

## Implementation of Regional Autonomy seen from the perspective of Indonesian National Law

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**Abstract.** *The implementation of regional autonomy in Indonesia is one form of implementation of the principle of decentralization that aims to increase the effectiveness of government administration, accelerate regional development, and realize public services that are more responsive to community needs. This study aims to analyze the implementation of regional autonomy from the perspective of Indonesian national law by focusing on the concept and legal basis of regional autonomy, its implementation in the national legal system, as well as the challenges and efforts to strengthen it. The research method used is normative legal research with a statutory and conceptual approach. The data used are primary, secondary, and tertiary legal materials analyzed qualitatively through literature studies. The results of the study indicate that regional autonomy has a strong constitutional basis in the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, specifically Article 18 and its regulations in laws and regulations governing regional government. From a national legal perspective, the granting of authority to regional governments is a form of decentralization that remains within the framework of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia so that its implementation must be in line with the principles of legality, accountability, legal certainty, and national interests. The implementation of regional autonomy has provided space for local governments to develop policy innovations and improve the quality of public services, but still faces various obstacles such as institutional capacity imbalances, overlapping regulations, limited human resources, and suboptimal coordination between the central and regional governments. Thus, the implementation of regional autonomy is not only an instrument of administrative decentralization, but also a legal mechanism that plays a vital role in realizing a democratic, efficient, and welfare-oriented government without neglecting the principle of unity and integrity in the Indonesian national legal system.*

**Keywords:** Decentralization; Governance; National Law; Regional Autonomy; Regional Government.

## 1. Introduction

Regional autonomy is a crucial pillar of Indonesia's constitutional system, designed to create a more effective, democratic government capable of addressing the needs of local communities. Through the implementation of the principle of decentralization, the central government grants regional governments some authority to regulate and manage government affairs in accordance with the characteristics, potential, and needs of their respective regions. This policy aims not only to accelerate development and improve the quality of public services, but also to strengthen public participation in the governance process. In the context of a unitary state, the implementation of regional autonomy must remain within the constitutional framework and must not conflict with national goals as mandated by the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia. Therefore, the success of regional autonomy implementation is greatly influenced by a clear legal basis governing the relationship of authority between the central government and regional governments.<sup>1</sup>

From a national legal perspective, the concept of regional autonomy has a strong constitutional foundation and is an integral part of the Indonesian government system. Article 18 of the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia provides the basis for the establishment of regional governments with the authority to regulate and manage their own government affairs according to the principles of autonomy and assistance tasks. These regulations are then further elaborated through various laws and regulations concerning regional government that regulate the division of government affairs, financial relations, guidance, and oversight mechanisms by the central government. Thus, the implementation of regional autonomy is not merely an administrative policy, but rather the implementation of legal norms aimed at maintaining a balance between regional independence and the principles of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia. The existence of this legal framework is an important instrument to ensure that the implementation of regional government continues to operate in accordance with the principles of legality, legal certainty, accountability, and protection of the public interest.<sup>2</sup>

In practice, the implementation of regional autonomy has had various positive impacts, including increased opportunities for policy innovation at the regional level, the development of more adaptive public services, and the opening of space

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<sup>1</sup>Khosaiful, Khasail, Muhammad Ilham Rahmatulloh, Naufal Taufiqurrahman, dan Muhammad Syahrur Romadhon. 2024. "Membangun Otonomi Daerah yang Efektif: Meninjau Kembali Kerangka Hukum Pemerintahan Daerah di Indonesia." *Jurnal Kajian Konstitusi* 4 (1). <https://doi.org/10.19184/j.kk.v4i1.48737>.

<sup>2</sup>Moonti, Roy Marthen. 2017. "Hakikat Otonomi Daerah dalam Sistem Ketatanegaraan di Indonesia." *Al-Ishlah: Jurnal Ilmiah Hukum* 20 (2): 26–37.

for regional governments to optimize local economic, social, and cultural potential. However, its implementation also faces various challenges that require serious attention from a national legal perspective. There are still differences in institutional capacity and human resources between regions, disparities in fiscal capacity, overlapping regulations, and potential conflicts of authority between the central and regional governments. Furthermore, the formulation of regional policies that are not fully aligned with higher-level laws and regulations can create legal uncertainty and hinder the achievement of decentralization goals. These conditions indicate that the implementation of regional autonomy requires strengthening legal governance and inter-institutional coordination to ensure effective and consistent government functions.<sup>3</sup>

Based on this background, a study of the implementation of regional autonomy from the perspective of Indonesian national law is important to understand the extent to which the principles of decentralization have been implemented in accordance with the constitutional framework and applicable laws and regulations. This study focuses on three main aspects: the concept and legal basis of regional autonomy in Indonesia, the implementation of regional autonomy from a national legal perspective, and the challenges and efforts to strengthen its implementation. An analysis of these three aspects is expected to provide a comprehensive picture of the dynamics of the relationship between the central government and regional governments and produce recommendations that support the realization of effective, accountable, and welfare-oriented governance. Thus, strengthening the implementation of regional autonomy is expected to strengthen the national legal system while maintaining integration and unity within the framework of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia.<sup>4</sup>

## **2. Research Method**

The research method used is normative legal research with a statutory regulatory approach and a conceptual approach. The data used consists of primary, secondary, and tertiary legal materials analyzed qualitatively through literature studies.<sup>5</sup>

## **3. Results and Discussion**

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<sup>3</sup>Firas, Ida Surya, dan M. Saleh. 2024. "Implementasi Prinsip Negara Kesatuan Republik Indonesia dalam Pengaturan Otonomi Daerah menurut Sistem Ketatanegaraan." *Jurnal Diskresi* 3 (2): 166–172.

<sup>4</sup>Djuniarti, Djuniarti, Abdul Azis, dan Harlina Hamid. 2023. "Pelaksanaan Otonomi Daerah dalam Konteks Hukum dan Politik Nasional." *Eksekusi: Jurnal Ilmu Hukum dan Administrasi Negara* 1 (2). <https://doi.org/10.55606/eksekusi.v1i2.497>.

<sup>5</sup>Soekanto, Soerjono, dan Sri Mamudji. 2015. *Penelitian Hukum Normatif: Suatu Tinjauan Singkat*. Jakarta: Rajawali Pers.

### **3.1. Concept and Legal Basis of Regional Autonomy in Indonesia**

The concept of regional autonomy in Indonesia arose from the need to create a government system that can reach the needs of the community more closely, effectively, and responsively to the conditions of each region. Indonesia, as an archipelagic nation with cultural, social, economic, and geographical diversity, faces significant challenges if all government policies are centralized within the national government. Therefore, granting authority to regional governments is one strategy to strengthen governance while improving the quality of public services. Regional autonomy is not a form of separation of powers from the state, but rather a mechanism for the distribution of authority that remains within the framework of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia, so that each region has the space to manage its own interests without compromising the sovereignty of the central government.<sup>6</sup>

Over time, regional autonomy has come to be understood as the rights, authorities, and obligations of regions to regulate and manage government affairs and the interests of local communities in accordance with statutory provisions. This concept positions regional governments as administrators with direct responsibility for the communities within their jurisdictions. With this authority, regional governments can formulate development programs, establish service priorities, and develop local potential based on the real needs of the community. This approach is expected to produce more adaptive policies than if all decisions were made centrally.

Philosophically, the concept of regional autonomy is rooted in the idea that a government that is close to the community will better understand local issues and be able to provide solutions tailored to local conditions. Each region has distinct characteristics, so a uniform approach does not always produce effective policies. Agricultural-based regions have different needs than industrial areas or those dependent on the tourism sector. Therefore, granting authority to regional governments allows for more contextual policy development and can encourage economic growth, equitable development, and improved community welfare.

From a constitutional perspective, regional autonomy embodies the principle of decentralization applied in the Indonesian government system. Decentralization provides local governments with the authority to administer some governmental functions previously under the control of the central government. However, not all authority is transferred to the regions, as certain strategic areas remain the responsibility of the central government to safeguard national interests and the integrity of the state. Therefore, the concept of regional autonomy consistently

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<sup>6</sup>Paradizsa Dirja, Irlandi. 2021. "Kendala dan Optimalisasi Pelaksanaan Undang-Undang Terkait dengan Otonomi Daerah." *Jurnal Ekonomi dan Pendidikan* 18 (1). <https://doi.org/10.21831/jep.v18i1.38183>.

aligns with the principle of a unitary state, which emphasizes the importance of coordination, synchronization, and oversight between levels of government.<sup>7</sup>

The legal basis for regional autonomy in Indonesia is firmly rooted in the country's constitution. The 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia recognizes the existence of regional governments and their authority to regulate and manage their own government affairs according to the principles of autonomy and assistance. This constitutional provision demonstrates that decentralization is not merely an administrative policy, but rather an integral part of Indonesia's constitutional design. The constitution directs that the relationship between the central government and regional governments must be built on a clear division of authority, respect for regional diversity, and the maintenance of national unity.

Further regulations regarding regional autonomy are then outlined in various laws and regulations governing the implementation of regional governance, the division of government affairs, the relationship between central and regional finances, the formation of regional regulations, and the mechanisms for guidance and oversight. These regulations aim to provide legal certainty for regional governments in exercising their authority while ensuring that all policies adopted remain within the framework of national law. With a clear legal basis, regional governments receive guidance in carrying out their duties, while the public has a basis for oversight of governance.<sup>8</sup>

In its implementation, the concept of regional autonomy is also closely linked to the principles of democracy and public participation. Local governments are encouraged to involve citizens in development planning, policy formulation, and public service evaluation. Public involvement is a crucial indicator of the success of regional autonomy, as policies formulated based on public aspirations tend to be more relevant to real needs on the ground. This participation also strengthens local government accountability and increases public trust in government institutions.

Furthermore, regional autonomy has a significant economic dimension. Local governments are given the opportunity to manage their potential resources to increase regional revenue and accelerate development. Authority in budget planning, investment development, and public service provision is a crucial instrument for driving local economic growth. However, the implementation of

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<sup>7</sup>Marbun, S. F., dan Moh. Mahfud MD. 2018. *Pokok-Pokok Hukum Administrasi Negara*. Yogyakarta: Gadjah Mada University Press.

<sup>8</sup>Asshiddiqie, Jimly. 2010. *Konstitusi dan Konstitusionalisme Indonesia*. Jakarta: Sinar Grafika.

this authority must be transparent, efficient, and in accordance with the principles of good governance so that its benefits can be felt widely by the community.<sup>9</sup>

The concept of regional autonomy also encompasses an element of responsibility. The granting of authority to regions must be balanced with administrative capacity, adequate human resources, and an effective oversight system. Regional governments are required to manage budgets responsibly, provide quality public services, and comply with all applicable laws. Therefore, the success of regional autonomy depends not only on the breadth of authority granted, but also on the capacity of regional institutions to exercise that authority professionally and accountably.

Ultimately, the concept and legal basis of regional autonomy in Indonesia reflect an effort to balance the need for government close to the people with the importance of maintaining national integration. Regional autonomy provides opportunities for each region to develop according to its potential and characteristics, while simultaneously placing all government administration within a national legal framework that upholds the constitution, legal certainty, and the interests of the nation. With a solid legal foundation and consistent implementation, regional autonomy can be a crucial instrument in realizing effective, democratic governance oriented toward improving public welfare.<sup>10</sup>

### **3.2. Implementation of Regional Autonomy from a National Legal Perspective**

The implementation of regional autonomy from a national legal perspective is an integral part of the Indonesian constitutional system, which positions decentralization as an instrument for achieving effective, democratic, and welfare-oriented governance. Within the national legal framework, granting authority to regional governments is not intended to diminish the authority of the central government, but rather to create a more proportional division of tasks and responsibilities so that government administration can run efficiently according to the conditions and needs of each region. Indonesia, as a unitary state, maintains the principle that sovereignty resides at the national level, while regional governments exercise the authority granted under the constitution and applicable laws and regulations.<sup>11</sup>

The national legal perspective holds that the implementation of regional autonomy must always be based on the principle of legality, meaning that every

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<sup>9</sup>Santoso Budi N. 2012. "Pelaksanaan Desentralisasi dan Otonomi Daerah Berdasarkan Undang-Undang Nomor 32 Tahun 2004." *Wacana Hukum* 9 (1). <https://doi.org/10.33061/wh.v9i1.307>.

<sup>10</sup>Kansil, C. S. T., dan Christine S. T. Kansil. 2008. *Sistem Pemerintahan Indonesia*. Jakarta: Bumi Aksara.

<sup>11</sup>Satata, Pantja, Yusandi Rakhman, dan Ridha Ramadhana Megafitri. 2025. "Politik Hukum Pembentukan Peraturan Daerah dan Implikasinya terhadap Prinsip Otonomi Daerah di Indonesia." *Jurnal Penegakan Hukum Indonesia* 6 (3). <https://doi.org/10.51749/jphi.v6i3.153>.

regional government action must have a clear legal basis and must not conflict with higher-level laws and regulations. This principle is an important foundation for ensuring legal certainty, preventing abuse of authority, and maintaining consistency in governance throughout Indonesia. In practice, regional governments have the authority to establish various public policies in accordance with their responsibilities, but this authority must be exercised within the framework of national law to avoid conflicting norms or uncertainty for the community.<sup>12</sup>

The implementation of regional autonomy also reflects the principle of decentralization, which provides space for regions to regulate and manage the interests of local communities based on their own initiatives. This authority allows regional governments to formulate development programs, manage budgets, develop public services, and optimize regional economic potential according to the characteristics of each region. From a national legal perspective, this flexibility recognizes the diversity of Indonesia's social, cultural, economic, and geographic conditions, which require different policy approaches in each region without diminishing the unity of the government system.<sup>13</sup>

The relationship between the central and regional governments in implementing autonomy is built on the principle of a clear division of authority. The central government retains control over strategic matters directly related to the state's existence, while regional governments carry out decentralized government affairs. This division is designed to avoid overlapping authority while ensuring faster and more effective public services. From a national legal perspective, this division of authority serves as a mechanism to strike a balance between administrative efficiency and the protection of national interests.

In its implementation, local governments have a significant responsibility to formulate policies that meet the needs of the community and adhere to applicable legal principles. Every administrative decision, regional regulation, and development program must be formulated through legal procedures and adhere to the principles of sound legal regulation. This is crucial to ensure that the resulting policies have strong legal legitimacy and can be implemented effectively without giving rise to future legal disputes.<sup>14</sup>

From a national legal perspective, the existence of a central government guidance and oversight mechanism is an integral part of the implementation of regional autonomy. This oversight is not intended to diminish regional independence, but

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<sup>12</sup>Rasyid, M. Ryaas. 2000. *Makna Pemerintahan: Tinjauan dari Segi Etika dan Kepemimpinan*. Jakarta: PT Mutiara Sumber Widya.

<sup>13</sup>Syaukani, H. R., Affan Gaffar, dan M. Ryaas Rasyid. 2002. *Otonomi Daerah dalam Negara Kesatuan*. Yogyakarta: Pustaka Pelajar.

<sup>14</sup>Djuniarti, Djuniarti. 2023. "Analisis Pelaksanaan Otonomi Daerah dalam Perspektif Hukum Nasional dan Politik Pemerintahan." *Eksekusi: Jurnal Ilmu Hukum dan Administrasi Negara* 1 (2).

rather to ensure that the delegated authority is used in accordance with the objectives of decentralization and does not conflict with the public interest. Guidance is provided through the development of guidelines, capacity building of apparatus, and policy coordination, while oversight is directed at compliance with laws and regulations, budget utilization, and the quality of public services.

The implementation of regional autonomy is also closely linked to the principle of accountability in state administrative law. Regional governments are required to be accountable for all uses of their authority and public resources to the public and to authorized supervisory institutions. Transparency in regional financial management, openness to public information, and evaluation mechanisms are crucial instruments to ensure that governance is conducted in accordance with the principles of good governance. A national legal perspective views accountability as an absolute requirement for creating a regional government that commands public trust.

Beyond administrative aspects, the implementation of regional autonomy also impacts economic and social development. Local governments have the opportunity to develop policies that encourage investment, increase regional competitiveness, expand employment opportunities, and strengthen services in education, health, and infrastructure. From a national legal perspective, these policies must continue to consider the principles of justice, equity, and protection of community rights so that the benefits of development are felt widely and do not solely benefit certain groups.<sup>15</sup>

However, the implementation of regional autonomy is not without challenges. Differences in institutional capacity, human resource quality, and fiscal capacity between regions often lead to disparities in the quality of public services and the effectiveness of governance. Furthermore, there is still the potential for overlapping authority, regulatory inconsistencies, and differing interpretations of legal norms, which can hamper policy implementation at the regional level. A national legal perspective demands regulatory harmonization and ongoing coordination to minimize these challenges.

To address these dynamics, strengthening the implementation of regional autonomy requires a shared commitment from the central government, local governments, and the public. Improving the competence of civil servants, utilizing technology in government administration, simplifying regulations, and strengthening oversight systems are crucial steps to increase the effectiveness of regional governance. Furthermore, public participation in policy planning, implementation, and evaluation also needs to be continuously encouraged to

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<sup>15</sup>Manan, Bagir. 2001. *Menyongsong Fajar Otonomi Daerah*. Yogyakarta: Pusat Studi Hukum Fakultas Hukum UII.

enable local governments to exercise their authority more responsively and responsibly.<sup>16</sup>

Ultimately, the implementation of regional autonomy from a national legal perspective reflects an effort to strike a balance between regional independence and the unity of Indonesia's legal system. Regional autonomy provides each region with the opportunity to develop according to local potential and needs, but its implementation must remain subject to the constitution, laws and regulations, and the principles of the rule of law. With the support of a clear legal framework, effective oversight, and accountable governance, regional autonomy can be a strategic instrument for realizing equitable development, quality public services, and improving the welfare of communities throughout Indonesia.

### **3.3. Challenges and Efforts to Strengthen the Implementation of Regional Autonomy**

The implementation of regional autonomy in Indonesia has brought about various changes in governance by granting broader authority to local governments to regulate and manage government affairs according to the needs of local communities. This policy is expected to improve the effectiveness of public services, accelerate development, and encourage public participation in the governance process. However, as its implementation progresses, various challenges have emerged that have impacted the success of regional autonomy in various regions. These challenges relate not only to administrative aspects but also to legal, institutional, human resource, financial management, intergovernmental coordination, and the ability of regions to optimally utilize their potential.<sup>17</sup>

One of the most obvious challenges is the persistent disparity in capacity between regions in exercising their delegated authority. Some regions possess adequate human resources, a relatively robust bureaucratic system, and strong fiscal capacity, enabling them to effectively implement various development programs. Conversely, others face limited personnel, poor quality government management, and budget constraints, preventing the implementation of autonomous authority from optimally delivering public services. This disparity has the potential to create disparities in development and service quality between regions if not balanced with adequate guidance policies and support from the central government.

Another frequently occurring issue is overlapping regulations and misalignment in the implementation of authority between the central and regional governments.

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<sup>16</sup>Khosaiful, Khasail, Muhammad Ilham Rahmatulloh, Naufal Taufiqurrahman, dan Muhammad Syahrur Romadhon. 2024. "Kerangka Hukum Pemerintahan Daerah sebagai Landasan Otonomi Daerah yang Efektif." *Jurnal Kajian Konstitusi* 4 (1).

<sup>17</sup>Firas, Ida Surya, dan M. Saleh. 2024. "Dinamika Pengaturan Otonomi Daerah dalam Sistem Ketatanegaraan Indonesia Berdasarkan Undang-Undang Nomor 23 Tahun 2014." *Jurnal Diskresi* 3 (2).

In practice, there are situations where a governmental matter involves more than one level of government, necessitating intensive coordination. If the division of duties is not uniformly understood or supported by clear regulations, policy implementation can be ineffective and even lead to disputes over authority. This situation highlights the importance of regulatory harmonization and the development of implementation guidelines that can provide legal certainty for all parties involved.

The next challenge relates to regional financial governance. Regional autonomy provides local governments with the freedom to manage budgets and prioritize development according to local needs, but this authority also requires strong planning, implementation, and oversight capabilities. Inaccurate budget management can hamper development program implementation and reduce the effectiveness of public services. Therefore, transparency, accountability, and compliance with legal provisions are crucial for maintaining the integrity of regional financial management.

Furthermore, the increasingly complex needs of society require local governments to continuously innovate in providing public services. This innovation requires competent personnel, the use of information technology, and the ability to formulate policies based on data and adequate evaluation. Regions lacking these capacities often struggle to adapt to changes in the strategic environment, resulting in slower or less effective public services than expected. This situation demonstrates that the success of regional autonomy is heavily influenced by the quality of human resources and the ability of local government institutions to manage change.

Public participation is also a crucial factor influencing the effectiveness of regional autonomy implementation. In a democratic system of government, the public is not only the beneficiary of policies but also plays a role in providing input, monitoring, and participating in the development process. If this space for participation is not optimally utilized, the resulting policies risk not reflecting the community's real needs. Therefore, local governments need to establish open communication mechanisms and encourage public involvement in policy formulation and evaluation.<sup>18</sup>

To address these challenges, strengthening the implementation of regional autonomy requires a comprehensive and sustainable approach. One crucial step is to increase the capacity of local government officials through education, training, and professional competency development. Officials with a sound

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<sup>18</sup>Huda, Ni'matul. 2005. *Otonomi Daerah: Filosofi, Sejarah Perkembangan, dan Problematika*. Yogyakarta: Pustaka Pelajar.

understanding of law, government administration, development planning, and public services will be better able to exercise their authority effectively and responsibly. Improving the quality of human resources can also strengthen a work culture oriented toward integrity, innovation, and public service.

Another strengthening effort is to improve coordination between the central and regional governments through more effective communication mechanisms, policy synchronization, and regulatory alignment. Strong cooperation between levels of government can reduce the potential for overlapping authority and expedite the resolution of various issues that arise in the implementation of development programs. Furthermore, regular evaluation of decentralization policies is necessary to ensure that the distribution of authority remains relevant to evolving community needs and government dynamics.<sup>19</sup>

The use of digital technology can also be a crucial instrument in strengthening the implementation of regional autonomy. Electronic government systems enable faster, more transparent, and easier to monitor administrative processes. Digitizing public services can improve public access to government services while reducing the potential for administrative errors. The use of integrated data also supports more accurate and evidence-based decision-making, resulting in more effective policies.

In the area of financial management, strengthening can be achieved through the implementation of transparent planning and budgeting systems, increasing internal oversight capacity, and utilizing technology to support accountability. With sound financial management, local governments can maximize the use of available resources to finance priority programs and improve the quality of public services. Public trust in local governments will also increase if budget use is carried out transparently and accountably.<sup>20</sup>

In addition to institutional and administrative aspects, strengthening the implementation of regional autonomy requires support from a strong legal culture within both government and society. Compliance with laws and regulations, respect for the principles of the rule of law, and a commitment to good governance are essential foundations for successful decentralization. Regional governments must ensure that every policy they adopt has a clear legal basis, is implemented fairly, and prioritizes the interests of the wider community.

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<sup>19</sup>Huda, Ni'matul. 2024. *Otonomi Daerah: Dinamika Hubungan Pusat dan Daerah Pasca Reformasi*. Depok: Rajawali Pers.

<sup>20</sup>Huda, Ni'matul. 2019. *Hukum Pemerintahan Daerah*. Bandung: Nusa Media.

Ultimately, the challenges faced in implementing regional autonomy should not be viewed as obstacles that diminish the importance of decentralization, but rather as part of the process of improving the governance system. By strengthening institutional capacity, enhancing the quality of human resources, improving intergovernmental coordination, optimizing financial management, utilizing technology, and encouraging public participation, the implementation of regional autonomy can be more effective and aligned with its stated objectives. This strengthening will support the realization of a responsive, accountable government capable of providing quality public services, while maintaining harmony between regional and national interests within the framework of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia.<sup>21</sup>

#### **4. Conclusion**

The implementation of regional autonomy in Indonesia is a concrete manifestation of the principle of decentralization, which aims to increase the effectiveness of government administration, strengthen public services, and encourage equitable development throughout Indonesia. From a national legal perspective, regional autonomy has a strong constitutional foundation through the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia and various laws and regulations governing regional governance. This legal basis emphasizes that regional governments have the authority to regulate and manage government affairs in accordance with the principle of autonomy, while remaining within the framework of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia. Therefore, the implementation of regional autonomy must always prioritize the principles of legality, legal certainty, accountability, and national interests so that the objectives of decentralization can be optimally achieved. From a national legal perspective, the implementation of regional autonomy is not only understood as the delegation of administrative authority from the central government to regional governments, but also as a mechanism for creating more democratic, responsive, and community-oriented governance. The authority granted to regional governments allows for the birth of various policy innovations in accordance with the characteristics and potential of each region, thereby improving the quality of public services and accelerating regional development. However, every policy adopted by regional governments must remain in line with the national legal system and not conflict with higher-level laws and regulations or the public interest. Therefore, a harmonious relationship between the central government and regional governments is a crucial factor in maintaining the balance between regional independence and the unity of the national government system. Despite its numerous benefits, the implementation of regional autonomy still faces a number of challenges, including disparities in institutional capacity and human resources between regions, differences in fiscal capacity, overlapping

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<sup>21</sup>Huda, Ni'matul. 2021. *Seri Hukum Pemerintah Daerah: Desentralisasi dan Otonomi Daerah*. Bandung: Nusamedia.

regulations, and suboptimal coordination and oversight in governance. These challenges can impact the effectiveness of regional authority implementation and potentially create legal uncertainty if not addressed appropriately. Therefore, strengthening efforts are needed through harmonization of laws and regulations, increasing the competence of regional government officials, optimizing the monitoring and evaluation system, transparent and accountable regional financial management, and strengthening community participation in the process of formulating and implementing public policy. With these steps, the implementation of regional autonomy is expected to support the realization of effective, equitable, and welfare-oriented governance while strengthening the national legal system and maintaining the integrity of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia amidst the dynamics of development and development of governance.

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