"The Role of Social Media in the Democratization of Indonesia"

Rahima "Ima" Abdulrahim

Executive Director, The Habibie Center, Indonesia; Yale World Fellow 2015

Ima Abdulrahim is Executive Director of The Habibie Center – one of Indonesia's leading think tanks focusing on democracy and human rights. In addition to running the day-to-day operations of The Habibie Center, she advocates for peace policy and the strengthening of democracy in Indonesia, and works to enhance relations between Indonesia and other countries. Ima speaks regularly in Indonesia and internationally on affairs concerning Indonesia and The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) – in particular the role of civil society in democracy, global governance and democratization in the region. In 2001, Ima was awarded the APSA Congressional Fellowship from The Asia Foundation. That year, she worked in the Office of Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald of California, lending her greater insight into the workings of a functioning democracy. In 2010 she completed a fellowship with IDEAS Indonesia, an Executive Program through the Sloan School of Management at MIT.

Ima earned her Bachelors of Human Science in Political Science and Islamic Revealed Knowledge & Heritage from the International Islamic University Malaysia. She holds an M.A. in International Studies and Diplomacy from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London, UK and is currently a Ph.D candidate in Political Science at the School of Political, Social and International Studies, University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK. In her free time she works with friends in championing women's empowerment, advocating and providing support for survivors of gender based violence through the non-*profit Lentera Indonesia*. She also helps to provide books to underprivileged children through a program that she helped start, "Drive Books, Not Cars."

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