

# Building Law-Knowledgeable Citizens through Civic Education in the Era of Globalisation

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## Abstract

This research aims to explore the role of civic education in building law-aware citizens in the era of globalisation. Using a qualitative approach with a literature review, this research examines relevant literature related to civic education, law, and globalisation. The findings show that civic education plays an important role in shaping students' legal character through teaching that integrates national and international legal knowledge. Globalisation brings challenges in ensuring the accuracy of legal information received by students, so legal literacy and critical thinking skills become important aspects in civic education. Problem-based learning (PBL) and case study methods have proven effective in improving students' understanding of the application of law. In addition, the integration of global legal literacy in civic education is very relevant to prepare students for international legal issues. This research recommends strengthening the civic education curriculum by introducing international law, using technology to support learning, and implementing interactive teaching methods to improve students' 21st century skills. Thus, civic education is expected to form law-savvy citizens, both at the national and international levels.

## 1. Introduction

Civic education has a very important role in shaping students' character and understanding of their rights and obligations as citizens (Muhsinin, A. N., et.al, 2023). In the midst of the dynamics of rapid social, political and technological change, especially in this era of globalisation, the challenges in building a law-smart society are increasingly complex (Hapsah, R.A., et.al, (2024). Globalisation has had a major influence on the mindset and interaction between citizens, which has an impact on the understanding and application of legal norms both at the national and international levels (Bakry, K., et.al, 2025). Therefore, it is important for the education system in Indonesia, especially civic education, to accommodate these developments by instilling comprehensive legal knowledge to students from an early age. In Indonesia, civic education not only serves to teach rights and obligations as citizens, but also to build awareness and a deep understanding of the law (Rista, D., & Wiranata, I. H, 2024). Good legal knowledge will help individuals understand the applicable regulations, protect their rights, and play an active role in the life of the nation and state (Muhtar, M.A., et.al, 2023). However, the challenge faced is the low understanding of the law among the younger generation, who are often influenced by inaccurate information or a superficial understanding of the law.

Civic education based on strengthening legal literacy will help young people to better understand and apply legal principles in everyday life (Farikiansyah, I.M., et.al, 2024). This is becoming increasingly relevant in the era of globalisation, where international law and global issues such as human rights, environment and democracy are increasingly influencing national policies. Therefore, efforts are needed to strengthen civic education to produce citizens who not only understand their country's laws, but also have an awareness of global laws that can be applied in interactions with other countries. Thus, this study aims to explore how civic education can play a role in building legally knowledgeable citizens, especially in facing the growing challenges of globalisation. The implementation of civic education based on legal knowledge will contribute significantly to the creation of a more responsible, democratic society that favours the principles of justice and human rights.

## 2. Method

This research uses a qualitative approach (Agustianti, R., 2022) with the aim of exploring in depth how civic education can build legally knowledgeable citizens in the era of globalisation. This approach was

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chosen because the research aims to explore the understanding, perceptions, and practices applied in civic education related to legal knowledge. This research uses a qualitative approach with a type of library research (Sari, R.K, 2021). This research method was chosen because the main focus of the research is to explore and analyse concepts and theories related to civic education and legal knowledge in the context of the globalisation era. This research aims to understand how civic education can form legally knowledgeable citizens through the study of relevant and reliable literature.

This research uses a qualitative descriptive research design (Fadli, M.R, 2021). This design aims to describe and analyse the phenomena that occur in relation to the implementation of civic education in building legally knowledgeable citizens in the era of globalisation. This research does not rely on primary data collection through observation or interviews, but rather by collecting, reviewing and analysing relevant literature to produce an in-depth understanding of the topic under study. The main data source in this research is literature that includes books, scientific journals, articles, research reports, and other documents related to civic education, legal knowledge, and the challenges of globalisation. This literature was selected based on its relevance to the research topic as well as the credibility of its sources, such as works from legal experts, civic education, and globalisation experts. The data collection technique used in this research is a literature study. Data analysis in this study uses qualitative content analysis. The data obtained from the literature will be analysed thematically, where the researcher identifies the main themes that emerge from various relevant sources. To ensure the validity and reliability of the data in this study, researchers will triangulate sources by using literature from different and credible sources. This process is carried out to ensure that the findings produced can be accounted for and have a strong basis.

### **3. Result and Discussion**

Based on the literature analysis conducted in this study, there are several important findings related to the role of civic education in building legally knowledgeable citizens in the era of globalisation.

#### **3.1. The Role of Civic Education in the Formation of Law-Knowledgeable Citizens**

Civic education has a vital role in shaping citizens who not only understand their rights and obligations as members of society, but also have adequate knowledge of the laws that apply in their country (Rojak, J.A, 2024). Through civic education, students are taught about the basic principles of state law, legal procedures, and mechanisms for protecting human rights. This education is important to form a legal awareness that will help individuals lead a social life that is in accordance with existing regulations

Effective civic education does not only teach legal theory, but also provides opportunities for students to apply legal knowledge in everyday life, through various activities that challenge them to think critically and make decisions based on the legal principles they have learnt (Rista, D., & Wiranata, I. H, 2024). In this context, students are expected to become citizens who not only obey the law, but can also play an active role in law enforcement in their environment.

Civic education plays an important role in shaping the character of law-abiding citizens. The learning provided in civic education not only includes an understanding of rights and obligations, but also of the basic principles of law that govern people's lives (Nafisa, D., et.al, 2024). Through this education, students are expected to fully understand the applicable regulations, both at the state level and international law. The legal knowledge obtained by students is a provision for living a civilised life and avoiding potential violations of the law. For example, by knowing the applicable law, students can respond wisely to developing social issues, such as human rights issues, corruption, or environmental protection. Education based on the application of law in everyday life will help students become individuals who not only understand the law, but also have concern for law enforcement.

In addition, civic education also provides students with an understanding of how they can play an active role in legal and political decision-making processes. This strengthens their role as responsible and participatory citizens in the life of the nation. Therefore, civic education should promote a deep understanding of the rights and obligations associated with their status as citizens.

#### **3.2. Globalisation Challenges to Civic Education and Legal Understanding**

The era of globalisation brings new challenges for civic education, including in terms of legal knowledge (Ratri, E. P., & Najicha, F. U, 2022). Globalisation introduces rapid economic, social and political changes that affect the rule of law, both at the national and international levels (Irsyahma, A. Y., & Lestari, D. P, 2024). People are now not only faced with the rule of law within the scope of their own country, but also with international regulations and norms governing relations between countries. Globalisation also brings challenges in terms of information technology that can affect the way citizens obtain and understand

the law (Septian, F. W., et.al, 2023). The rapid spread of information through the internet and social media can lead to misunderstandings or misinformation about the law. Therefore, it is important for civic education to adapt teaching methods that can help students critique the legal information they obtain from various sources.

Globalisation has brought about major changes in the social, political and economic life of people around the world, which has also affected the civic education system. One of the most significant impacts of globalisation is the rapid and widespread access to information through the internet and social media. This creates challenges in ensuring that the information received by students is accurate and accountable. Civic education in the era of globalisation must be able to keep up with the rapid pace of information development. For example, there is a lot of information circulating about laws and regulations that can mislead students' understanding. For this reason, civic education must equip students with high critical thinking skills, which will enable them to objectively assess information sources. In addition, globalisation has also brought an influx of international laws that increasingly affect national policies. Issues such as human rights, climate change and international trade are now not just country-specific problems, but global issues that require shared understanding at the international level. This calls for civic education to acquaint students with international law and the basic principles governing relations between states.

### **3.3. Effective Teaching Strategies in Building Legal Knowledge**

This research found that to build law-informed citizens, civic education should involve various approaches that are interactive and based on 21st century skills, such as critical thinking, collaboration, and communication. Problem-based learning (PBL) and case studies are effective methods to help students understand the application of law in real situations. By using this approach, students can be invited to identify legal problems, analyse the situation, and formulate solutions that are in accordance with applicable legal provisions. In addition, the integration of technology in civic learning is also very important. The use of digital platforms, learning apps and legal simulations can help students develop their legal skills in a way that is engaging and relevant to modern life. Technology also facilitates easier access to international legal information, so that students can gain a more global understanding of the law (Rahmad, R., et.al, 2025). Effective teaching in civic education depends heavily on the methods used by teachers. Based on this research, the use of problem-based learning (PBL) and case study approaches proved to be very effective in helping students understand the application of law in real life. With this approach, students are invited to identify legal problems, analyse various possible solutions, and make decisions that are in accordance with applicable laws.

The PBL method provides opportunities for students to learn actively, collaborate with their peers, and develop critical thinking skills (Fonna, M., & Nufus, H, 2024). In the context of civic education, PBL allows students to not only learn legal theories, but also apply them in real situations. For example, in a case study related to human rights, students can analyse various social problems and propose solutions based on existing legal principles. In addition, the use of technology in civic learning is also very important. Digital platforms and legal learning apps can help students access legal information more easily and quickly. Technology can change the way of teaching, allowing students to learn independently and keep up with legal developments that occur in cyberspace.

### **3.4. The Importance of Legal Literacy in the Age of Globalisation**

Legal literacy is becoming increasingly important in the era of globalisation (Sujarwadi, A., et.al, 2024). In this increasingly connected world, individuals need to understand not only laws at the local or national level, but also international laws that govern relations between countries. Therefore, civic education needs to accommodate aspects of global legal literacy, including human rights, international rights, and regulations governing interactions between states in the areas of trade, environment, and security. In this context, it is important to provide students with an understanding that the law does not only apply within the scope of their country, but also includes the international legal order that can affect their lives. This global legal literacy-based civic education will prepare young people to be responsible citizens, both at the national and international levels.

Legal literacy is becoming increasingly important in the context of globalisation, which brings profound changes to interactions between countries (Lazarus, L, 2024). Knowledge of law is no longer

limited to domestic law, but must include international law governing relations between states. Therefore, civic education must integrate global legal literacy in its curriculum. Students should be taught to understand the principles of international law, such as human rights, environmental law, and international trade law. This understanding will give students greater insight into how law plays a role in this increasingly connected world. For example, students who know international law will be more sensitive to global issues, such as conflicts between countries, climate change, and social inequalities involving human rights violations. Civic education based on global legal literacy will create citizens who not only understand their country's laws, but can also play an active role in the global community. Thus, they can solve legal problems that do not only occur within their country, but can also contribute to solving global problems that affect many countries.

#### 4. Conclusion

This research has analysed the role of civic education in building law-aware citizens in the era of globalisation. Based on the findings obtained from the literature review, it can be concluded that civic education plays an important role in shaping the character and legal awareness of citizens. This can be achieved through teaching that integrates national and international legal knowledge, as well as the development of critical thinking skills that enable students to face legal challenges in everyday life. In the era of globalisation, the main challenge facing civic education is the rapid and often inaccurate circulation of information. Therefore, civic education must be able to facilitate students to critique the legal information they receive, as well as introduce them to international legal principles that are increasingly relevant to global developments. In addition, problem-based teaching (PBL) and case studies are proven to be effective methods to enhance students' understanding of the application of law in real situations. The importance of global legal literacy is also a key finding in this study. With increased interaction between countries, students need to have a broader understanding of international law that affects various global issues, such as human rights, climate change and international trade. Civic education based on global legal literacy will prepare students to become citizens who not only understand their country's laws, but are also able to play an active role in the global community. As a recommendation, there is a need to strengthen the civic education curriculum that includes aspects of international law, the use of technology to support learning, and the application of teaching methods that are more interactive and based on 21st century skills. With these steps, it is hoped that civic education can produce citizens who are not only legally knowledgeable, but also have a high awareness of national and international law in the era of globalisation.

#### Author Contributions

**Ibnu Anshori:** Conceptualization, Methodology, Software. **Alfi Mufida Rahmawati:** Data curation, Writing-Original draft preparation. **Rizky Perdana Bayu Putra:** Visualization, Investigation. **Ibnu Anshori:** Supervision. **Alfi Mufida Rahmawati:** Software, Validation. **Rizky Perdana Bayu Putra:** Writing- Reviewing and Editing.

All authors have equal contributionsto the paper. All the authors have read and approved the final manuscript.

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