

## THE IMPLEMENTATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION AUTONOMY IN INDONESIA: PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES

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### ABSTRACT

Indonesian universities are moving toward greater autonomy. The Indonesian higher education landscape is a very complex one with around 70 public universities and almost 1,700 private universities. In June 1999, the Indonesian government issued two important laws in the field of higher education. Government regulation PP 60 covers the changes in the administration of higher education institutions, and government regulation PP 61 relates to the establishment of universities as legal entity (PTN-BH). University of Legal Entity is new in higher education governance. The legal basis for the emergence of such university is the issuance of Act No 12/ 2012 on Higher Education. State Universities of Legal Entity are state-owned universities and cannot be transferred to an individual or private party (Elucidation of Article 65 paragraph 4 of Act No. 12/ 2012). Although called State University of Legal Entity (PTN-BH), it is somewhat different from the previous term State Owned Legal Entity (PTN-BHMN), which implied that there was privatization in education. The research is carried out to know what the problems and challenges faced in the implementation of autonomy in higher education. To obtain a clear point of view from the participants, in-depth interviews were employed in this study. This study also employed questionnaires to triangulate the instruments. In-depth interviews were conducted to obtain the perception of the participants on the State Universities of Legal Entity (PTN-BH) while questionnaires were distributed to support the data gained by interviews. The research proved that the implementation of higher education reform still needs a lot of improvements.

**Keywords:** Higher education, State Universities of Legal Entity, reform, autonomy.