

Review of: "Institutions and Socioeconomic Development: Do Legacies and Proximity Matter? Case Studies of Indonesia, the Philippines, and Thailand"

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Paper: Institutions and Socioeconomic Development: Do Legacies and Proximity Matter? Case Studies of Indonesia, the Philippines, and Thailand

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This article deals with the relationships among institutional development, democracy, human development and socio-economic wellbeing by taking Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines as example. This paper has well studied the political and social institution development in these three nations. The methodology of this paper is based on mixed methods. The major finding of this paper pointed out the importance of government effectiveness which will strongly support the social economic development. But higher degree in democratization often doesn't necessarily come with a better business climate or economic performance of a nation. To explain this phenomenon, the authors pointed to the democracy in these nations often hijacked by few political elites and therefore could not make the democracy development as a crucial factor contributing for economic development like developed nations in western countries.

The issue this paper deals with is an important one and it should be highly encouraged

My suggestions for this paper can be highlighted below:

Implementing institutions and supportive institutions. The author mention two major patterns of institutions in the theory debate including the implementing and supportive institutions. It will be highly encouraged and expected on the conclusion part of this paper not only dealing the empirical findings and its comparison among three nations, but also including a theoretical debate on implementing and supportive institutions. By doing so it might help highlight the theoretical contribution of this paper.

Regarding the data of this paper. This paper noted it adopted mixed research method design and "involved primary and secondary data". This paper does employ some of very useful secondary data for its analysis such as the democracy index published by the Economic Intelligence Unit. But it seems not very clear about the collection process of this paper's "primary data". If the authors have conduct interviews or survey as primary data collection, please explain.

The current length of this paper seems a little bit longer than most of the English journal articles. For the sake of a better readability, the authors might shorten its overlength manuscripts.