

IMPLEMENTATION OF ACADEMIC FREEDOM POLICY IN LAW NUMBER 12 OF 2012 ON HIGHER EDUCATION

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Abstract

Academic freedom is an essential part of human rights, manifested in the freedom of thought and expression in the context of higher education. Law No. 12 of 2012 on Higher Education explicitly regulates academic freedom as a right and obligation of the academic community in carrying out the three pillars of higher education. This study aims to examine how academic freedom policies are implemented in higher education institutions, particularly in the conduct of research, teaching, and academic freedom of speech, as well as the challenges faced during the implementation of these policies. The method used is juridical-normative with a qualitative approach through a study of relevant laws, policy documents, and academic literature. The results of the study indicate that academic freedom must be protected and facilitated by higher education leaders so that the academic community can develop knowledge responsibly in accordance with legal norms and academic ethics. However, there are various restrictions and challenges in practice that need attention to strengthen the implementation of academic freedom policies in the future.

Keywords: Academic Freedom, Policy Implementation, Law Number 12 of 2012, Higher Education, Tridharma Perguruan Tinggi (Three Pillars of Higher Education), Academic Freedom of Speech.

Introduction

Academic freedom is a fundamental pillar in the development of science and higher education. As part of human rights, academic freedom provides space for academics to think, discuss, and express ideas without irrational pressure or restrictions. This is very important for maintaining intellectual independence, which in turn encourages innovation and scientific progress in higher education institutions (Lina Marlina, 2012).

Indonesia, as a country that upholds the values of democracy and human rights, has accommodated academic freedom within the framework of national law. Law No. 12 of 2012 on Higher Education explicitly regulates academic freedom as one of the rights inherent to members of the academic community (Hasan Basri, 2022). Thus, academic freedom is not only an idealism, but also an obligation and responsibility that must be carried out and protected by higher education institutions.