

**UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA
FACULTY OF ADMINISTRATIVE SCIENCE & POLICY STUDIES**



**READINESS LEVEL AMONG YOUTH OF UITM SARAWAK BRANCH
IN KOTA SAMARAHAN TOWARDS UNDI 18: CASE STUDY ON 15TH
MALAYSIAN GENERAL ELECTION**

GILBERT ANAK CEYLON DANKAN

2022758607

AUSTIN CARLOS BIN BOSS

2022787007

JANUARY 2024

ABSTRACT

This research explores the readiness level of youth within the UiTM Sarawak Branch, located in Kota Samarahan, in preparation for their participation in the 15th Malaysian General Election, particularly in the context of the UNDI 18 initiative. UNDI 18, which lowers the voting age from 21 to 18, marks a significant shift in Malaysia's electoral landscape by empowering a larger segment of the youth population.

The study employs a case study approach to delve into the factors influencing the preparedness of youth voters in UiTM Sarawak Branch. Utilizing a mixed-methods research design, both quantitative surveys and qualitative interviews will be conducted to gather comprehensive data. The quantitative aspect will focus on demographic information, awareness levels, and attitudes towards political participation, while the qualitative component will explore deeper insights into the motivations, barriers, and expectations of the youth in exercising their voting rights.

The findings aim to contribute valuable insights into the current state of youth readiness in UiTM Sarawak Branch towards the upcoming general election. The research outcomes can inform policymakers, educators, and community leaders about the specific challenges and opportunities that may impact the effective engagement of youth in the democratic process. Additionally, the study provides a basis for understanding the potential role of educational institutions, such as UiTM Sarawak Branch, in fostering a politically informed and active youth population. Ultimately, the research aims to contribute to the enhancement of democratic participation and civic engagement among the youth in Malaysia.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.....	I
DECLARATION	II
ABSTRACT	III
ABSTRAK.....	IV
LIST OF TABLES.....	VIII
LIST OF FIGURES.....	IX
CHAPTER 1 : INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1.1 <i>Definition of Youth</i>	1
1.1.2 <i>Background of Undi 18</i>	2
1.1.3 <i>Sarawak: 15th Malaysia General Election,2022</i>	4
1.2 PROBLEM STATEMENT	6
1.3 RESEARCH QUESTIONS	7
1.4 RESEARCH OBJECTIVES	7
1.5 SCOPE OF STUDY	7
1.6 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PROPOSED STUDY	7
1.7 DEFINITION OF TERMS, TERMINOLOGY, AND CONCEPTS.....	8
CHAPTER 2 : LITERATURE REVIEW AND CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK.....	9
2.1 UNDI 18.....	9
2.1.1 <i>From Student Movement to Constitutional Amendment</i>	9
2.1.2 <i>Why lowering voting age is matter?</i>	11
2.2 YOUTH IN SARAWAK.....	12
2.2.1 <i>Youth involvement in Sarawak's politics</i>	12
2.2.2 <i>Perspective of youth in Sarawak politics</i>	14
2.2.3 <i>Perspective of Sarawak youth on the Political situation in Sarawak</i>	15
2.3 15 TH GENERAL ELECTION	17
2.3.1 <i>15th General Election in Malaysia</i>	17
2.3.2 <i>Youth Voters in Sarawak for General Election</i>	19
2.4 POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE VIEWS AND OPINIONS ABOUT UNDI 18.....	21
2.5 THE MYERS-BRIGGS TYPE INDICATOR (MBTI)	22
2.5.1 <i>Navigating Youth Readiness to Vote: Evaluating the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator's Pros,</i>	

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 Definition of Youth

Youth Societies and Youth Development (Amendment) Act 2019 (Act 668) – youth age is between 15-30 years old. Syed Saddiq Syed Abdul Rahman, a former minister of youth and sports, proposed an amendment to the Youth Societies and Youth Development Act (Amendment) 2019 (Act 668) that was approved by the Dewan Rakyat in 2019. By lowering the age requirement from 40 to 30, and by explicitly stating it in the Malaysian Youth Policy, it altered the concept of "youth." Previously, the term "youth" referred to anybody under the age of 40.

The term "youth age group" has no broadly accepted international definition. However, the United Nations defines "youth" for statistical purposes as people between the ages of 15 and 24, without regard to any other definitions made by Member States. The General Assembly adopted this term in its resolution 36/28 of 1981, which emerged in the framework of plans for the International Youth Year (1985) (see A/36/215). This concept serves as the foundation for all UN data on youth, as shown by the annual yearbooks of statistics that the UN system publishes on demography, education, employment, and health.

A very broad definition of youth is the stage of life between childhood and adulthood. (Valeska Henze,2015) It is described as a period of trying out many roles and personas, free from the pressure of societal obligations and standards, but gradually preparing the young people for their life as contributing members of the social collective. Young people experience the process of social integration in a complex social system that is made up of elements like tradition, history, social expectations, hopes, and personal future prospects, all of which they must integrate into a coherent whole in order to lay a solid foundation for their personal lives.

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW & CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 Undi 18

2.1.1 From Student Movement to Constitutional Amendment

Undi 18 were established by Qyira Yusri and Tharma Pillai in 2016 and began as a student movement operating under the auspices of the Malaysian Students' Global Alliance. (Lee, 2021). They were able to join a variety of Malaysian student or youth organisations both locally and globally thanks to this. Qyira Yusri observed that Malaysia lacked political dialogue (Tirtayana, 2021b). When former US presidential candidate Bernie Sanders visited Western Michigan University to campaign there in 2016, Qyira, then 21 years old, realised that this doesn't happen in Malaysia. Both Qyira and Tharma understood that it was due to the voting age requirement as well as the Universities and University College Act of 1971 (UUCA) (Tirtayana, 2021b) As a result, they both developed a campaign to lower it for their nation.

Since neither of them had any political connections, getting this far wasn't an easy journey for either of them. Unlike political interns who have access to decision-makers, we didn't. We weren't Datuk and Tan Sri's children, Qyira declared ("History - Undi18," n.d.) They encountered numerous setbacks and disappointments before joining a political party. But Syed Saddiq, a Muar Member of Parliament (MP), who served as the Ministry of Youth and Sports, says their struggle is not in vain. Before registering to vote in the 14th General Election (GE14), he learned about the Undi18 movement on social media. ("History - Undi18," n.d.) Lobby has begun. They continuously attended as many PH-related events as they could, lobbied Pakatan Harapan (PH) legislators, and were able to meet numerous PH young members. However, their conflicts did not end there. Following the 2014 general election, they both put in a lot of effort on both sides to make sure that the opposition understood the benefits of growing their youth block (Tirtayana, 2021b)

Undi18 has hosted a lot of town halls, forums, and public events throughout the years to spread the word about youth democratic representation and reducing the voting age. And with 211 votes, the Undi18 was approved by the *Dewan Rakyat*, or Lower House, following three years of advocacy (Lee, 2021). Another success for both of their efforts came on July 25, 2019, when the *Dewan Negara*, or Upper House, passed a bill to change the federal constitution to lower the voting age to 18 with 47 votes, only two more than the required two-thirds support level of 45 (Lee, 2021). There were no nays or abstentions. Even though 20