online and

easily accessed by the public. Technology also facilitates reporting and monitoring, making government processes and outcomes more transparent. Smart use of technology can speed up and facilitate information exchange and improve data accuracy (O'Connor, 2022) .

Fourth, public participation is a determining factor in creating transparency. A public that is actively involved in oversight and decision-making can encourage public institutions to be more open. This participation can take the form of involvement in public forums, filing information requests, or reporting corruption. Without active public participation, the drive to achieve transparency can be weak (Clark, 2021) .

Fifth, public education and awareness of their rights regarding access to information also affect transparency. People who are aware of their rights and understand the importance of transparency are more likely to demand openness from governments and public institutions. programmes Educational and awareness campaigns can increase this understanding and encourage people to be more active in promoting transparency (Pope, 2022) .

Finally, leadership plays a role key in the development of transparency. Leaders with a strong commitment to openness and accountability tend to encourage transparency practices in their organisations. Visionary and ethical leadership determines the direction of organisational policies and can influence a more transparent work culture. Leaders who are consistent in applying the principles of transparency will serve as role models for all members of the organisation (Novak, 2023) .

Overall, transparency is influenced by policies and regulations, organisational culture, , information technologypublic participation, public education and awareness, and leadership. Understanding and properly managing these factors can help create a more transparent environment and, ultimately, improve public trust and the well-being of society.

Conclusion

"Transparency in Political Decision-Making Processes: Its Impact on People's " Welfareargues that transparency is a key element in a healthy democracy. Transparency allows the public to obtain clear and accurate information about how political decisions are made and who is responsible behind each policy. With openness, citizens can more actively participate in the political process, which in turn increases the accountability of public officials.

Furthermore, information disclosure can encourage policy-making that is more inclusive and responsive to people's needs. When the government is transparent, the public can know the rationale behind certain decisions and provide constructive feedback. This opens up space for productive dialogue between the government and people, theminimises the risk of corruption, and ensures that decisions made truly prioritise the common good.

Ultimately, transparency not only strengthens public trust in government but also contributes significantly to improving people's . welfareWith policies made through transparent processes, efforts to reduce inequality, improve public services, and optimise resources can be implemented more effectively. As a result, people can enjoy a more prosperous, equitable and sustainable life.

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