

## **Paradigms of National Insights in The Post-Reformation Era: From Ontology to Epistemology**

**Lestanta Budiman<sup>1</sup>, Dwi Hari Laksana<sup>2</sup>, Hastangka<sup>3</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Pusat Studi Pancasila Universitas Pembangunan Nasional Veteran Yogyakarta, Indonesia,

<sup>2</sup>FEB Universitas Pembangunan Nasional Veteran Yogyakarta, Indonesia,

<sup>3</sup>Universitas Mercu Buana Yogyakarta, Indonesia

### **Abstract**

The paradigm of nationalism focuses on the study of social sciences and humanities, which discusses issues of the state and nation in the modern era. The tradition of critical thinking about the nature of the state and nation has become the attention of thinkers about the state and nation in the last 20 years. The fundamental problem in this critical study of nationalism is to lay an ontological basis for states and nations that experience dualism. First, the ontology of the state rests on the people, which was formulated by the period of Plato and Aristotle. Second, the ontology of the state rests on power which renaissance thinkers around the 19th have composed to 20th century. In the Indonesian context, the tradition of critical thinking about the state and nation has focused more on instilling the values of the nation and the state since Indonesia's independence. This perspective becomes part of the subject of this research because the political process in understanding the life of the nation and state from time to time experiences dynamics and developments. This study aims to examine the tradition of critical thinking that developed in Indonesia through an empirical study approach to see the younger generation's perspective in understanding their nation and country in the post-reformation era. The purpose of this study is to gain a perspective on the ontological and epistemological basis of the national insight in question.

**Keywords:** *Paradigm, national insight, ontology, epistemology*



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### **INTRODUCTION**

National insight is one of the ideas developed in Indonesia as part of building ideas, imagination, and values to become a nation called Indonesia. Nationalism insight was introduced explicitly into a scientific discipline since the establishment of the national defense institution which President Soekarno pioneered, then changed its name to the National Resilience Institute (Lemhannas). The forerunner of thinking about nationalism was built from the source of state power and authority to orient citizens in interpreting the nature of the state and nation.

In its development, the idea of national insight developed theoretically about national insight and entered the realm of national and state orientation. The orientation of the nation and the state is included in the realm of state philosophy so that the discipline of national insight becomes the subject of debate and discussion in the environment of philosophy, psychology, constitutional law, political science, and related social sciences and humanities.

Efforts to build a citizenship-oriented paradigm of national insight is still important homework for the developing country of Indonesia. So far, the paradigm of national wisdom is built from the state's perspective. The state, as the owner of authority and power, has formulated ideas about national insight. This study will analyze the paradigm of national insight that developed in Indonesia in the post-reformation period by looking at the developing ontological and epistemological aspects. Ontology in this context was defined as a branch of philosophy that discusses the structure and processes as well as the relationship between objects and reality (Smith, 2003). This ontological review will be the basis for

Corresponding author

Lestanta Budiman, [lestantabudiman@upnyk.ac.id](mailto:lestantabudiman@upnyk.ac.id)

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thinking in describing aspects of national insight that have developed so far. On another aspect, the approach used in this study also lays out an epistemological approach. Epistemology is a reflection of growing rationality. Epistemology is a branch of philosophy that analyzes and explores reality, sources of knowledge, and the truth of knowledge from philosophical aspects (Ichikawa, 2020). The issue of national insight when viewed from an epistemological point of view will become a problematic issue because ideas about national insight in general have not yet become a meeting point from the time of the source of knowledge that underlies national insight as science, as knowledge and as a basis for convincing people to become Indonesian. . Beliefs that precede these empirical facts need to be tested. As described by Ichikawa, that belief is one form of anchor for rationality that always needs to be tested by existing reality (Ichikawa, 2020).

The tradition of critical thinking to explore the idea of national insight becomes necessary. This study seeks to get ideas and ideas about the conception of national insight possessed by the younger generation through empirical studies. This research aims to obtain a paradigm of national insight that has developed since the post-reformation from the ontological to the epistemological aspects.

#### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

Nationality has various meanings and concepts. In the Big Indonesian Dictionary (KBBI) definition, the term nationality has 4 implications, namely. 1. Characteristics that characterize a group of nations. 2. Regarding the nation; concerning (related to) the nation, history. 3. Position (nature) as a person starting (nobility).4. Self-awareness as a citizen of a country (KBBI online). Another understanding states that Indonesian nationality was intended as a perspective on oneself and their homeland by prioritizing regional unity and integrity in implementing national, state and community life (Ciputra University, 2020). The ideas and conceptions of nationality that are developing today involve perspectives and self-awareness as citizens of the nation. The national orientation discussed in this study will focus more on awareness of being a nation and a perspective on oneself and one's homeland by prioritizing unity and integrity. Harris, in his book entitled Problems of democracy and nationality in the reform era, discusses issues of democracy and nationality that are based on the perspective of self and society in building national and state bonds in the context of ensuring democracy is in accordance with national interests and citizens and guaranteeing the life of the nation and state. which leads to unity and oneness. Something that is not in accordance with this will be considered a national issue (Harris, 2014). The Directorate of Politics and Communications of the Ministry of National Development Planning/BAPPENAS stated that national issues that have occurred in Indonesia since post-reformation can be seen from four main aspects, namely: first, changes to the constitution through amendments to the 1945 Constitution as the basis for building the government system, state institutions, and state processes have had an impact on The national political system experiences various ups and downs. Second, the crisis of leadership and example, since post-reform, the Indonesian nation has experienced a multidimensional crisis that makes people feel they have lost a good national leader, who has Pancasila, is nationalist and fights for the national interest. The problem of national leadership is considered to be the root of the emergence of various derivative crises. Third, social conditions and society, the Indonesian state and nation are faced with an increasingly dynamic, complex, and unstable social and community condition, the emergence of various tensions or social conflicts caused by the weakening of commitment to the values of national and state life. Fourth, global and regional strategic environmental conditions in the form of changes and global dynamics that tend to bring about changes in mindsets, lifestyles, and value systems that are increasingly globalized, which has an impact on the erosion of the values of the nation's character that are built and shaped through

family education, community education, and education. formal education (Directorate of Politics and Communication of the Ministry of National Development Planning/BAPPENAS, 2017).

National issues that have occurred since the post-reformation era have been revealed and documented in various studies and research conducted by various institutions, including government agencies, independent institutions, and universities. The Minister of Home Affairs, Tjahjo Kumolo (8/5/2018), in a release delivered by the media *Republika* stated that the Indonesian people, namely face 3 main national issues: first, the problem of radicalism, terrorism which leads to wanting to replace the Pancasila ideology, wanting to change the ideology of Pancasila. The 1945 Constitution, wants to destroy the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia and wants to destroy the plurality of the Indonesian nation. Second, the drug problem currently happening in Indonesia and the country is in danger of drugs. Third, corruption (*Republika* online, 18/5/2018). Samekto explained that the issues of nationality that have emerged since the post-reform era started with reducing the values of Pancasila. The euphoria of reform has led to a rejection of Pancasila. Pancasila is considered an instrument only to maintain the status quo, so reformation era politicians consider Pancasila not too important in laying the political foundation and state administration. Samekto takes pictures around post-reform national issues from two main influential aspects: global market capitalism and radicalism, which give birth to intolerant actions and movements, denying efforts for religious harmony (Samekto, 2020).

In 2020, the Ministry of Politics, Law and Human Rights conducted a study and public consultation to map and identify national issues in Padang from September 30 to October 1, 2020. The activity aims to collect information and get input on strategic issues of national unity from stakeholders, mass organizations, media and community groups. Religion, national character, national vigilance problems, black campaigns, money politics, and ASN neutrality in general elections. The results of the discussion showed that the national issues that emerged were revealed from the participants, including the problem of character crises in children and the younger generation as well as advances in technology and information without any proper filters. Many practices and applications of national character have not been carried out properly, the provision of material is only done without evaluating its application thoroughly ([sumbarprov.go.id](http://sumbarprov.go.id), 2020). The statement from the Minister of State Apparatus Empowerment and Bureaucratic Reform (PANRB), Tjahjo Kumolo, stated that the national problem faced by the Indonesian nation was the existence of radicalism. This statement was conveyed at the 2020 National Leadership Training Change Project Design (PKN) seminar, Thursday 11 June (Post city, 2020).

The issue of radicalism is also reinforced by the news that has been carried out in the Kalimantan island region through the Sanggau news release stating the results of the national dialogue organized by the Regional Council of the Alumni Corps of the Islamic Student Association (KAHMI) Sanggau, Thursday (16/1/2020) at the Sanggau Police Hall as well. many highlight the issue of radicalism which is increasingly widespread and many state administrators are indicated to be exposed to radicals, and are followed by acts of terrorism in a number of areas ([kabar.sanggau.go.id](http://kabar.sanggau.go.id), 2020). Various studies have shown that studies specifically to measure and see the national orientation of the young generation have not been carried out for this purpose, this study will focus on the national orientation of the younger generation about the Indonesian nation. The younger generation in the laws and regulations specifically Law Number 40 of 2009 concerning youth, which is meant by youth is based on the age range of 16 to 30 years that youth is an Indonesian citizen who enters an important period of growth and development aged 16 (sixteen) to 30 (thirty) years (Law Number 40 of 2009, article 1 paragraph 1). The discussion of the younger generation in this study will focus and limit the younger generation with a vulnerable age of 16 to 30 years. Youth at this vulnerable age are categorized as young people who enter the educational age

period, including the education age category from high school to university. The issues surrounding youth are important to understand and re-examine based on previous studies showing the dynamics and the wider scope of youth studies.

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

This research method uses a quantitative and qualitative approach. Quantitative approach by conducting surveys and qualitative approach by conducting literature studies. Data analysis was used in this study using interpretation analysis and data reduction.

## **FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

Results Nationality has various meanings and concepts. In the Big Indonesian Dictionary (KBBI) definition, the term nationality has four implications, namely. 1. Characteristics that characterize a group of nations. 2. Regarding the nation; concerning (related to) the nation, history. 3. Position (nature) as a person starting (nobility). 4. Self-awareness as a citizen of a country (KBBI online). Another understanding states that Indonesian nationality was intended as a perspective on oneself and their homeland by prioritizing regional unity and integrity in implementing national, state and community life (Ciputra University, 2020). The ideas and conceptions of nationality that are developing today involve perspectives and self-awareness as citizens of the nation. The national orientation discussed in this study will focus more on awareness of being a nation and a perspective on oneself and one's homeland by prioritizing unity and integrity. Harris, in his book entitled *Problems of democracy and nationality in the reform era* discusses issues of democracy and nationality that are based on the perspective of self and society in building national and state bonds in the context of ensuring democracy is in accordance with national interests and citizens, and guarantee the life of the nation and state. which leads to unity and oneness. Something that is not following this will be considered a national issue (Harris, 2014). The Directorate of Politics and Communications of the Ministry of National Development Planning/BAPPENAS stated that national issues that have occurred in Indonesia since post-reformation can be seen from four main aspects, namely: first, changes to the constitution through amendments to the 1945 Constitution as the basis for building the government system, state institutions, and state processes have had an impact on The national political system experiences various ups and downs. Second, the crisis of leadership and example, since post-reform, the Indonesian nation has experienced a multidimensional crisis that makes people feel they have lost a good national leader, who has Pancasila, is nationalist and fights for the national interest.

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Youth at this vulnerable age are categorized as young people who enter the educational age period, including the education age category from high school to university. The issues surrounding youth are important to understand and re-examine based on previous studies showing the dynamics and the broader scope of youth studies. Studies on youth or youth issues related to education, character, ideals, and potential, rights, and responsibilities as youth have been carried out. Approaches to the study of youth

are also developing. The issue that is currently rife regarding youth or the younger generation is the involvement of the younger generation in acts of terrorism and radicalism, which has increased quite sharply. Various surveys and news releases pay attention to the role of the younger generation involved in acts of terrorism. Swandaru's view of popular sovereignty states that young people are considered to have conditions that are easily swayed, unstable, and easily influenced in thinking and acting. Each particular idea is swallowed raw and without careful consideration and then considered the truth (Swandaru, 2021). Terrorist groups and organizations can use this unstable and indecisive condition to use the younger generation in carrying out their actions. The study of Oktavia and Suprapti researched the motivation of the younger generation in agriculture or farming. This study indicates that the motivation of the younger generation in the agricultural sector is influenced by education, experience, comfort, the influence of the social environment, the influence of parents, and technology (Oktavia and Suprapti, 2020). Nanggala's research shows the younger generation's position and role, which is very important in the success of the new normal policy (Nanggala, 2020).

## **CONCLUSION**

This study indicates that the paradigm of national insight that was built since post-reformation leads to a centralized paradigm, where the role of the state still has a dominant influence in translating ideas about the nation and state. Epistemologically. Ontologically, the aspect emphasized on the formation of the society in national insight leads to the values of integration.

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