

Optimizing Communication Technology to Teach Law Education in Higher Education During the Pandemic: Documenting the Process

Yusuf Faisal Ali

STKIP Pasundan Cimahi, Indonesia; yusuffaisalali2016@gmail.com

ARTICLE INFO

Keywords:

communication technology;
documentation study;
law education;
pandemic;
teaching law education.

Article history:

Received 2022-01-03

Revised 2022-03-23

Accepted 2022-05-19

ABSTRACT

Teaching law education during the pandemic situation requires various efforts to foster the students' active participation. Among the efforts, the process of implementing the law education can be carried out by optimizing the technological devices and facilities. This article employed a descriptive case study as the research design. To collect the data, observation and documentation were used and to analyze the data, a content analysis was utilized. The study reported that the lecturer has used Zoom and Instagram as platforms to teach law education. This concludes three important messages, namely 1) communication technology as a vehicle for education in the concept of a rule of law in the academic community during the pandemic purposed to teach students about rights and obligations as good citizens, 2) the campus had a role to provide the concept of a law state through student campus activity programs, and 3) a way out to deal with educational obstacles to improve the quality of law education programs during learning within the Covid 19 pandemic. In conclusion, law education practice is still applicable in the online situation, as long as teachers facilitate students with high technological-based activities and creativity.

This is an open access article under the [CC BY-NC-SA](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/) license.



Corresponding Author:

Yusuf Faisal Ali

STKIP Pasundan Cimahi, Indonesia; yusuffaisalali2016@gmail.com

1. INTRODUCTION

Covid-19 pandemic has transformed communication technology to encourage changes in various aspects of learning. Kar et al (2020) explain that the Covid-19 Pandemic has affected human life globally. In addition, the pandemic has also changed the way of delivery around the world (Darras et al., 2020). In this regard, practical teaching and learning requires any innovation within the process, especially in learning the concept of rule of law. In terms of the practice of a democratic country like Indonesia, the concept of rule of law is one of the pillars in Character Education for legal awareness in Indonesia. The concept of rule of Law Education can be an institution for students' involvement

(Hidayah, 2020). The rule of Law Education concept can show that the law must be interpreted (Elliott, 2015). In the practice of a deep democratic state, this concept proposes to obtain and implement law education policies for the community.

However, the practice of teaching this concept during the Covid-19 Pandemic has encountered many obstacles. Some evidence in Indonesia has shown several difficulties in implementing the rule of Law Education concept, namely, the construction of Law Education is closely related to the right upon information during the pandemic (Christianto, 2020). Luckily the pandemic reminds us that learning is not only in the classroom, but also at home and many supporting places (Rochmani, 2020). In terms of law enforcement, the government must prepare further scenarios in handling Covid-19, especially to anticipate the predicted increase in the number of infections. Besides, the law must also be well-enforced when handling it in order that it can help to prevent a similar outbreak (Ramadayanti, 2020). There are many characteristics of law change during the pandemic, especially New Habits (Andi, 2020). New legal rules will be used to regulate life after the Covid-19 Pandemic (Suryono, 2020).

Based on the phenomenon concerning data and facts of the difficulty of implementing Law Education during the Covid-19 pandemic in Indonesia context, it is necessary to make efforts to optimize communication technology as a vehicle for education in the concept of rule of law for the academic community. This is in line with Rajkovi's statement (2010) that the highest constitutional rule spreads normative standards that are conducive for dominant state power. Based on the Indonesian Information and Communication Technology Development Index (IP-TIK), the use of communication technology in Indonesia in 2016 has reached 4.34 (scale 1 to 10) from 3.88 in the previous year. In addition, in Indonesia, the population of smartphone users has experienced a significant increase.

Regarding the current situation of implementing the concept of rule of Law Education during the pandemic, High School of Teacher Training and Education (STKIP) is one of the tertiary institutions in Cimahi City that carries out the activities of the Law State Concept Education course in the Department of Pancasila and Citizenship Education. The institute supports the steps taken by the government in developing the optimization of communication technology as a vehicle for education in the concept of rule of law in the academic community during the pandemic. The decision was made because according to the Indonesian Information and Communication Technology Development Index (IP-TIK), the use of communication technology in Indonesia in 2016 has reached 4.34 (scale 1 to 10) from 3.88 in the previous year. In addition, in Indonesia, the population of smartphone users has experienced a significant increase (Edwin, 2017). The description of the increase can be seen in the following figure.

Between 2013 and 2017, smartphone usage in Indonesia grew from 14% to 60%.

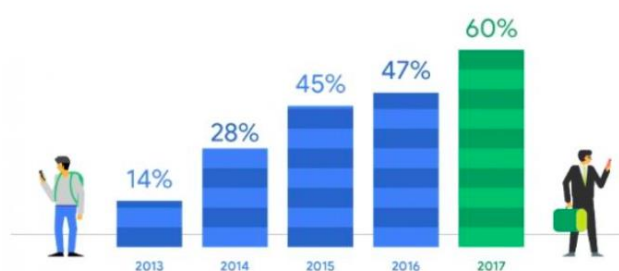


Figure 1. Growth of Smartphone Users in Indonesia

Source: Edwin (2017)

Previously, Casey (2021) investigated the experience of teaching legal education in the aftermath Covid 19 pandemic. He claims that there are two significant changes in the practice, namely the expansion of the online programs and students' wellbeing will receive more attention. To follow up this study, the current research tries to highlight the optimization of communication technology as a vehicle for teaching law education in the academic community during the Covid-19 pandemic in the context of an STKIP in Cimahi, West Java. The research question that is attempted to answer is, "How is the implementation of teaching law education at an STKIP in Cimahi during Covid 19 Pandemic?" By conducting this research, it is hoped that law education lecturers will get inspiration on how to instill the values in law education during online situations. Beside that, the activities shown in this article can also be an inspiration to follow by students in relevant faculties. Lastly, further studies can use this article as a reference to conduct research in similar areas.

2. METHODS

This study used a descriptive case study as the design of the research in order to dig deep information about the optimization of communication technology as a vehicle for teaching law education law in the academic community during the Covid-19 pandemic. The design was chosen because it allows the understanding and exploration of complex situations (Zainal, 2007). To collect the data, the researcher collected some documents that were relevant to answer the research question. At the outset, the researcher did an observation on how the lecturer taught students and embedded the values. The observation was conducted three times. From the observation, the researcher found out that the lecturer frequently utilized Zoom as the medium for asynchronous online learning. Meanwhile, other platforms were also used, such as Instagram and WhatsApp to instill the concept of the rule of law. As the data for this study, the researcher documented some screenshots that describe the process of teaching law education via Zoom meeting and some information spread via Instagram. Four photos were chosen to represent the activities. After the data was collected, the researcher analyzed them by using a content analysis method to determine the presence of particular concepts of the photo and draw a conclusion.

3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This study comes up with two main sub-themes after conducting the analysis. First, communication technology as a vehicle for education in the concept of a rule of law in the academic community during the pandemic was to teach students about rights and obligations as good citizens. Second, the campus has a role to involve the concept of a law state through students' campus activity programs. Third, a way out to deal with educational obstacles, the concept of a rule of law during the pandemic was to improve the quality of programs during learning. These two issues were manifested in the technological based activities using Zoom and Instagram.

1.1. Using the Technology of Zoom Meeting to Teach Synchronously

Based on the results of document analysis, the study indicated that the optimization of communication technology as a vehicle for education in the concept of the rule of law in the academic community during the Covid-19 pandemic purposed to teach students about their rights and obligations as a good citizen. This finding is supported by a study's finding that teaching students about their rights and obligations is one of the tasks given at every level of education (Ali, 2017). Besides, the optimization of communication technology is also in line with the analysis of technology

needs that information and communication technology (ICT) is currently being prepared for the community based on cutting-edge research in industrial laboratories (Lahlou, 2008).

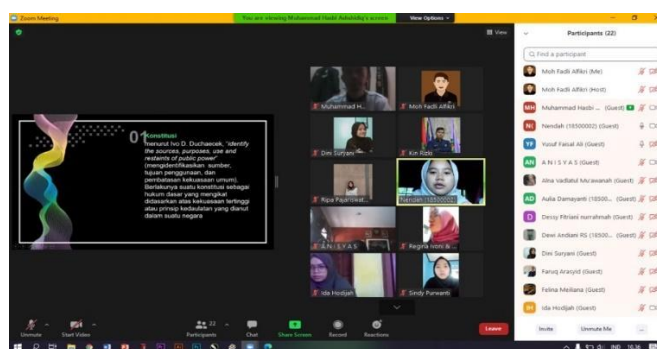


Figure 1. Online Learning through Zoom Meeting

This study also showed that communication technology emphasizes the theory and principles of the rule of law. These findings are similar to Skaaning's opinion (2009) that in many cases, the task of conceptualization is not based on theory, so that the main principles of the rule of law are sometimes ignored. However, the students at the research field had obeyed all existing regulations during the pandemic. Principally, techno-pedagogy theoretically supports the integration of technology in learning (Lawrence et al., 2020). Thus, the optimization of communication technology in this study was leading to the tendency for technology needs that the rapid development of information and communication technology has caused the internet and social media to become important platforms for public participation (Zhao et al, 2017).

As a response, the teacher/lecturer decided to utilize Zoom to assist him. Zoom was chosen as the platform that was used to teach law education synchronously because Zoom is a useful tool for hosting online synchronous meetings (Mouton, 2020). It has been easier to have virtual face-to-face engagement with individuals as computer-mediated communication has grown. Many researchers agree that Zoom has contributed positively in helping teachers during online teaching in pandemic (Anggraheni et al., 2020; Pike et al., 2020). Due to its beneficial advantages, the lecturer in this STKIP utilized this platform as a medium to teach law education.

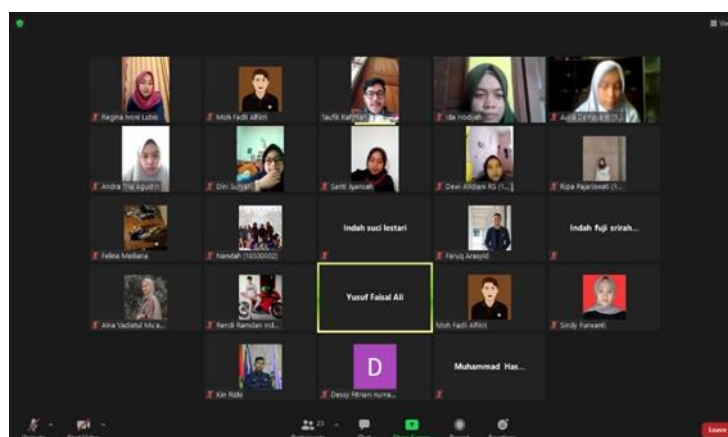


Figure 2. Online Learning through Zoom Meeting

Strictly speaking, teachers have significant roles in teaching and learning (Fauzi & Ali, 2017). The optimization of communication technology in the subject Rule of Law Concept at the research setting

had led to emphasize the importance of knowing the concept of the rule of law for Pancasila and Citizenship Education (PPKn) prospective teachers in Indonesia to create a reliable teaching profession in Indonesia's pluralistic society, because teaching condition is related to teachers' job satisfaction (Arnup & Bowles, 2016).

1.2. Utilizing Instagram to Spread Information Regarding Law Awareness Education

Instagram as one of the most popular social media is currently used as a teaching platform in diverse contexts (Carpenter, 2020; Handayani, 2015; Basith & Syafi'i, 2020).

In the research context, teaching students about their rights and obligations as good citizens during the Covid-19 pandemic was seen as a strategy to emphasize their role in providing the concept of the state of law through students' campus activity program. In socio-cultural context, technological developments and digital culture cannot be separated one another (Jin, 2017). Therefore, to emphasize the role of the campus, it has provided a student activity unit that can be used as a learning medium for students to understand the concept of the rule of law. The following figure informs the activity that is provided to achieve such a goal.



Figure 3. Activities of Students at UKM UTRECHT at the SKIP Regarding Legal Awareness during the Covid-19 Pandemic
 Source: Instagram UKM UTRECHT

Other results obtained from the analysis was that the optimization of communication technology as a vehicle for education at the research setting also had a global nuance that the concept of an opened society within the framework of an interdependent global conglomerate of nations, has created new challenges that can only be resolved in a global context (Zassoursk, 2002). The theoretical perspective holds that knowledge transfer may not represent the best choice of workers due to some concerns about losing knowledge suitability (Law, 2013). Therefore, education in the concept of rule of law at this STKIP is also strengthened by the provision of Citizenship Education course to reinforce the concept of a rule of law for students.

The presented hardware and software platforms have enabled smart technology design (Torah et al., 2019). For students, optimizing communication technology in the subject of the rule of law concept is to prevent them from misunderstanding the concept of the legal state in general and in the context of research setting.

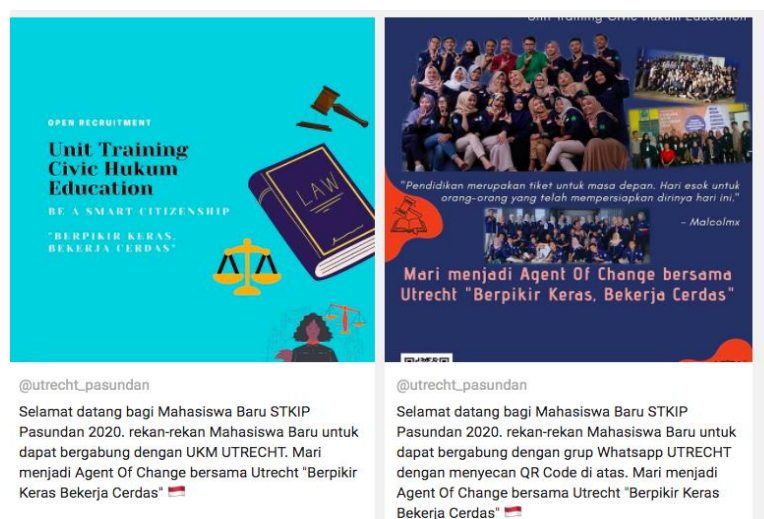


Figure 4. Activities of Students at UKM UTRECHT at the STKIP
Source: Instagram UKM UTRECHT

Based on the results of the analysis, the optimization of communication technology as a vehicle for education in the concept of the rule of law in the academic community during the Covid-19 pandemic at this STKIP was considered as a way out in facing educational obstacles. The concept of a rule of law during the pandemic was to improve the quality of programs during learning process. The benevolence of the rule of law is expected from judicial decision makers to enter administrative, executive decision-making parties, and to advance rule of law projects (Thompson, 2019). In the future, the work environment is recommended to integrate each individual (Broberg, 2000). Therefore, the rule of law education concept at the research setting was to prioritize their professionalism as prospective teachers of Pancasila and Citizenship Education (PPKn) in Indonesia. Integrating the work environment with technology for students at the institute was implemented to realize regular, conducive learning and achieve goals.

The optimization of communication technology as a vehicle for education in the concept of the rule of law in the academic community during the Covid-19 pandemic at the STKIP was a part of awakening students, so that they could be aware of the effects of prevailing technology in their environment. Similar to this, Saxena et al. (2020) state that technology has influenced every aspect of human life. In this context, student awareness is processed and obtained from citizenship knowledge (Trihastuti et al., 2020). Thus, it is clear that students at the research setting got any benefit from the optimization of communication technology in the concept of the rule of law for students, where they must be able to obey any existing regulation.

Teacher education is to educate the nation's teachers (Immig & Immig, 2006). Therefore, one of the efforts to instill the concept of a rule of law for Pancasila and Citizenship Education (PPKn) prospective teachers in Indonesia is to provide legal education integrated into Citizenship Education course, because education can support or hinder the enculturation of educational practice (Stähle & Aspán, 2019). On the other hand, policy making in the field of education is an important part to manage the future (Forssell, 2015). As a prospective teacher for Pancasila and Citizenship Education (PPKn) in Indonesia, the rule of law concept has provided a great influence on the process of disseminating civics knowledge for them.

A board of knowledge on the concept of a rule of law for prospective teachers of Pancasila and Citizenship Education (PPKn) at the STKIP was obtained from habituation, so that when they attended as PPKn teachers, they already knew about the rule of law concept. Therefore, it results in a

variety of changes in educational teaching practices (Miller et al., 2016). Besides, the university administrator as an integrated party has considered to re-organize academic life inside and outside the institution (Muthanna, 2015). Then, a number of efforts to impart knowledge for Pancasila and Citizenship Education (PPKn) prospective teachers at the STKIP have been implemented, particularly in providing education that can maximize their profession. Hence, there is a social impact on current issues and future directions in education planning (Jiang, Zhang, & Xin, 2018).

4. CONCLUSION

Based on these findings, this study can indicate three points. First, the communication technology as a vehicle for education in the concept of the rule of law in the academic community at the STKIP in Cimahi during the pandemic has taught students about their rights and obligations as good citizens, so that the students can understand their role as citizens. Second, the campus (institute) has a role to provide the concept of the State of Law through students' campus activity program. Third, in the way out in facing educational obstacles, the concept of the rule of law during the pandemic is to improve the quality of the program during learning process in the midst of the pandemic. In addition, optimizing communication technology as a vehicle for the concept of rule of law education in the academic community has become a strategic step in Citizenship Education. The researcher is aware that this study has several weaknesses, one of them is the only used documents as the data. Therefore, the future researchers are suggested to use other qualitative data collection such as interviews to dig deeper about the implementation of education law in the academic community.

REFERENCES

- Ali, Y. F. (2017). Upaya Tokoh Agama Dalam Mengembangkan Sikap Toleransi Antarumat Beragama. *Untirta Civic Education Journal*, 17(2), 91–112.
- Andi, F. (2020). Great Reset Hukum di Masa Pandemi. *Kompas.Com*. Retrieved from <https://www.kompas.com/tren/read/2020/08/21/152655765/great-reset-hukum-di-masa-pandemi?page=all>
- Anggraheni, D., Anandha, A., & TS, H. L. (2020). Enhancing English vocabulary using CLT method toward SLB D students via Zoom application as interactive learning media. *ETERNAL (English Teaching Journal)*, 11(2).
- Arnup, J., & Bowles, T. (2016). Should I stay or should I go? Resilience as a protective factor for teachers' intention to leave the teaching profession. *Australian Journal of Education*, 60(3), 229–244. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0004944116667620>
- Basith, A., & Syafi'i, A. (2020). Instagram as media in teaching writing recount text for senior high school students. *SALEE: Study of Applied Linguistics and English Education*, 1(1), 11-20.
- Broberg, O. (2000). Design of New Food Technology: Social Shaping of Working Environment. *Proceedings of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society Annual Meeting*, 44(8), 16–19. <https://doi.org/10.1177/154193120004400804>
- Carpenter, J. P., Morrison, S. A., Craft, M., & Lee, M. (2020). How and why are educators using Instagram?. *Teaching and teacher education*, 96, 103149.
- Casey, T. (2021). Reflections on Legal Education in the Aftermath of a Pandemic. *Clinical L. Rev.*, 28, 85.
- Christianto, H. (2020). Penggunaan Media Internet dalam Pemenuhan Hak atas Pendidikan di Masa Pandemi Covid-19: Perspektif Hak Asasi Manusia dan Hukum Pidana. *Jurnal HAM*, 11(2). <https://doi.org/10.30641/ham.2020.11.239-253>
- Darras, K. E., Spouge, R. J., de Bruin, A. B. H., Sedlic, A., Hague, C., & Forster, B. B. (2020).

- Undergraduate Radiology Education During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Review of Teaching and Learning Strategies. *Canadian Association of Radiologists Journal*, 0846537120944821. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0846537120944821>
- Edwin, Y. (2017). 10 Fakta pengguna internet di Indonesia dan dunia. *Beritagar.Id*.
- Elliott, C. (2015). Interpreting the Contours of Self-Defence within the Boundaries of the Rule of Law, the Common Law and Human Rights. *The Journal of Criminal Law*, 79(5), 330–343. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0022018315603591>
- Fauzi, W. I., & Ali, Y. F. (2017). Alam Berkembang Menjadi Guru (Nilai-Nilai Kehidupan Buya Hamka sebagai Sumber Pembelajaran Nilai di IPS). *SOSIO DIDAKTIKA: Social Science Education Journal*, 4(2). <https://doi.org/10.15408/sd.v4i2.7991>
- Forssell, A. (2015). School and the future: How teachers and teacher education are articulated in the political debate. *Policy Futures in Education*, 13(6), 712–731. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1478210315595164>
- Handayani, F. (2015). Instagram as a teaching tool? Really?. *Proceedings of ISELT FBS Universitas Negeri Padang*, 4(1), 320-327.
- Hidayah, Y. (2020). *Thesis: Pengembangan Model Belajar Keterlibatan (Mbk) Untuk Memperkuat Partisipasi Politik Dan Civic Engagement Warga Negara Muda Di Era Digital*. Bandung: Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia.
- Imig, D. G., & Imig, S. R. (2006). The Teacher Effectiveness Movement: How 80 Years of Essentialist Control Have Shaped the Teacher Education Profession. *Journal of Teacher Education*, 57(2), 167–180. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0022487105285672>
- Jiang, Y., Zhang, J., & Xin, T. (2018). Toward Education Quality Improvement in China: A Brief Overview of the National Assessment of Education Quality. *Journal of Educational and Behavioral Statistics*, 44(6), 733–751. <https://doi.org/10.3102/1076998618809677>
- Jin, D. Y. (2017). Construction of digital Korea: the evolution of new communication technologies in the 21st century. *Media, Culture & Society*, 39(5), 715–726. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0163443717709441>
- Kar, S. K., Dwivedi, S., Maurya, A. K., Singh, M., Kumar, R., Kumar, P., ... Mallick, A. (2020). Enhancing Preparedness Among Frontline Doctors During COVID-19 Pandemic: Learning from Experience. *Indian Journal of Psychological Medicine*, 42(5), 489–491. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0253717620952052>
- Lahlou, S. (2008). Identity, social status, privacy and face-keeping in digital society. *Social Science Information*, 47(3), 299–330. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0539018408092575>
- Law, K. K. (2013). Managing Knowledge Transfer—A Communication-appropriation Perspective. *Asia-Pacific Journal of Management Research and Innovation*, 9(4), 359–367. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2319510X14523103>
- Lawrence, G., Ahmed, F., Cole, C., & Johnston, K. P. (2020). Not More Technology but More Effective Technology: Examining the State of Technology Integration in EAP Programmes. *RELC Journal*, 51(1), 101–116. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0033688220907199>
- Miller, A., Eather, N., Gray, S., Sproule, J., Williams, C., Gore, J., & Lubans, D. (2016). Can continuing professional development utilizing a game-centred approach improve the quality of physical education teaching delivered by generalist primary school teachers? *European Physical Education Review*, 23(2), 171–195. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1356336X16642716>
- Mouton, M. (2020). Using zoom to teach synchronously online. *Technology Tools for Teaching in Higher Education, The Practical Handbook Series*.
- Muthanna, A. (2015). Quality education improvement: Yemen and the problem of the 'brain drain.'

- Policy Futures in Education*, 13(1), 141–148. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1478210314566734>
- Pike, S., Neideck, J., & Kelly, K. (2020). 'I will teach you in a room, I will teach you now on Zoom...': a contemporary expression of zooming by three practitioner/academics in the creative arts, developed through the spirit of the surrealist's exquisite corpse. *International Journal of Performance Arts and Digital Media*, 16(3), 290-305.
- Rajkovic, N. M. (2010). 'Global law' and governmentality: Reconceptualizing the 'rule of law' as rule 'through' law. *European Journal of International Relations*, 18(1), 29–52. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1354066110380966>
- Ramadayanti, E. (2020). COVID-19 dalam Perspektif One Health Approach dan Law Enforcement. *Fh.Unpad.Ac.Id*. Retrieved from <https://fh.unpad.ac.id/covid-19-dalam-perspektif-one-health-approach-dan-law-enforcement/>
- Rochmani. (2020). Pendidikan Di Masa Pandemi Covid 19. *Fh.Unisbank.Ac.Id*.
- Saxena, C., Baber, H., & Kumar, P. (2020). Examining the Moderating Effect of Perceived Benefits of Maintaining Social Distance on E-learning Quality During COVID-19 Pandemic. *Journal of Educational Technology Systems*, 0047239520977798. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0047239520977798>
- Skaaning, S.-E. (2009). Measuring the Rule of Law. *Political Research Quarterly*, 63(2), 449–460. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1065912909346745>
- Stähle, Y., & Aspán, M. (2019). Teacher Students' Experienced Challenges in the Beginning of Their Education. *Journal of Education*, 199(1), 3–12. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0022057419834913>
- Suryono, K. E. (2020). Peranan Hukum Tata Negara dalam Pandemi Covid-19 dan Menuju ke Arah New Normal. [Http://New.Widyamataram.Ac.Id/](http://New.Widyamataram.Ac.Id/). Retrieved from <http://new.widyamataram.ac.id/content/news/peranan-hukum-tata-negara-dalam-pandemi-covid-19-dan-menuju-ke-arah-new-normal#.X-liUukzZQI>
- Thompson, K. (2019). The rule of law, arbitrariness and institutional virtue. *Alternative Law Journal*, 44(2), 159–163. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1037969X19829850>
- Torah, R., Wei, Y., Grabham, N., Li, Y., de Vos, M., Todorov, T., ... Tudor, J. (2019). Enabling platform technology for smart fabric design and printing. *Journal of Engineered Fibers and Fabrics*, 14, 1558925019845903. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1558925019845903>
- Trihastuti, M., Dewie, D. A., & Hidayah, Y. (2020). Increasing Students' Entrepreneurship Awareness through Citizenship Knowledge (A Study on Students at STKIP Pasundan Cimahi). *American Journal of Multidisciplinary Research & Development (AJMRD)*, 2(9), 09–15.
- Zainal, Z. (2007). Case study as a research method. *Jurnal kemanusiaan*, (9), 1-6.
- Zassoursky, Y. N. (2002). Media and Communications as the Vehicle of the Open Society: The Internet and the Global Society. *Gazette (Leiden, Netherlands)*, 64(5), 425–432. <https://doi.org/10.1177/17480485020640050301>
- Zhao, M., Lin, Y., & Derudder, B. (2017). Demonstration of public participation and communication through social media in the network society within Shanghai. *Environment and Planning B: Urban Analytics and City Science*, 45(3), 529–547. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2399808317690154>

