From Practice to Stability: Examining the Impact of Political Practice on Democratic Stability through the Lens of Good Governance and Power Distribution

Hyronimus Rowa*

Institut Pemerintahan Dalam Negeri, Jatinangor, Indonesia

*Correspondence: hyronimus_rowa@ipdn.ac.id

Abstract

Incorporating the Political Opportunity Structure theory and the Power-Distribution theory, this study investigates the direct and indirect effects of political practices, including political leadership, political culture, and public policy, on democratic stability via the mediating role of good governance. Additionally, the study examines the moderating influence of power distribution on the relationship between good governance and democratic stability. A cluster survey of citizens and communities in the Indonesian province of West Java gathered data. The data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, Pearson correlations, and regression analysis. The results indicate that ethical, political leadership, political culture, and public policy have a substantial direct effect on democratic stability, while good governance functions as a mediator between political practices and democratic stability. In addition, the relationship between effective governance and democratic stability is moderated by power distribution. The findings have theoretical and practical implications for policymakers striving to promote good governance and democratic stability. Ultimately, this research will deepen our understanding of the intricate relationship between political practice, good governance, power distribution, and democratic stability, essential to the efficient operation of democratic systems worldwide. In addition to comparative analysis, future research directions include intervention studies, mixed-methods research, and multi-level analysis.

Keywords: Political practice; good governance; democratic stability; power distribution; political opportunity structure theory; power-distribution theory

Introduction

Democratic stability is an essential component of contemporary administration, as it ensures the peaceful and effective operation of democratic institutions and a prosperous society (Frederiksen, 2022). It is not only a desirable condition for the

efficient operation of democratic systems but also a prerequisite for the effective implementation of economic and social development plans (Mauk, 2022). Effective democratic governance requires a stable political environment that provides individuals and businesses with security and predictability. Without stability, democratic nations become susceptible to political risks, social unrest, and economic instability (Ridge, 2022). Consequently, the stability of democratic institutions is essential for attaining sustainable economic growth, reducing inequality, and improving the overall welfare of the population (Lemma et al., 2020).

Nonetheless, attaining and sustaining democratic stability is a complex and multifaceted process that necessitates the consideration of numerous factors. Contributing to democratic stability are political practices such as political leadership, a conducive political culture, and effective public policy (Leggett, 2022). Conversely, good governance ensures that government actions are transparent, accountable, and responsive to citizen requirements (Mansoor, 2021).

According to Zhu et al. (2012), leaders who prioritize ethical behavior and respect the rule of law can inspire public confidence and promote social cohesion. Moreover, institutions that uphold democratic governance can be strengthened by a positive political culture that values civic engagement and promotes democratic values (Gibson & Duch, 2019). Depending on its character and implementation, public policy can either enhance or undermine democratic stability (Levin et al., 2022). Even though these factors are interdependent, their impact on democratic stability is essential to comprehending the dynamics of contemporary politics and informing policy decisions. Despite the growing interest in understanding the relationship between political practices and democratic peace, the literature remains silent on the underlying mechanisms of this relationship, particularly in the context of developing countries (Martella & Bracciale, 2022; Peng & Tao, 2022; Pulatovna, 2022).

Moreover, previous research has largely neglected the intricate relationship between various political practices and effective governance (Alscher, Ludewig, & McElvany, 2022). This study seeks to fill these gaps by examining the direct and indirect effects of political leadership, political culture, and public policy on democratic stability and the role of good governance as a mediator in this relationship. Good governance is

the foundation of a democratic society that promotes effective decision-making and the efficient use of resources while protecting citizen rights (Ahn & Chen, 2022).

In addition, the concept of power distribution contributes significantly to democratic stability. Power distribution is the equilibrium of power between various groups or institutions in a democratic system (Stefenon et al., 2022). When power is evenly distributed, the likelihood of one group or institution dominating the system, which can threaten democratic stability, is diminished (Oh et al., 2022). However, when power is concentrated in the hands of a few individuals or institutions, corruption, power abuse, and the erosion of democratic values can result (Komunjer, 2007). Therefore, it is important to investigate the moderating effect of power distribution on the relationship between effective governance and democratic stability. In addition, understanding the relationship between political practices and democratic stability is essential in developing countries where political instability and corruption are prevalent (Frederiksen, 2022). However, most previous research on this topic has been conducted in developed nations, and the results cannot be generalized to developing countries due to their distinct political, social, and economic contexts.

Consequently, this research is conducted in Indonesia, a developing economy. In recent years, Indonesia has experienced significant political transformations. In 1998 Indonesia transitioned from decades of authoritarian rule to a democratic system (Wahyuningroem, 2022). Nonetheless, the country continues to encounter difficulties in maintaining democratic stability. Corruption, political instability, and human rights violations remain significant problems in the nation (Jamillah, 2022; Marwiyah et al., 2022).

Consequently, it is essential to comprehend the factors that promote democratic stability in Indonesia and to devise solutions to the country's challenges. This study contributes to a greater understanding of the dynamics between political practices, good governance, and democratic stability, particularly in developing nations, by filling in these gaps. In addition, this study's theoretical framework is based on the Political Opportunity Structure theory in conjunction with the Power-Distribution theory, and it seeks to examine the direct impact of political practices (political leadership, political culture, and public policy) on good

governance and democratic stability. In addition, this study intends to investigate the direct relationship between effective governance and democratic stability. This research examines the role of good governance as a mediator in the relationship between political practice and democratic stability. The final objective of this study is to investigate the moderating effect of power distribution on the association between effective governance and democratic stability.

Literature Review

Theoretical Foundation

The conceptual framework of this research was based on the Political Opportunity Structure theory (Eisinger, 1973) and the Power Distribution theory (Komunjer, 2007). The Political Opportunity Structure theory provides a framework for comprehending how a society's legal and institutional structures and socioeconomic conditions influence political practices (Zhang & Wang, 2022). This study examines the relationship between political leadership, political culture, public policy, and effective governance, including transparency, accountability, and citizen participation. We hypothesize that these political practices are positively associated with good governance, leading to increased democratic stability. However, according to the Power Distribution theory (Shapley & Shubik, 1954), a society's power distribution can impact the effectiveness of governance and the stability of democratic institutions.

Consequently, we investigate the role of power distribution as a moderator between effective governance and democratic stability. We hypothesize that a fair power distribution will strengthen the connection between good governance and democratic stability. By combining these two theories, we can investigate the intricate connections between political practices, good governance, power distribution, and democratic stability in the context of the Indonesian province of West Java. This can provide important insights into the factors contributing to effective governance and democratic stability, which can inform policy and practice in Indonesia and elsewhere.

Hypothesis Development

Political Practices and Democratic Stability

For a democracy to flourish, democratic stability is essential (Aly, 2022). To ensure that democratic institutions function properly and can satisfy the needs of citizens, it is necessary to comprehend the factors that contribute to democratic stability (Rodríguez, 2022). This study's theoretical framework posits that political leadership, political culture, and public policy are significant determinants of democratic stability. Political leadership is an essential factor in determining democratic strength.(Johnson & Williams, 2020) When leaders prioritize ethical behavior, they foster fair and effective work practices. This type of leadership inspires public trust and confidence in the political system, leading to greater participation and engagement in democratic processes (Lam & Xu, 2019). Good and ethical political leadership can also contribute to reducing corruption and promoting social justice, which are essential elements of a stable and effective democracy (Pineda, Bellido-Pérez, & Barragán-Romero, 2022).

Additionally, political culture is a significant factor that influences democratic stability. Political culture is the norms, values, and beliefs that influence political behavior (Pulatovna, 2022). A robust and vibrant political culture is characterized by a commitment to democratic ideals such as openness, participation, and tolerance (He & Lee, 2020).

Strong political culture increases the likelihood that citizens will participate in democratic processes, respect democratic institutions, and hold leaders accountable (Bai, Jia, & Yang, 2023). In contrast, when political culture is feeble or fragmented, citizens may become disillusioned with democracy and less likely to engage in political activities (Martella & Bracciale, 2022). The third important factor influencing democratic stability is public policy. Policies promoting social and economic development, human rights, and the rule of law can strengthen democratic institutions and processes (Leggett, 2022). For instance, policies promoting economic growth and reducing inequality can contribute to the development of a society that is more stable and prosperous (Kraemer, Ramachandran, & Perron, 2019).

Similarly, policies that defend human rights and promote the rule of law can ensure that citizens can fully participate in democratic processes and have their voices heard (Greenstein, 2022). By investigating the relationships between these factors and democratic stability, this study aims to shed light on the prerequisites for a healthy and functional democracy. Therefore, it is hypothesized that;

H1 a, b, and c: *Political practices (political leadership, political culture, and public policy) are significantly associated with democratic stability.*

Political Practices and Good Governance

Good governance refers to the practices and processes governments use to manage and allocate resources and to develop policies and programs that enhance the well-being of their citizens (Safdar, Khan, & Andlib, 2022). Ethical and morally upright leaders will likely cultivate a culture of openness, accountability, and fairness, resulting in improved governance. Good governance positively relates to political culture (Hartanto et al., 2021). A robust political culture that prioritizes democracy, human rights, and the rule of law is more likely to result in effective and responsive governance (Gommans & Leider, 2022). Well-designed, implemented, transparent and participatory policies can potentially enhance governance outcomes (Van Noordt & Misuraca, 2022). In addition, the Political Opportunity Structure theory suggests that the larger political opportunity structure influences political practices such as political leadership, political culture, and public policy. These structures, which include the legal and institutional frameworks and the socioeconomic conditions of a society, foster effective governance. Therefore, it is hypothesized that;

H2 a, b, and c: *Political practices (political leadership, political culture, and public policy) are significantly associated with good governance.*

Good governance and Democratic Stability

Good governance is essential to the stability and functionality of a democratic system (Sorge et al., 2022). It ensures the actions and policies of the government are transparent and accountable to the public (Safdar et al., 2022). This transparency fosters a level of trust between the government and the populace, which is essential for the maintenance of democratic stability. Similarly, good governance assures the government's efficiency and

effectiveness in implementing policies consistent with ethical practices (Van Noordt & Misuraca, 2022). This efficacy and effectiveness results in delivering high-quality services to the public, thereby enhancing citizens' faith in the government. Good governance also encourages citizen participation in the decision-making process, which fosters a sense of ownership among citizens (Hue & Tung-Wen Sun, 2022). This sense of ownership can contribute to the growth of a robust democratic culture, which is essential for the long-term stability of a democratic system. It is therefore hypothesized that;

H3: *Good governance has a positive impact on democratic stability.*

Good governance as a Mediator

The importance of good governance in attaining sustainable development has been acknowledged (Xue et al., 2022). The character of governance can determine the success or failure of public policies and political practices in maintaining democratic stability (Mooneeapen, Abhayawansa, & Mamode Khan, 2022). Good governance will likely mediate the effect of political leadership, political culture, and public policy on democratic stability. Good governance can serve as a mediator by facilitating the implementation of effective policies, fostering accountability, and guaranteeing transparency. This can increase the influence of political practices on democratic stability. Scholars have previously reported the role of effective governance as a mediator in the relationship between various characteristics of politicians and the success of political institutions (Gollagari, Beyene, & Mishra, 2022). In addition, this study hypothesizes that effective governance is the primary mechanism that bridges the gap between government officials' political practices and democratic stability. To ensure democratic stability, it is essential that a government effectively implements policies that accord with political leadership, political culture, and public policy. It is therefore hypothesized that;

H4 a, b, and c: *Political practices (political leadership, political culture, and public policy) mediate the association between good governance and democratic stability.*

Power Distribution as a Moderator

This study examines the previously unexplored moderating effect of power distribution on the relationship between effective governance and democratic stability.

This study, therefore, addresses this research void and contributes to the existing body of knowledge. Power distribution allocates authority, decision-making, and resources among various social actors (Kiani-Moghaddam, Shivaie, & Arabkoohsar, 2022). It has been found to influence the character of governance and democratic stability (Sorge et al., 2022). Power distribution has been a crucial issue in Indonesia, where there has been a history of centralized power and authoritarian rule. In light of this, studying the moderating effect of power distribution on the relationship between good governance and democratic stability is highly relevant to the Indonesian context. Recent research by Bai et al. (2023) demonstrates the importance of power in determining political decisions in developed nations (China). Rodríguez (2022) concurrently argued that power distribution among politicians and political institutions is a significant predictor of political stability. In addition, the Power-Distribution theory suggests that democratic stability is more likely to result from sound governance practices when power is distributed equally among all stakeholders in the governance system. It is therefore hypothesized that;

H5: *Power distribution among political actors moderates the association between good governance and democratic stability.*

Theoretical Framework

Figure 1 presents the current study's model based on the literature review, Political Opportunity Structure theory, and Power-Distribution theory.
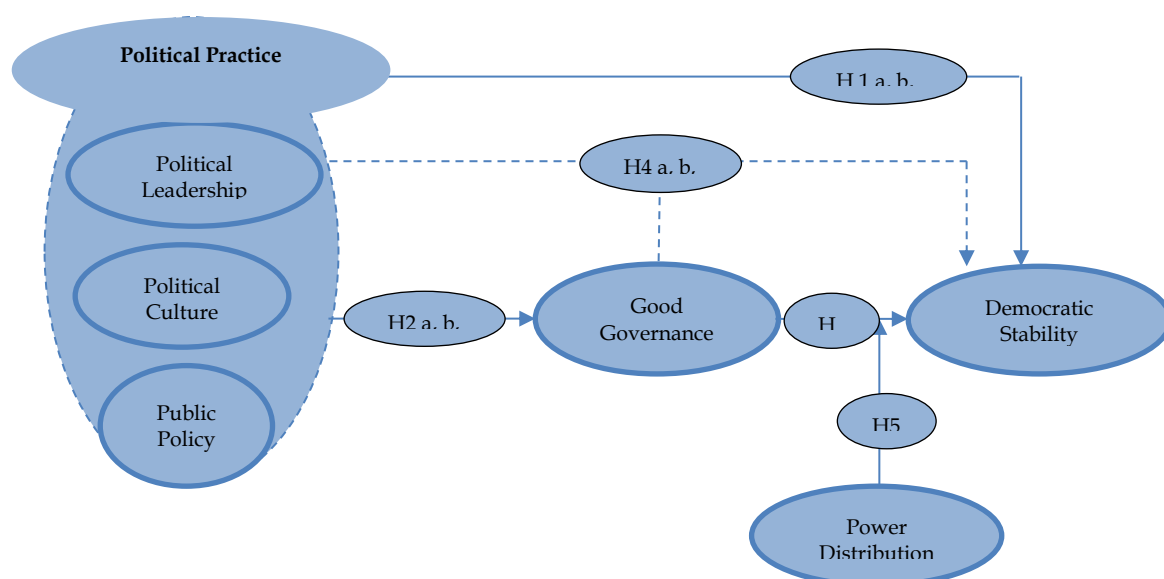

Figure 1: Study Theoretical Model

Methodology

The objective of this study was to collect cluster survey data from citizens and communities in West Java Province, Indonesia, to examine the effect of political practice on democratic stability via the mediating role of good governance and the moderating role of power distribution.

Sample Selection

We used a multi-stage cluster sampling technique to obtain information from citizens and communities (Luo et al., 2022). Seven of West Java Province's eleven districts were randomly selected in the first stage. In the second phase, we randomly selected two villages from each district, for a total of fourteen villages. We randomly selected 40 households from each village using systematic random sampling, resulting in a sample size of 560 households.

Data Collection

Face-to-face structured surveys were administered by trained research assistants to collect data. Before the data collection, the survey questionnaire was piloted with a small group of citizens to ensure its validity and reliability.

Data Analysis

The gathered information was analyzed using SPSS version 25.0. The sample's demographic characteristics were analyzed using descriptive statistics, such as frequencies and percentages. Inferential statistics, including correlation and regression analysis, were employed to test the study's hypotheses.

Ethical Considerations

The institution's research ethics committee approved before the study was conducted. Before conducting the survey, participants were apprised of the purpose of the study, and informed consent was obtained from each participant. Participants' anonymity and confidentiality were maintained throughout the study.

Study Measures

The study measured political culture using a five-item scale devised by Zhu et al. (2012) The scale measured the degree of confidence in the government, political participation, political competence, and political knowledge. The study measured public policy using a five-item scale by Peng and Tao (2022) The scale measured the efficacy, responsiveness, and effectiveness of public policy. The study utilized a seven-item scale Safdar et al. (2022) developed to measure effective governance. The scale measured the extent of accountability, transparency, participation, the rule of law, efficiency, effectiveness, and responsiveness. The study measured democratic stability using a six-item scale devised by Lemma et al. (2020). The ranking measured political freedom, civil liberties, the absence of violence, political stability, free and fair elections, and the rule of law. The study utilized a four-item scale devised by Lam and Xu (2019) to measure power distribution. The scale measured the degree of equality in power distribution, including access to resources and political representation. Each item was evaluated on a 5-point Likert scale: 5 = strongly agree, 1 = strongly disagree.

Demographic Characteristics

The survey collected data from a representative sample of Indonesian citizens and communities. The sample included 500 individuals, 76.4% males, and 24.6% females. 60 percent of the sample consisted of participants between the ages of 25 and 45, 25 percent were between the ages of 18 and 24, and 15 percent were older than 45. Regarding education level, most participants (50%) had concluded their undergraduate education. About 30% of the participants had attained a high school diploma, whereas only 20% had attained a graduate degree.

Regarding vocation, the sample included participants from a variety of professions. Most participants were employed in the private sector, comprising forty percent of the sample, while twenty-five percent worked in the public sector. In addition, 20% of the participants were self-employed, compared to 15% who were either unemployed or students. The sample was collected from the West Java Provinces' diverse urban and rural regions. Most participants, or 60% of the sample, were from urban regions, while the remaining 40% were from rural areas.

Results

Descriptive Statistics

We conducted descriptive statistics on the survey data collected. Political leadership, political skills, public policy, effective governance, democratic stability, and power distribution were the variables analyzed in the study. Means, standard deviations, skewness, kurtosis, and minimum and maximum values for each variable are presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Descriptive Statistics of Survey Variables

Variable	Mean	STD.	Skewness	Kurtosis	Min.	Max.
Political Leadership	3.42	0.87	-0.31	0.26	1.32	5.00
Political Skills	3.71	0.72	-0.20	0.03	1.67	5.00
Public Policy	3.58	0.84	-0.16	-0.13	1.00	5.00
Good governance	3.81	0.68	-0.39	0.02	1.67	5.00
Democratic Stability	3.55	0.81	-0.22	-0.08	1.00	5.00
Power distribution	3.46	0.89	-0.35	-0.08	1.00	5.00

All variable means were above the scale's median (3.0), indicating that respondents viewed their political environment favorably on average. This was followed by political talents (3.71), public policy (3.58), democratic stability (3.55), political leadership (3.42), and power distribution (3.42). The relatively modest standard deviations suggest little variation in the responses for each variable. All variable skewness values were negative, indicating that distributions were modestly negatively skewed (Noor, Mansoor, & Shamim, 2022). For all variables except public policy, the Kurtosis values were positive, indicating that the distributions were marginally more peaked than a normal distribution (Kang et al., 2022). Each variable's minimum and maximum values ranged from 1.00 to 5.00. Good governance was the most highly rated variable, indicating that respondents viewed their political environment positively.

Pearson Correlation Coefficients

The relationships between the survey's variables, including political leadership, political skills, public policy, effective governance, democratic stability, and power distribution, are examined using Pearson correlations. The Pearson correlation coefficients for all pairs of variables are shown in Table 2 below.

Table 2. Pearson Correlation Coefficients

Variables	1	2	3	4	5	6
Political Leadership	1.00	0.63	0.51	0.75	0.55	0.60
Political Skills	0.63	1.00	0.50	0.65	0.49	0.58
Public Policy	0.51	0.50	1.00	0.61	0.47	0.50
Good governance	0.75	0.65	0.61	1.00	0.61	0.65
Democratic Stability	0.55	0.49	0.47	0.61	1.00	0.57
Power distribution	0.60	0.58	0.50	0.65	0.57	1.00

All variables were positively and significantly correlated, with political leadership and effective governance having the highest correlation coefficient ($r = 0.75$). The correlations between political talents and other variables ranged from $r = 0.49$ to $r = 0.65$. The correlation coefficients between Public Policy and all other variables ranged from $r = 0.47$ to $r = 0.61$. The results indicate moderate to strong positive relationships between the variables in the survey, indicating that they are all associated with perceptions of the political environment in West Java Province, Indonesia.

The goodness of Fit Indices

To assess the model's goodness of fit, we used the AMOS v.26 software to calculate various indices. The results indicate that the model has an acceptable level of fit. The chi-square value was statistically significant ($\chi 2 = 150.12$, $df = 45$, $p < 0.001$), but the ratio of chi-square to degrees of freedom was within the recommended cut-off value of 3.0 or below ($\chi 2/df = 3.34$). Additionally, the Comparative Fit Index (CFI)

and Tucker-Lewis Index (TLI) were both above the recommended cut-off value of 0.90, indicating a good fit (CFI = 0.92, TLI = 0.91). The Root Mean Square Error of Approximation (RMSEA) was also below the recommended cut-off value of 0.08 (RMSEA = 0.07). Finally, the Standardized Root Mean Square Residual (SRMR) was within the recommended cut-off value of 0.08 or below (SRMR = 0.06). Overall, the results suggest that the model provides an acceptable fit to the data, indicating that the hypothesized relationships between the variables are plausible.

Regression Analysis Results

We conducted a hierarchical regression analysis to examine the relationship between study variables. The results are presented in Table 3.

Table 3. Hierarchical Regression Analysis Results

Variable	B	SE	β	t	p
Step 1					
Political Leadership	0.30	0.08	0.34*	3.75	0.001
Political Culture	0.16	0.10	0.15	1.58	0.119
Public Policy	0.22	0.09	0.24*	2.46	0.018
Step 2					
Good governance	0.47	0.06	0.55*	7.76	0.000
Good governance x Power distribution	-0.16	0.04	-0.24*	-3.78	0.001
R2	0.47				
Adjusted R2	0.44				
F	15.52				
ΔR2	0.25				

Note. *p < 0.05

In Step 1, we found that Political Leadership (β = 0.34, p = 0.001) and Public Policy (β = 0.24, p = 0.018) were positively related to democratic stability, while political culture was not significantly related (β = 0.15, p = 0.119). In Step 2, we added

good governance as a predictor and power distribution as a moderator. Good governance strongly predicted democratic stability (β = 0.55, p = 0.000). Furthermore, we included Power distribution as a moderator variable in the hierarchical regression analysis to test for moderation. The interaction between good governance and power distribution was significant (β = -0.24, p = 0.001), indicating that power distribution moderated the relationship between good governance and democratic stability.

We conducted simple slope analyses using the Johnson-Neyman technique to explore this interaction further. The results showed that the effect of good governance on democratic stability was significant at low (b = 0.79, se = 0.10, p < 0.001) and moderate levels of power distribution (b = 0.33, se = 0.09, p = 0.001), but not at high levels of power distribution (b = -0.13, se = 0.09, p = 0.17). This suggests that the positive effect of good governance on democratic stability is stronger when power distribution is low or moderate. The overall model explained a significant amount of variance in democratic strength (R^2 = 0.47, F(6, 153) = 15.52, p < 0.001). The addition of good governance and the moderator variable (power distribution) in step 2 accounted for an additional 25% of the variance in democratic stability (ΔR^2 = 0.25, p < 0.001).

Discussion

The results of this study indicate that political leadership, political culture, and public policy all have direct positive effects on democratic stability. This emphasizes the significance of ethical and effective leadership, a supportive political culture, and effective public policies in promoting stable and effective democratic systems. Previous research has emphasized the importance of these factors in promoting democratic stability and effective governance (Martella & Bracciale, 2022; Pulatovna, 2022), so these findings are consistent with that. Effective and ethical leadership can cultivate a culture that fosters confidence in government and encourages citizen engagement. A hospitable political culture can foster a climate where citizens are willing to participate in democratic processes and advocate for their interests (Frederiksen, 2022). Effective public policies can ensure that government resources are utilized efficiently and effectively to meet citizens' requirements and preferences.

The study results indicate that political leadership, political culture, and public policy all directly positively affect effective governance, indicating the significance of political practices. The findings of this study suggest that effective governance influences democratic stability positively. Previous research has demonstrated that good governance is an essential predictor of political stability (Hue & Tung-Wen Sun, 2022; Mooneeapen et al., 2022). These findings are consistent with these findings. Good governance promotes transparency, accountability, and citizen participation in decision-making processes (Safdar et al., 2022). These characteristics of effective governance are expected to encourage stability in democratic systems by ensuring that citizens have confidence in their government and that their voices are heard and acted upon.

Good governance is a significant mediator between political leadership, political culture, public policy, and democratic stability, according to this study. These findings suggest that effective governance plays a crucial role in translating the effects of these three factors into democratic stability outcomes. The positive relationship between political leadership and good governance suggests that ethical and effective leadership practices can contribute to the efficient and effective use of government resources and promote stability in democratic systems (Martella & Bracciale, 2022). Similarly, our findings suggest that a supportive political culture can foster a climate where citizens are willing to participate in democratic processes and promote government accountability and transparency, ultimately contributing to good governance and democratic stability (Scaliza et al., 2022). Similarly, effective public policies can utilize government resources effectively and increase citizen trust in government (Hartanto et al., 2021; Levin et al., 2020). This contributes to the stability of democratic systems. Therefore, policymakers and academics who seek to promote democratic stability should consider the significance of good governance in nurturing the conditions required for effective and sustainable democratic systems.

Conclusion

The findings also indicate that the effect of effective governance on democratic stability is not universal but depends on the degree of power distribution in a given political system. Previous research has demonstrated that high levels of power

distribution can result in political instability as various actors vie for power and influence (Kiani-Moghaddam et al., 2022; Oh et al., 2022). In addition, our findings indicate that the positive impact of effective governance on democratic stability is greatest when power distribution is low or moderate. In systems with low or moderate power distribution, governments are more likely to be able to implement effective policies and respond to the requirements and preferences of their citizens (Komunjer, 2007). Moreover, citizens may be more likely to trust their government and participate in decision-making when they perceive their opinions being heard and considered. This, in turn, can increase the democratic system's stability.

Theoretical Implications

This research has substantial theoretical implications for political science and governance. First, our findings validate the significance of political leadership, political culture, and public policy as crucial determinants of democratic stability. This result is consistent with prior research that has emphasized the significance of these factors in promoting democratic values, processes, and outcomes. The relationship between these three factors and democratic stability is mediated by effective governance, according to the findings of this study. This result is consistent with the existing literature, which suggests that effective governance is a key factor in determining democratic stability. However, the current study adds to this body of knowledge by highlighting how effective governance mediates the relationship between these factors and democratic stability. Thirdly, the significance of power distribution as a moderator between good governance and democratic stability is emphasized. It indicates that the effect of effective governance on democratic stability can vary depending on the power structure of a society. This finding has significant implications for policymakers and academics who seek to promote democratic stability in societies marked by unequal power distribution. Fourthly, the present research emphasizes the significance of context-specific analysis for comprehending the connection between political practice, governance, and democratic stability. The results suggest that the relationships between these factors may vary depending on the context in which they function. This finding highlights the need for academics and

policymakers to conduct context-specific research to develop effective methods for promoting democratic stability.

Practical Implications

Numerous practical implications result from the current study. First, the findings emphasize the significance of promoting political leadership, political culture, and public policy as crucial determinants of democratic stability. To advance democratic values and processes, policymakers and practitioners should prioritize efforts to bolster these factors. The current study suggests, secondly, that promoting good governance can effectively nurture democratic stability. This finding has significant implications for policymakers who seek to promote democratic governance in contexts where democratic values and processes may be threatened. Thirdly, this study emphasizes the significance of reducing power imbalances to promote democratic stability. Policymakers and practitioners should prioritize promoting policies and practices that minimize access disparities to political power and resources. This may entail fostering democratic institutions that permit marginalized groups to participate in political decision-making. Fourthly, the current study emphasizes the importance of context-specific analysis and policy development for promoting democratic stability. Policymakers and practitioners should conduct context-specific research to develop strategies tailored to the unique political, social, and economic context of the society in question. This may involve collaborating with local communities and stakeholders to identify critical priorities and obstacles. Consequently, the current study offers significant insights into how policymakers and practitioners can promote democratic stability in various contexts. Policymakers and practitioners can foster democratic values and processes in societies worldwide by promoting political leadership, political culture, public policy, effective governance, and reducing power imbalances.

Limitations

The research was conducted in a particular region and may not apply to other areas with distinct political, economic, and social contexts. Future research could

investigate the relationship between political practices and democratic stability in various regions or countries to identify similarities and differences among the factors that promote democratic stability. The study relied on self-reported data from citizens and communities, which could have been affected by response or social desirability bias. Future research should consider employing alternative data collection methods to ensure data integrity. A cross-sectional study design limits the ability to establish causality between variables. To better comprehend the causal relationships between political practices and democratic stability, future research should consider using longitudinal designs. Even though the current study examined several crucial variables relating to political practices and democratic stability, it is possible that other significant variables were overlooked. Future research could also investigate the efficacy of interventions promoting political practices contributing to democratic stability. Such interventions could be evaluated with the help of randomized controlled trials.

References

Ahn, M. J., & Chen, Y.-C. (2022). Digital transformation toward AI-augmented public administration: The perception of government employees and the willingness to use AI in government. *Government information quarterly, 39*(2), 101664. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.giq.2021.101664

Alscher, P., Ludewig, U., & McElvany, N. (2022). Civic education, teaching quality and students' willingness to participate in political and civic life: Political interest and knowledge as mediators. *Journal of youth and adolescence, 51*(10), 1886-1900. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10964-022-01639-9

Aly, H. (2022). Digital transformation, development and productivity in developing countries: is artificial intelligence a curse or a blessing? *Review of Economics and Political Science, 7*(4), 238-256. https://doi.org/10.1108/REPS-11-2019-0145

Bai, Y., Jia, R., & Yang, J. (2023). Web of power: How elite networks shaped war and politics in China. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics, 138*(2), 1067-1108. https://doi.org/10.1093/qje/qjac041

Eisinger, P. K. (1973). The conditions of protest behavior in American cities. *American political science review, 67*(1), 11-28. https://doi.org/10.2307/1958525

Frederiksen, K. V. S. (2022). When democratic experience distorts democracy: Citizen reactions to undemocratic incumbent behaviour. *European Journal of Political Research, 61*(1), 281-292. https://doi.org/10.1111/1475-6765.12465

Gibson, J. L., & Duch, R. M. (2019). Emerging democratic values in Soviet political culture. In *Public opinion and regime change* (pp. 69-94). Routledge. https://doi.org/10.4324/9780429303470-6

Gollagari, R., Beyene, B. B., & Mishra, S. S. (2022). Ethical leadership, good governance and employee commitment: Testing a moderated mediation model in public universities of Ethiopia. *Journal of Public Affairs, 22*, e2742. https://doi.org/10.1002/pa.2742

Gommans, J., & Leider, J. (2022). *The maritime frontier of Burma: Exploring political, cultural and commercial interaction in the Indian Ocean world, 1200-1800.* Brill. https://hal.science/hal-03037402/

Greenstein, S. (2022). Preserving the rule of law in the era of artificial intelligence (AI). *Artificial Intelligence and Law, 30*(3), 291-323. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10506-021-09294-4

Hartanto, D., Dalle, J., Akrim, A., & Anisah, H. U. (2021). Perceived effectiveness of e-governance as an underlying mechanism between good governance and public trust: a case of Indonesia. *Digital Policy, Regulation And Governance, 23*(6), 598-616. https://doi.org/10.1108/DPRG-03-2021-0046

He, M., & Lee, J. (2020). Social culture and innovation diffusion: a theoretically founded agent-based model. *Journal of Evolutionary Economics, 30*, 1109-1149. https://doi.org/10.1007/s00191-020-00665-9

Hue, T. H. H., & Tung-Wen Sun, M. (2022). Democratic governance: Examining the Influence of citizen participation on local government performance in Vietnam. *International Journal of Public Administration, 45*(1), 4-22. https://doi.org/10.1080/01900692.2021.1939713

Jamillah, J. (2022). Violation of Human Rights in The Perspective of The Sociology of Law Judiciary in Indonesia. *International Asia Of Law and Money Laundering (IAML), 1*(1), 30-38. https://iaml.or.id/index.php/home/article/view/7

Johnson, C., & Williams, B. (2020). Gender and Political Leadership in a Time of COVID. *Politics & Gender, 16*(4), 943-950. https://doi.org/10.1017/S1743923X2000029X

Kang, H. S., Kim, J. Y., Kim, J. J., Kim, S., Lee, N. K., Lee, J. W., Suh, H. B., Hwangbo, L., Son, Y., & Grimm, R. (2022). Diffusion kurtosis MR imaging of invasive breast cancer: Correlations with prognostic factors and molecular subtypes. *Journal of Magnetic Resonance Imaging, 56*(1), 110-120. https://doi.org/10.1002/jmri.27999

Kiani-Moghaddam, M., Shivaie, M., & Arabkoohsar, A. (2022). Towards a new effective strategy to obtain optimal radial structure in power distribution networks: Graph theory-based topology assessment. *International Journal of Electrical Power & Energy Systems, 143*, 108484. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijepes.2022.108484

Komunjer, I. (2007). Asymmetric power distribution: Theory and applications to risk measurement. *Journal of applied econometrics, 22*(5), 891-921. https://doi.org/10.1002/jae.961

Kraemer, S. A., Ramachandran, A., & Perron, G. G. (2019). Antibiotic pollution in the environment: from microbial ecology to public policy. *Microorganisms, 7*(6), 180. https://doi.org/10.3390/microorganisms7060180

Lam, L. W., & Xu, A. J. (2019). Power imbalance and employee silence: The role of abusive leadership, power distance orientation, and perceived organisational politics. *Applied Psychology, 68*(3), 513-546. https://doi.org/10.1111/apps.12170

Leggett, W. (2022). Can Mindfulness really change the world? The political character of meditative practices. *Critical Policy Studies, 16*(3), 261-278. https://doi.org/10.1080/19460171.2021.1932541

Lemma, T. T., Lulseged, A., Mlilo, M., & Negash, M. (2020). Political stability, political rights and earnings management: some international evidence. *Accounting Research Journal, 33*(1), 57-74. https://doi.org/10.1108/ARJ-11-2017-0182

Levin, A. T., Hanage, W. P., Owusu-Boaitey, N., Cochran, K. B., Walsh, S. P., & Meyerowitz-Katz, G. (2020). Assessing the age specificity of infection fatality rates for COVID-19: systematic review, meta-analysis, and public policy implications. *European journal of epidemiology, 35*(12), 1123-1138. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10654-020-00698-1

Levin, A. T., Owusu-Boaitey, N., Pugh, S., Fosdick, B. K., Zwi, A. B., Malani, A., Soman, S., Besançon, L., Kashnitsky, I., & Ganesh, S. (2022). Assessing the burden of COVID-19 in developing countries: systematic review, meta-analysis and public policy implications. *BMJ Global Health, 7*(5), e008477. http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmjgh-2022-008477

Luo, Y., Liu, Y., Han, J., & Liu, J. (2022). Automatic modal parameters identification and uncertainty quantification based on block-bootstrap and multi-stage clustering under ambient excitation. *Journal of Low Frequency Noise, Vibration and Active Control, 41*(2), 551-565. https://doi.org/10.1177/14613484211051844

Mansoor, M. (2021). Citizens' trust in government as a function of good governance and government agency's provision of quality information on social media during COVID-19. *Government information quarterly, 38*(4), 101597. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.giq.2021.101597

Martella, A., & Bracciale, R. (2022). Populism and emotions: Italian political leaders' communicative strategies to engage Facebook users. *Innovation: The European journal of social science research, 35*(1), 65-85. https://doi.org/10.1080/13511610.2021.1951681

Marwiyah, S., Borman, M. S., Rubaie, A., & Amiq, B. (2022). Implications of the Constitutional Court's Decision on Corruption Management Politics in Indonesia. *Baltic Journal of Law & Politics, 15*(3), 324-342. https://versita.com/menuscript/index.php/Versita/article/view/663

Mauk, M. (2022). Stable support for democracy in East and Southeast Asia? Examining citizens' trust in democratic institutions. *East Asia, 39*(3), 239-257. https://doi.org/10.1007/s12140-021-09381-y

Mooneeapen, O., Abhayawansa, S., & Mamode Khan, N. (2022). The influence of the country governance environment on corporate environmental, social and governance (ESG) performance. *Sustainability Accounting, Management and Policy Journal, 13*(4), 953-985. https://doi.org/10.1108/SAMPJ-07-2021-0298

Noor, U., Mansoor, M., & Shamim, A. (2022). Customers create customers!–Assessing the role of perceived personalization, online advertising engagement and online users' modes in generating positive e-WOM. *Asia-Pacific Journal of Business Administration, ahead-of-print*(ahead-of-print). https://doi.org/10.1108/APJBA-11-2021-0569

Oh, S., Jufri, F. H., Choi, M.-H., & Jung, J. (2022). A study of tropical cyclone impact on the power distribution grid in South Korea for estimating damage. *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews, 156*, 112010. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rser.2021.112010

Peng, Y., & Tao, C. (2022). Can digital transformation promote enterprise performance?— From the perspective of public policy and innovation. *Journal of Innovation & Knowledge, 7*(3), 100198. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jik.2022.100198

Pineda, A., Bellido-Pérez, E., & Barragán-Romero, A. I. (2022). "Backstage moments during the campaign": The interactive use of Instagram by Spanish political leaders. *New media & society, 24*(5), 1133-1160. https://doi.org/10.1177/1461444820972390

Pulatovna, K. K. (2022). Political Culture and its Content. *Web of Scholars: Multidimensional Research Journal, 1*(5), 110-113. https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/BG2RT

Ridge, H. M. (2022). Just like the others: Party differences, perception, and satisfaction with democracy. *Party Politics, 28*(3), 419-430. https://doi.org/10.1177/1354068820985193

Rodríguez, R. (2022). From anticipatory strategies to reactive blame games in multi-level settings: the role of structure and politics in stability and policy change. *Journal of Public Policy, 42*(4), 802-826. https://doi.org/10.1017/S0143814X22000198

Safdar, S., Khan, A., & Andlib, Z. (2022). Impact of good governance and natural resource rent on economic and environmental sustainability: an empirical analysis for South Asian economies. *Environmental Science and Pollution Research, 29*(55), 82948-82965. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11356-022-21401-9

Scaliza, J. A. A., Jugend, D., Jabbour, C. J. C., Latan, H., Armellini, F., Twigg, D., & Andrade, D. F. (2022). Relationships among organizational culture, open innovation, innovative ecosystems, and performance of firms: Evidence from an emerging economy context. *Journal of Business Research, 140*, 264-279. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jbusres.2021.10.065

Shapley, L. S., & Shubik, M. (1954). A method for evaluating the distribution of power in a committee system. *American political science review, 48*(3), 787-792. https://doi.org/10.2307/1951053

Sorge, S., Mann, C., Schleyer, C., Loft, L., Spacek, M., Hernández-Morcillo, M., & Kluvankova, T. (2022). Understanding dynamics of forest ecosystem services governance: A socio-ecological-technical-analytical framework. *Ecosystem Services, 55*, 101427. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecoser.2022.101427

Stefenon, S. F., Seman, L. O., Pavan, B. A., Ovejero, R. G., & Leithardt, V. R. Q. (2022). Optimal design of electrical power distribution grid spacers using finite element method. *IET Generation, Transmission & Distribution, 16*(9), 1865-1876. https://doi.org/10.1049/gtd2.12425

Van Noordt, C., & Misuraca, G. (2022). Exploratory insights on artificial intelligence for government in Europe. *Social Science Computer Review, 40*(2), 426-444. https://doi.org/10.1177/0894439320980449

Wahyuningroem, S. L. (2022). Breaking the Promise: Transitional Justice between Tactical Concession and Legacies of Authoritarian Regime in Indonesia. *International Journal of Transitional Justice, 16*(3), 406-421. https://doi.org/10.1093/ijtj/ijac021

Xue, Y., Jiang, C., Guo, Y., Liu, J., Wu, H., & Hao, Y. (2022). Corporate social responsibility and high-quality development: do green innovation, environmental investment and corporate governance matter? *Emerging Markets Finance and Trade, 58*(11), 3191-3214. https://doi.org/10.1080/1540496X.2022.2034616

Zhang, X., & Wang, L. (2022). Factors Contributing to Citizens' Participation in COVID-19 Prevention and Control in China: An Integrated Model Based on Theory of Planned Behavior, Norm Activation Model, and Political Opportunity Structure Theory. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, 19*(23), 15794. https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph192315794

Zhu, W., Norman, S. M., Peng, Z., Riggio, R. E., & Sosik, J. J. (2012). The impact of ethical political leadership on the public: The mediating role of confidence in political leaders. *Leadership, 8*(2), 109-124. https://doi.org/10.1177/1742715011434745