

## Local Chief Executive Conflicts in Indonesia: A Strategy for Prevention and Resolution

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### **Abstract**

The Local Chief Executive and Vice elections in Indonesia are conducted together, which leads to potential conflicts in the relationship between both parties. Therefore, this research aimed to examine the causes and mechanisms for resolving conflicts between Local Chief Executive and Vice. This is empirical juridical research with the primary, secondary, and tertiary data analyzed through the utilization of a statutory and conceptual approach. The results showed that the conflict between the Local Chief Executive and the Vice was caused by the absence of chemistry and a clear division of duties. The two alternative mechanisms that can be used to prevent the conflict are mate selection during the nomination period, and the application of an agreement mechanism in accordance with the laws and political agreements. Vertical settlement mechanism, which enables the Local House of Representative (DPRD) was adopted to resolve persistent conflict in accordance with the controlling function. This mechanism is a new concept that can be used as a guideline for resolving Local Chief Executive conflicts in Indonesia.

**Keywords:** Local Chief Executive; Local Chief Executive Election; Local Chief Executive Conflict Resolution

### **INTRODUCTION**

The 2004 Local Government and the 2020 Election of Governors, Regents,

and Mayors Acts mandated the direct election of Local Chief Executives. According to Rosidi (2018), regional

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elections are conducted for people to elect a pair of candidates for the positions of the Chief executive and Vice (Rosidi, 2018). The participation of the people also determined the direction of local government development policies (Muthowif & Sofiyah, 2021). This is because the pair of Local Chief Executives was elected according to the wishes of the people (Guntur, 2021). Additionally, the one-package model had been practised since the enactment of the 2004 Local Government Act (Fattah, 2020). The mechanism of this model shows that the Vice has the same crucial political position as the Local Chief Executive because the elect was also legitimately selected by the people (Prihatiningtyas, 2018).

The Vice position was not mentioned in the 1945 Indonesian Constitution, although juridically, it was only stated in Article 66, paragraph (1) of the 2014 Local Government Act (Arifin & Rahmatullah, 2019). The selection of an official through the Regional Elections should be regulated in accordance with the 1945 Indonesian Constitution (Asshiddiqie, 2009). The provision stipulated that the duties of the Vice include supervisory, consultative, coordinated, and executive functions. However, the phrase carrying out other duties following the provisions of the law does not fully depict the ideal division of duties between the Local Chief Executive and Vice.

The facts showed that the division of duties is problematic, and the urgency level for a Vice should be of particular concern considering that the

performance of this position in many regions varies greatly, even causing conflicts between the Local Chief Executive and Vice (Nugraha, 2013). Data acquired from the Ministry of Home Affairs showed that 95% of Local Chief Executive and Vice engage in open conflicts that impact community services (Tehupuring, 2021).

The absence of equality and justice in the division of duties is the common cause of conflicts. This was observed in the conflict between the Regent and the Deputy Regent of Central Aceh, who felt neglected during decision-making. This included decisions regarding the mutation of officials and employees, government-managed budget, and procurement projects for the Central Aceh Health Office and Datu Beru Takengon Hospital (Bahagia, 2020). A similar problem was also observed in the conflict between the Regent and the Deputy Regent of Bojonegoro, who felt neglected during decisions concerning the mutation of the positions of Regional Apparatus Organizations heads and document administration (Tim detikcom, 2021).

These cases showed that the Local Chief Executive tend to neglect the Vice when carrying out government duties, resulting in injustice. Simon Fisher et al., (2001), stated that the main cause of conflict was inequality and injustice, arising as social, cultural, and economic problems. The issue of inequality had been evident in the authority of the Vice in the 2014 Local Government Act. Meanwhile the problem of injustice was observed in the neglect of the Vice

during the enactment of government policies. Both issues arising from provisions regarding the duties and functions of the Local Chief Executive and Vice in the 2014 Local Government Act needs to be reviewed. It should be considered that inequality and injustice can cause conflicts, thereby interfering with the functions of the government. Panca (2018), stated that the causes of conflicts between the Regent and Deputy Regent of Lima Puluh Kota can be categorized into two, namely common and specific. The common causes include differences in political parties, division of duties and authority, communication, and the intent to run for office in the next term (Panca, 2018). The specific reason is the existence of the Regent Regulation of Lima Puluh Kota Number 31 of 2014 concerning Official Travel within and Outside the Region, eliminating the position of the Deputy Regent as a state official (Panca, 2018). The research did not discuss the mechanism for preventing and resolving conflicts between the Local Chief Executive and Vice President. Therefore, the present research focused on formulating a mechanism for preventing and resolving these conflicts.

## METHODS

The empirical juridical law research adopted a qualitative method that focused on preventing and resolving conflicts between the Local Chief Executive and Vice. Data collection technique included literature review of primary, secondary, and tertiary legal materials obtained virtually. In addition,

the research applied descriptive analysis technique, carried out by searching for news in electronic media regarding Local Chief Executive conflicts from 2017 to 2022. The data obtained were then validated using the triangulation technique. The news obtained were further classified and evaluated in terms of the causes and effects of conflicts between the Local Chief Executive and Vice President. The acquired data conflicted with the theory proposed by Simon Fisher and the provisions contained in the 2014 Local Government Act *jo.* the 2015 Local Government Act, and the 2020 Election of Governors, Regents, and the Mayor Act.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### Causes and Impacts of Conflicts Between Local Chief Executive and Vice

Conflicts between the Local Chief Executive and Vice are caused by the respective duties. The provisions regarding the responsibilities of these positions are mentioned in Articles 59 to 93 of the 2014 Local Government Act. The duties of the Vice are regulated in Article 66 of the 2014 Local Government Act. Furthermore, the responsibilities of both positions are shown in Table 1.

**Table 1.** Comparison of Duties of Local Chief Executive and Vice

Duties of Local Chief Executive	Duties of Vice
Article 65 (1) of the 2014 Local Government Act <i>jo.</i> and the 2015 Local	Article 66 of the 2014 Local Government Act, mandated that

<p>Government Act, mandated that the duties of Local Chief Executive include (Suryantok &amp; Damayanti, 2019)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Leading the implementation of Local Government Affairs,</li> <li>2. Maintaining peace and order in the community,</li> <li>3. Preparation and submission of a draft Regional Regulation on development plans to the DPRD, as well as determination of the RKPD,</li> <li>4. Compilation and submission of a draft Regional Regulation on the APBD, the amendments, and accountability for the implementati</li> </ol>	<p>the duties of the Vice include</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Assisting the Local Chief Executive in             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Leading the implementation of Local Government Affairs,</li> <li>b. Coordinating the activities of the Regional Apparatus and follow up on reports and findings of the supervisory apparatus,</li> <li>c. Monitoring and evaluating the implementation of Local Government,</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Offering suggestions and considerations to Local Chief Executive regarding the implementation of the Local Government,</li> <li>3. Carrying out the duties and authorities of the Local Chief</li> </ol>	<p>on to the DPRD for joint discussion,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Represent respective territories in and out of court,</li> <li>6. Carrying out other duties following the provisions of laws and regulations.</li> </ol>	<p>Executive if indisposed, serving a period of detention or temporarily obstructed and</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Executing other duties following the provisions of laws and regulations. Carrying out related government duties and obligations determined by the decision of the Local Chief Executive.</li> </ol>
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Source: processed from various sources. Local Chief Executives are prohibited from carrying out assigned duties and authorities if serving a period of detention, or temporarily disabled. These responsibilities are rather carried out by the Vice. However, if the seat of the Vice is vacant, then the regional secretary will execute the daily duties of the Local Chief Executive.

This description shows that the Vice does not have the same authority as the Local Chief Executive. The entire local government duties are the responsibilities of the Local Chief Executive as stated in Article 1 paragraph (3) of the 2014 Local Government Act. The regulation stipulated that the Local Chief Executive, as elements of local

government administrators, lead the implementation of government affairs regarded as the authority of autonomous regions (Rosidin, 2015). Furthermore, the Vice reports to the Local Chief Executive, and the existence of an inactive Vice was caused by differing political bases. Both parties tend to be in disharmony caused by various political interests (Rizhan, 2019). Based on facts, conflicts between Local Chief Executives and Vice Presidents often occur, and in certain cases the public are aware. Some open conflicts for the past five years are shown in Table 2.

**Table 2.** Open Conflicts between Local Chief Executive and Vice in Indonesia, 2017 to 2022

Year	Conflict	Causes
2017	Conflict between the Governor and Deputy Governor of North Kalimantan	The Governor insisted that the Deputy Governor of North Kalimantan failed to carry out and report assigned duties, including not complying with the implementation of an administrative order to execute official trips without permission. The Deputy responded by stating that both held similar positions. Additionally, the

		assigned duties were executed as a recorded, scheduled, and reporting deputy governor following existing rules (Purnamasari, 2017).
2018	Conflict between the Regent and Deputy Regent of Buru	Differences in backgrounds impacted respective interests. The Deputy Regent intends to run for the next Regional Election and was worried that the intention would be hampered by the policies made by the Regent (kompastimur.com, 2018).
	Conflict between Regent and Deputy Regent of Lima Puluh Kota	Common causes include differences in political parties, division of duties and authority, communication, and the intent to run for office in the next term (Panca, 2018). The specific reason is the existence of the Regent Regulation of Lima Puluh Kota Number 31 of 2014 concerning Official

		Travel within and Outside the Region, which disregarded the position of the Deputy Regent as a state official(Panca, 2018).			procession of 12 echelons IIA and IIB officials within the North Maluku Provincial Government.
2019	The conflict between the Regent and Deputy Regent of Aceh Besar	There was no clear division of tasks (Muhajir et al., 2021).	2021	Conflict between the Regent and Deputy Regent of Bojonegoro	The Deputy Regent of Bojonegoro felt ignored by the Regent, particularly during decision-making concerning the mutation of the positions of Regional Apparatus Organizations heads and document administration (Tim detikcom, 2021). In addition, the Regent of Bojonegoro also reported the shortcomings of the Deputy Regent in the WhatsApp conversation group (Junaedi, 2021).
2020	Conflict between the Regent and Deputy Regent of Central Aceh	The Deputy Regent of Central Aceh often felt neglected, particularly in the decisions taken by the Regent, regarding the mutation of officials and employees, government-managed budget, procurement projects for the Central Aceh Health Office and Datu Beru Takengon Hospital (Bahagia, 2020).		Conflict between the Regent and Deputy Regent of Kuningan	The proposal from the Deputy Regent of Kuningan is not accommodated in the mutation of local government employees (Bagaskara, 2021).
	Conflict between the Governor and Deputy Governor of North Maluku	The conflict was caused by lack of coordination between both parties related to the implementation of the inauguration		Conflict between the Mayor and Deputy	The Mayor suspected that the Deputy Mayor had committed

	Mayor of Tegal	unpleasant acts, case engineering, and defamation (Utami, 2021).
	Conflict between the Governor and Deputy Governor of the Riau Islands	The problem was caused by lack of communication related to the division of tasks and difference in the background of political both parties, which is shown by the rift in the supporting coalition during the 2020 Regional Elections (Nurdin, 2021).

Source: processed from various sources. Political friction when the coalition was formed, cohesiveness during the campaign, and indistinct commitment to the division of government duties after being elected are some factors that cause conflicts (Junaedi, 2021). Furthermore, conflicts are caused by the absence of justice and equality. Based on the theory of conflict transformation, this view is regarded as the core cause (Fisher et al., 2001). The two common factors that causes conflicts between the Local Chief Executive and Vice are absence of a clear division of duties and lack of chemistry.

A. There is no clear division of duties. The problem of central and regional relations has never affected the urgency of the power of the Vice. This depicts

that the position of the Local Chief Executive is only a complement. When reviewed through the 1945 Indonesian Constitution, there were no explicit provisions regarding the position of Vice. Article 18, paragraph (4) only stated that governors, regents, and mayors were democratically elected heads of government at the provincial, district, and city levels. This showed that the constitution provides freedom in terms of determining the deputy head position of each region. However, the provisions in Article 18 paragraph (4) show that the constitution does not regulate the position of the Vice.

The 2015 Election of Governors, Regents, and Mayors Act stated that Local Chief Executive and Vice are elected as a pair by the people, and thereby have equal positions. This impacted the disharmony of the relationship between both parties. Political competition is a conflicting factor within the framework of equality (Tehupuring, 2021). As a result, the 2014 Local Government Act described the duties of the Vice, namely supervisory, consultative, coordination, and executive functions. Although it does not fully depict the ideal division of responsibilities.

The uncertain division of duties and authority between the Local Chief Executive and Vice in local governments causes conflicts. The term mentioned in Article 66 (2) of the 2014 Local Government Act provided the key to implementing duties in other provisions that tend to be formal, normative, and challenging to define. During the



implementation process, the division of responsibilities is problematic. The Vice views the Local Chief Executive as equal, and every attempt to fight for influence in the bureaucracy had led to dualism in policy, as well as impacted divisions in regional organizations. Meanwhile, development and community service were ignored mainly because of the conflict between the Local Chief Executive and Vice. Both parties face each other and develop a democratic rivalry due to the direct support of the community, despite being initially elected as a pair rather than individually during the local election process.

Conflicts can affect the public sphere, extending to divisions within the local government. It impacted the process of achieving the vision and mission that had been initiated (Linansera, 2019), because each party is trying to exert an influence. Conflicts tend to damage the good name of the government and community in the area (Eda, 2020). In addition, development affairs and services were neglected due to the opposing influence of the Local Chief Executive and Vice (Tehupuring, 2021).

#### B. Absence of chemistry.

The absence of chemistry between occurs after the election of the Local Chief Executive and Vice. During the elections, candidates for both positions were nominated by political parties, leading to critical problems (Aziz, 2009). Article 18 (4) of the 1945 Indonesian Constitution stated that the governor, Regent, and mayor, each head of the provincial, regency, and city governments were democratically

elected. The 2015 Election of Governors, Regents, and Mayors Act interpreted the term democratic through general elections. The urgency of regulating the Local Chief Executive and Vice election directly by the people enabled the elect to go through a selection process due to respective moral, and intellectual services rendered to the community (Pardede, 2018).

Article 40 of the 2015 Local Election Act stated that a political party or a coalition can register a pair of candidates who had met the basic requirements for obtaining at least 20% (twenty per cent) of the number of seats or 25% (twenty-five per cent) of the accumulated valid votes obtained in the general election of members of the DPRD in the region concerned. If in proposing a pair of candidates, a Political Party or a coalition uses the provision of obtaining at least 20% (twenty per cent) of the number of seats, and the quotient produces a fractional number, the acquisition of the number of seats is calculated by rounding up or approximation. Supposing a Political Party or a coalition proposed a candidate pair by obtaining at least 25% (twenty-five per cent) of the accumulated valid votes, the provision only applies to the Political Party that obtained a DPRD seat. A Political Party or a coalition can only propose a candidate pair, that cannot be proposed again by other Political Parties or a coalition. This provision shows that Indonesia applies a threshold for the candidacy of Local Chief Executive.



Political parties are essential in proposing candidates pairs for Local Chief Executive and Vice, either individually or in coalitions (Rachbi & Slamet, 2020). These parties are powerful in determining candidates for Local Chief Executive or Vice. Normatively, the Local Council (DPD) of a political party has the right to propose candidates to the Central Council (DPP) (Ropik et al., 2018). The selection of candidates for Local Chief Executive and Vice by political parties in Indonesia was influenced by the vital role of the DPP. The strong dominance of the DPP in determining candidates has an impact on the neglected aspirations of cadres at the level of the Branch Council (DPC) and DPD of political parties because these were considered to lack quality, finance, and popularity (Nge, 2018). The dominance of the political parties elites at the central level is quite significant, as a result all candidates with seats in the DPRD are forced to support a particular contestants, despite intending to help others to compete (Nge, 2018).

The findings show a difference between the desires of the DPC and the DPP of political parties in recruiting candidates. This happened during the 2017 to 2022 Landak Regency Regional Elections. The Gerindra, Demokrat, NasDem, and Golkar parties at the regional level wanted to select the pair of Vincensius and Syahdan Anggoi, but failed because the DPP recommended Dr. Karolin Margret Natasha and Herkulanus Heriadi, S.E (Nge, 2018). Another finding was observed in Tasikmalaya City at the DPD level, a pair of mayoral candidates

from the National Mandate Party (PAN) had already been selected. However, the DPP selected other candidates who were not from the DPD (Anggoro et al., 2020). This showed that the mechanism for determining Local Chief Executive and Vice was dominated by the political parties elites at the central level (Nge, 2018). At the regional level, the elites did not have the flexibility and authority to determine candidates for Local Chief Executive and Vice. This even caused internal conflicts, such as the incident that occurred during the candidacy of the 2018 Pontianak mayor related to the nomination process by the Golkar Party because the cadres did not get the recommendation of the DPP, who nominated outside the party (Junaidi, 2019). The strong role of the DPP was also observed in the 2017 Pati Regional Election in Table 3, which shows that four out of six parties authorized the DPP to determine the candidates.

**Table 3.** Comparative Matrix of the Role of DPP Political Parties in the 2017 Pati Regional Election

Political Party	Role of DPP
Democratic	Conduct surveys and provide recommendations for candidates.
Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle (PDI-P)	Conduct surveys, determine, and provide recommendations for candidates.
Golongan Karya Party (Golkar)	Conduct surveys and provide recommendations for candidates.

Greater Indonesia Movement Party (Gerindra)	Conduct surveys, determine, and provide recommendations for candidates.
National Awakening Party (PKB)	Conduct surveys, determine, and provide recommendations for candidates.
United Development Party (PPP)	Conduct surveys, determine, and provide recommendations for candidates.

Sources: (Safira, 2018).

A specific finding showed that in a coalition, political parties tend to support one of the candidates for Local Chief Executive and then place cadres in pairs, to be elected for Vice (Nge, 2018). In addition, the 2018 South Sulawesi Elections showed that the gubernatorial candidate experienced several political dynamics in the nomination process to determine the partner (Kafrawy, 2020). In this case, Agus Arifin Nu'mang changed three pairs in the gubernatorial candidacy (Kafrawy, 2020). Jusuf Kalla also played a significant role in supporting the Agus Arifin Nu'mang – Tanribali Lamo pair (Kafrawy, 2020).

The existence of a multiparty system in Indonesia impacted the fierce competition for votes, as a result it is sporadic for political parties to exceed the threshold for Local Chief Executive candidacy. This led to the formation of a coalition with other political parties to nominate a candidate in the general election of the Local Chief Executive and

Vice. The alliance was formed because of compelling circumstances.

Political parties established communication with other parties to nominate Local Chief Executive pairs. If a coalition had been formed, it would assign each party member to be nominated as a pair. In addition, the elite at the central level contributed significantly to the appointment of candidates. As a result, the candidates for Local Chief Executive or DPCs of political parties do not have the flexibility to appoint the Vice. The Local Chief Executive and Vice can be selected from different parties and do not need to know each other. For instance, couples tend to be forcibly mated, which has an impact on the absence of chemistry between the two. The lack of compatibility between the Local Chief Executive and Vice, was perceived as a trigger that could ruin the relationship, causing conflict. Therefore, compatibility is essential, and the Local Chief Executive candidate must know the background of the Vice, another critical aspect of the relationship.

#### **Alternative Ideas for Conflict Prevention of Local Chief Executive and Vice**

The provisions in Article 18 paragraph (4) of the 1945 Indonesian Constitution did not mention the existence of a Vice. Therefore, the position was handed over to the regions, resulting in the idea of abolishing the position (Sihombing, 2020). However, there is need for a vice to assist the Local Chief Executive in carrying out local government affairs,

provided that the division of duties and authority are reaffirmed (Hadita, 2021). Eliminating the position of Vice due to frequent conflicts is also not the right solution. This is because the burden of the local government cannot be carried out by the Chief Executive alone, and even with the presence of vice, occasionally local governments are unable to achieve set targets. In addition, there had never been a material test of the one-package Regional Elections in respect to the Constitutional Court. It was considered that no candidate was constitutionally harmed (Hadita, 2021). The right step to minimize conflicts between the local chief executive and vice president is to adopt a prevention mechanism. Prevention of conflicts between Local Chief Executive and Vice can be carried out through two mechanisms

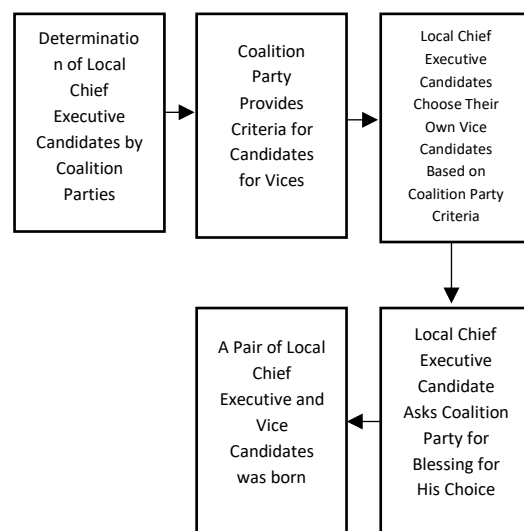
#### A. Giving authority to candidates for Local Chief Executive to elect Vice

The disharmony between the Local Chief Executive and Vice occurred only a few months after winning the regional elections. This situation impacted the ineffectiveness of the government for five years after the dualism of regional leadership (Hadita, 2021). Previous research reported that the harmonization process must start during candidacy (Hadita, 2021). The coalition party first determined the candidate for Local Chief Executive. After deciding the candidate, the coalition party communicates the criteria for the Vice position and the authority to determine who would accompany the Local Chief Executive, in

accordance with the requirements. Furthermore, the Local Chief Executive is expected to select the Vice once elected, with the support of the coalition party.

A significant advantage of this idea is that the candidate can know the background, and activities of the Vice. This mechanism lead to the easy development of chemistry with the regional deputy head candidates based on the compatibility felt at the time of selection. The interests of coalition political parties were accommodated by the provision of criteria for the selection for a Vice. Moreover, this initiative is illustrated in Figure 1.

**Figure 1.** Mechanism for Choosing Your Soulmate: Election of Candidates for Vice by Local Chief Executive



The weakness of this mechanism is that when the Local Chief Executive selects the candidate for Vice, the choice may not be supported by the coalition party. In the event of this incident, the Vice candidate must be replaced. In anticipation of this situation, Local Chief

Executive can select several candidates for Vice. Although, this would take longer than forced elections by coalition parties. The direct selection of a partner by the local chief executive prevent conflicts caused by a lack of chemistry.

#### B. Agreement on Delegation of Duties and Authorities regarding the 2014 Local Government Act and Political Agreement Between Candidates for Local Chief Executive and Vice

The duties of the Vice also depended on the delegation of responsibilities from the Local Chief Executive. This is because the mandate of the 2014 Local Government Act stated that the position of the Vice is only perceived as a substitution. It is not uncommon for the Vice to feel disregarded in government activities in the regions. The Local Chief Executive should be able to share authority with the Vice in implementing government related activities in the regions, through more subtle avenues. This includes delegating some of the attribution authority (Risal & Munawir, 2021). Therefore, to overcome this, an agreement between both parties must be carried out during the candidacy process. The agreement to realise the division of authority can guarantee fair implementation of rights and obligations (Risal & Munawir, 2021).

Furthermore, both parties must agree, and authority divided between the selected Vice candidate in leading the regions. The division of duties and authority is the appropriate thing to do by the Local Chief Executive. A published political contract must be presented to the public during the campaign. This

refers to a preliminary agreement between candidates regarding the division of duties published. This document is left with the public and the press.

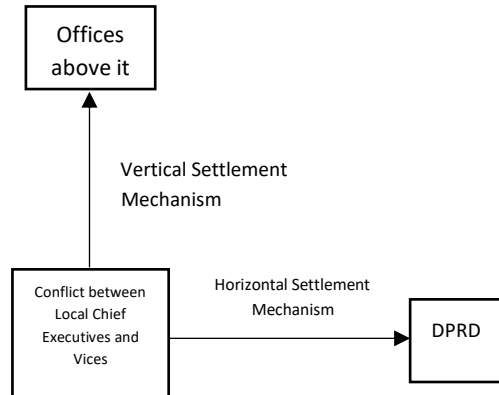
As the obligation of each candidate is to convey the vision and mission, the substance of the document is also considered part of the planned program. Therefore, if the candidate is elected, the division of duties becomes part of the regional development plan. The decision of the Local Chief Executive must include the division of duties.

#### Alternative Ideas for Conflict Resolution of Local Chief Executive and Vice

The 2014 Local Government Act did not explain how to resolve conflicts between Local Chief Executives and Vices, depicting a legal vacuum (*rechtvacuum*). This was caused by certain unregulated circumstances under the law. In addition, the circumstances are not transparent or even complete (Nasir, 2017). In the case of conflicts between the Local Chief Executive and Vice, the legal vacuum was caused by the incomplete arrangement of conflict resolution mechanisms between the concerned parties. These could be resolved internally, however, the mechanism is challenging to implement due to the egos of both parties. Therefore, a third party more lenient than the other two is crucial. The third party tries to facilitate communication between the conflicting parties, clarifying the problem and reaching an agreement (Muhajir et al.,

2021). This research provided a mechanism for resolving conflicts between Local Chief Executive and Vice, as shown in Figure 2.

**Figure 2.** Conflict Resolution Mechanism for Local Chief Executive and Vice



#### A. Vertical Settlement Mechanism

In terms of conception, conflict resolution can be resolved by the superiors of each concerned party. Conflicts between the Local Chief Executive and Vice at the provincial level, namely governors and deputy governors, can be resolved by the Minister of Home Affairs. This was drawn from the mandate in Articles 373 and 374 of the 2014 Local Government Act. Article 373 stipulated that the Minister carries out guidance for provincial governments. The object of the process was to coach the Local Chief Executive and house of representative. Furthermore, the Minister resolves conflicts that occur between the Governor and deputy governor through a coaching mechanism.

The Governor resolves conflicts between the Local Chief Executive and Vice at the district or city level. This was implicitly stated in Article 375 of the

2014 Local Government Act, that the Governor, as a central government representative, conducts general and technical guidance covering the affairs of the Local Chief Executive and house of representative. Therefore, if a conflict arises between both parties at the district or city level, the Governor, as the central government representative, must adopt the coaching process.

This mechanism was applied in conflicts between the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Tegal. The conflict between the two was resolved by the Governor of Central Java, Ganjar Pranowo. The Governor facilitated a meeting between the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Tegal at the Office. The meeting reconciled both parties, marked by the attendance of a joint event and returning supporting facilities for the Deputy Mayor (Utami, 2021).

#### B. Horizontal Settlement Mechanism

Another mechanism for resolving conflicts was through the DPRD, based on the function as stated in Articles 96 and 149 of the 2014 Local Government Act. This included the formation of regional regulations, budgets, and supervision. Moreover, efforts to resolve conflicts between the Local Chief Executive and Vice can be interpreted as a form of the DPRD attempts to supervise the concerned parties. This mechanism was applied in conflicts between the Regent and Deputy Regent of Central Aceh, resolved by the Regency DPRK through the Special Committee Team (Mahyadi, 2020).

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the election led to conflicts between the Local Chief Executive and Vice, which were observed in various regions. From 2017 to 2022, some of these conflicts had become the centre of public attention. The conflicts were caused by the absence of chemistry due to differences in political backgrounds and unclear division of duties. This led to the disruption of local government processes related to community and regional development services. The conflicts could be prevented by allowing Local Chief Executive candidates to select own deputy. The election was also based on criteria determined by the coalition parties. Another preventive mechanism was the existence of a political contract. The Local Chief Executive and Vice candidates agreement, containing the division of duties, rights, and obligations. This mechanism minimized the occurrence of conflicts between the Local Chief Executive and Vice. Supposing the conflict remained unresolved, vertical resolution and horizontal mechanisms could be adopted by the superior and DPRD, respectively. The weakness of the nomination system and division of duties needed to be overcome by revising the 2014 Local Government Act. The revision should be carried out to regulate the mechanism for nomination and division of duties, as well as a resolution avenue in the event of a conflict. The existence of this idea

should be reviewed when implemented. The objective was to ascertain the effectiveness of conflict prevention and resolution.

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