

Exploration of Investigation Regarding Media Ownership in Indonesia in the case of MNC GROUP

¹Fika Aulia, ²Siti Khotimah, ³Ajriya Mahdani, ⁴Muhammad Fathi Taqiyuddin, ⁵Pia Khoirotn Nisa

^{1,2,3,4,5} UIN Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta, Indonesia

Email: fikaakim46@gmail.com, imsitu28@gmail.com, ajriyamahdani@gmail.com,

faathihhi@gmail.com, pia.khoirutun@uinjkt.ac.id

Article Info	ABSTRACT
Keywords: Press Freedom, Media Conglomerates, MNC Group, Democracy, Indonesia.	This study explores the influence of media ownership by MNC Group on press freedom in Indonesia. In the context of democracy, press freedom serves as an important pillar that guarantees the public's right to obtain accurate and objective information. However, the phenomenon of media conglomerates that occurred after the 1998 reform showed that there was a concentration of ownership that could limit the diversity of information and affect the independence of journalists. Through a qualitative approach, this study analyzes how MNC Group, as one of the largest media conglomerates in Indonesia, influences news content and public opinion. The methods used include in-depth interviews, documentation studies, and observations on journalistic practices. The results of the study show that concentrated media ownership has the potential to create bias in reporting, where the media tends to side with the interests of its owners, especially when the owners have political affiliations. The study also identifies the challenges that press freedom faces in the face of media conglomerates and provides recommendations to maintain a balance between press freedom and fair media ownership regulation. This finding is expected to provide insight for policymakers and media practitioners in an effort to strengthen democracy and information disclosure in Indonesia.
This is an open access article under the CC BY license	Corresponding Author: Fika Aulia E-mail: fikaakim46@gmail.com



INTRODUCTION

Freedom of the press basically aims to improve the quality of democracy. With press freedom, the mass media is able to convey various information, thereby strengthening and supporting citizens to play a role in democracy or called civic empowerment. Many journalists do not hesitate to feel that ideally their profession is to provide information, so that citizens are able to play their democratic role significantly.

Since the reform began in 1998, the press has undergone an extraordinary stage of metamorphosis. This institution has found a vehicle for freedom, especially after the launch of Law No. 40 of 1999, and the abolition of the SIUPP requirement. Since then the Indonesian mass media, both print and electronic, has qualitatively experienced a freedom. In general, the press is no longer afraid to reveal various social facts, both positive and negative.

This condition turned out to give rise to a variety of responses. First, there are those who welcome it with the spirit of freedom, even wanting the press to be freer. Second, there are those who see this freedom of the press as mediocre, a consequence of the transition period. Third, there are those who are worried about the negative impact of that freedom. Each of these groups has their own rational reasons for thinking.

Freedom of the press, apart from the opinion that it still needs evidence and that it has developed after the reform, from itself requires the press to be more professional, which in the New Order era was formulated as responsible freedom.

In accordance with the principle that the press world does not recognize censorship, it is increasingly open to all forms, methods and styles in terms of seeking, obtaining, packaging and presenting it as writing/news; if not controlled, that freedom will inadvertently dig its own grave or go against the journalistic code of ethics.

The freedom of the press enjoyed after May 1998, if not controlled, can be contrary to the obligation to respect religious norms, a sense of public decency as well as the principles of presumption of innocence, the right to answer, and the right to correction (Paragraphs 1, 2, 3 Article 5 of Law No. 40 of 1999).

Media conglomerates are the union of various types of media into one large unit which is then controlled by one person. This happens because they have a common vision and mission, and the parts are combined and managed as a whole. In addition to some of these things, there is one thing that cannot be separated even It is a main component to accommodate some of these media, namely new media which is then called the internet. Media industry players can play all of these media simultaneously via the Internet. Even today, it is widely known for live streaming broadcasts, both television and radio.

Media conglomerates in Indonesia began to develop since the 1980s, when the New Order government opened access to capitalism. This change changed the character of journalism from "Pers Perjuangan" to "Pancasila Press," which was getting stronger after the 1998 Reform. Currently, about 12 major media groups dominate the industry, including Kompas Gramedia and MNC Group, which control various media platforms. This concentration of ownership has the potential to limit the diversity of information and affect the quality of journalism, as media owners are often involved in

politics and economics, creating oligopolies that are detrimental to people's right to balanced information.

In the current reform era, the mass media or the press often overlaps in the rulers of media ownership. The reality is that many of the "media owners" also have the profession of politicians. Media market competition often triggers "media privatization" with the freedom to own media or media companies which will give rise to new problems in the reform era such as the centralization or takeover of the media business owners which will later side with "media conglomerate practices". The practice of this media conglomerate is basically a media company that merges with each other into a larger company that houses many media including various types of media from the part of its content that is used for its business interests. This media conglomerate can usually be done by buying shares from small companies, joint ventures/mergers and even taking over companies (acquisitions).

Until now in Indonesia, as many as 12 large media groups control several information channels ranging from print media, newspapers, magazines, radio, television, and online news networks. The media groups include "Visi Media Asia, MNC Group, Kompas Gramedia Group, Elang Mahkota Teknologi, Jawa Pos Group, Mahaka Media, CT Group, BeritaSatu Media holdings, Media Group, MRA Media, Femina Group, and Tempo Inti media. Of the 12 media groups, there are 5 major media groups that are the center of public attention, namely Viva Group, Media Group, MNC Group, Trans Corporation, and Jawa Pos Group".

Press freedom and media conglomerates are two interrelated issues that have a significant impact on democracy and information disclosure in Indonesia. Press freedom, as one of the pillars of democracy, plays an important role in ensuring the public's right to obtain accurate and objective information. A free and independent press is able to supervise power, expose abuses of authority, and become a medium of communication between the government and the public.

However, on the other hand, the dynamics of press freedom in Indonesia are often faced with major challenges, one of which is media conglomerates. Media conglomerates are a condition in which media ownership is concentrated in a handful of large companies or individuals that have a significant influence on the direction of editorial policies and news content. In Indonesia, this phenomenon became more prevalent after the 1998 reform, when press freedom began to be wide open. Instead of fostering an independent press, this freedom has triggered the birth of several large business groups that control most of the media networks, both print, electronic, and digital.

This media conglomerate phenomenon has an impact on information diversity and news independence. In many cases, the media owned by conglomerates tends to side with the interests of their owners, especially if the media owners have certain political affiliations or business interests. This

certainly affects the objectivity and credibility of the information presented to the public, as well as hinders the social control function that should be carried out by the media.

Basically, the media as an ideal public space must be guaranteed by the state to be accessible to the public without the autonomy of a group that influences both the state and the market (Habermas, 1989). The media is a means of people's power to ensure freedom of opinion in order to produce balanced representation in the democratic process where the people are free to obtain information so that they can determine their political decisions.

This raises questions about the extent to which press freedom can be realized in Indonesia in the conditions of dominant media conglomerates. Can the media maintain its independence in delivering news, or does it become a propaganda tool for certain interests? What is the impact on the quality of democracy and the public's right to get balanced information?

Therefore, it is important to conduct further exploration and investigation regarding media ownership in Indonesia, as well as to examine its impact on press freedom. This research is expected to provide a deeper understanding of the relationship between media conglomerates and press freedom, as well as formulate recommendations to maintain a balance between press freedom and fair media ownership regulations in Indonesia.

METHOD

The subject of the research is MNC Group. The ownership of other large media such as MNC Group, Trans Group, SCMA Group, Bakrie Group, Jawa Pos Group, Media Group, and others. Media owners can also make it possible to participate in politics with media ownership it is very easy to do an image in front of the public. The existence of media conglomerates in Indonesia, of course, press freedom and journalists' independence can be threatened. Freedom of the press and the independence of journalists who should be able to freely express their opinions are limited. PT MNC Investama Tbk or also known as MNC Corporation or MNC Group is a conglomerate company that oversees various large business lines in Indonesia. The business diversification is also quite good, starting from media, finance, property, transportation, and natural resources. Some television media under one large auspices became stronger. For example, there is propaganda of the same thoughts on an issue that is made so that everyone thinks the same as what is reported and others.

The object of this research is in the form of articles related to media conglomerates and press freedom in Indonesia. Analyzing how the structure of media ownership in Indonesia affects press freedom, journal independence, and public views can also change with the presence of the media. From this news analysis, the researcher also identified how media conglomerates can affect news content and public opinion, as well as how this can affect democracy in Indonesia. Media conglomerates make

it easier. The silenced vote shows how important press freedom is in a democracy, as well as how media conglomerates can threaten that freedom and influence public opinion. Research sources will include primary data obtained through interviews and secondary data from literature, reports, and official documents related to press freedom and media ownership. The data collection techniques used include: In-depth interviews with research subjects to obtain their views and experiences. Documentation studies to analyze relevant policies and reports. Observation of journalistic practices in the researched media.

Data analysis was carried out by qualitative research. Qualitative research is research that uses descriptive data in the form of written or spoken language from observable people and actors. Gathering relevant research resources on media conglomerates and press freedom. Read all the findings, then conduct an analysis with all the available data and finally conclude the results obtained.

Media conglomerates in Indonesia have been growing since the 1980s, with the dominance of around 12 major groups such as Kompas Gramedia and MNC Group. MNC Media Group is one of the media companies owned by Hary Tanoesoedibjo, a businessman and politician from the Perindo Party. How does Hary Tanoesoedibjo make MNC Media Group a commodity? So, Hary Tanoesoedibjo can apply the principles of commodification from the Media Political Economy Theory. Regulatory changes and technological advances have facilitated this growth, but they have also raised concerns about media plurality and editorial independence. Concentration of ownership can limit the diversity of information and increase the risk of oligopoly, where media owners have significant influence in politics and economics.

The time used for this study took 3 weeks. In the first week, it was used to discuss to determine the title. Then in the 2nd to 3rd week start looking for data to compile papers. In this research, we conducted online using the WhatsApp application media to interview resource persons through the VN (voice note) feature.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The findings of media ownership data by MNC Group affect press freedom in Indonesia

Indonesia, as a country that adheres to a democratic system, has guaranteed press freedom since the post-reform period with the enactment of Law Number 40 of 1999 concerning the Press. This law ensures that the government will not interfere in the affairs of the press. In Chapter V of the Press Law, it is stated that the Press Council must be independent so that press freedom can develop better. In addition, this law also states that the press has an important role in presenting accurate information to the public and fighting for justice and truth. These rules provide a wider space for the

Indonesian press to provide information that is sustainable, flexible, and free from government intervention. However, the press must still comply with the journalistic code of ethics as its limit. This freedom of the press was used by Hary Tanoesoedibjo to manage and own various mass media such as television, radio, online news, and print media, which continued to grow until now MNC Media. MNC Media is one of the largest media groups in Indonesia. Its broadcasting stations, such as RCTI, often achieve the highest ratings in terms of viewership, followed by other broadcasting media that are also owned by Hary, such as MNCTV, GTV, iNews, and Okezone.

As the owner of MNC Media, Hary Tanoesoedibjo has full control over the operations and political direction of the media he owns. In practice, the mass media is very vulnerable to practical political influence, especially before and during general elections. This has actually happened since the reform era and even now many mass media are partisan. Political partisanship in the Indonesian mass media is quite clearly visible, along with the involvement of many media owners in the world of politics. However, with the existence of Law Number 32 of 2002 concerning Broadcasting, which states that freedom in expressing opinions and obtaining information through broadcasting is a form of human rights in the life of society, nation, and state, the implementation of this must be carried out responsibly, balanced, and in accordance with the principles of Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution. Therefore, political promotion and campaigns through the mass media are considered legitimate and allowed. On the other hand, this could affect press freedom in the media, which has the potential to become increasingly partisan, with a potentially limited scope of information and following the political orientation of media owners, as happened with Hary Tanoesoedibjo's MNC Media.

MNC or Media Nusantara Citra is one of the largest media companies in Indonesia which has several branches in the media, financial sector, energy sector, and entertainment and hospitality sector. MNC is known as one of the companies that has a significant influence in the media and entertainment industry in Indonesia.

Seeing that online media in Indonesia is growing and starting to make media acquisitions. There are eight media conglomerates or "digital conglomerates" that dominate the media landscape in Indonesia. The eight companies are CT Corp, EMTEK, Visi Media Asia, Media Group, Berita Satu Media Holding, Jawa Pos, Kompas Gramedia and Global Mediacom which is the parent of MNC Media Group. MNC is recorded to have one satellite of its own which was purchased in 2010, and has a capacity of 160 channels. MNC Group has 19 pay TV channels, 46 local TV stations, and 2.6 million

subscribers through IndoVision, TopTV, and OKVision. In 2015, the expansion was even bigger when iNews, a 24-hour news station, was launched after MNC Group spent \$250 million to buy 40 studio facilities in Central Jakarta.

In terms of power relations carried out by MNC Media Group as a political and economic force, Hary Tanoesoedibjo is to make the media a medium to introduce the Perindo Party, where in 2014 the Perindo march began to be published which was played in all media owned by MNC Media Group, in addition to reporting the activities carried out by Perindo and Hary Tanoesoedibjo as the general chairman of the party. Reported Kumparan.com (2017) "Perindo is happy that children memorize Perindo marches", but on the other hand there are news reports that express objections to the repeated screening of Perindo marches because they are considered an indirect doctrine to early childhood, as reported by Merdeka.com (2016) entitled "Parents are worried about children memorizing Perindo marches".

MNC Group uses the media to make a tool for its political interests, such as the example of the screening of the march that is repeatedly broadcast throughout the MNC Group's media which can reduce the objectivity and diversity of information conveyed to the public. Parents who are worried because it is considered an indirect doctrine. This shows that the use of the media for political purposes can cause a negative reaction from the public. The independence of journals, which should be free, is also disrupted due to political pressure from major media such as MNC Group because it has become a political tool.

Data findings in the form of Media Ownership Investigation in Indonesia in the MNC Group Case

MNC Media Group, as one of the leading media entities, is representative of how business and political interests can fit into the media landscape. Political Economy Analysis of MNC Media Group includes not only ownership structures, but also editorial policies, narrative choices, and external influences that may influence political partisanship featured in its news and programs.

MNC Media Group was accused of taking sides in the presidential election in Indonesia, especially in the 2014 Presidential Election and the 2019 Presidential Election. In both cases, there were allegations that media owned by MNC Media Group, controlled by Hary Tanoesoedibjo, were involved in news reporting that supported one of the candidates.

This is the relationship between the Perindo party and the MNC Group media network: Hary Tanoesoedibjo, as the general chairman of the Perindo party, has "controlled" the MNC Group media for the benefit of his political party. As the owner of the mass media, Hary Tanoesoedibjo actually brought the function of his mass media as a partisan mass media for Perindo's political interests. In the hands of Hary Tanoesoedibjo, MNC Group experienced a thick commodification of mass media. This allows the editor and reporters to no longer be independent. Hary Tanoesoedibjo's attitude and way took part in the collapse of the fourth pillar of democracy, namely the mass media. MNC Group under Hary Tanoesoedibjo is no longer a watchdog for the course of democracy in Indonesia. The mass media in the hands of HT has turned into an industry that only pursues profit-oriented owners.

MNC Group Media Conglomerate Affects Press Freedom in Indonesia

A media conglomerate is a large company that has branches in various fields. The more branches led by a large company, the greater its power. Press freedom can be threatened where the independence of journalists is free to take no side, but is limited due to strong pressure from media conglomerates. With the development of media conglomerates such as MNC Group, various branches of companies in various fields strengthened their positions economically and politically. Freedom of the press should be free and not regulated by any institution, company, agency, or state.

Media ownership by MNC Group affects press freedom in Indonesia by restricting the independence of journalists and press freedom. MNC Group, as one of the largest media conglomerates, has a significant impact on editorial policy and the direction of information provided to the public. This can threaten press freedom and journalistic independence, as pressure from media companies can limit journalists' ability to express their opinions freely. The theory taken in this study is a critical paradigm.

The results of the interviews showed that the intervention of media owners in news content affected press freedom. Edith Indah Lestari stated that media owners will definitely intervene in the news, which can affect freedom in raising certain issues. He emphasized that this makes press freedom not fully existing, especially in the context of political and business news.

According to the paper's authors, the theories used to analyze the influence of media ownership on press freedom include theories such as the media complex, the economics of political media, and ownership management. These theories help explain how media conglomerates can reduce

the diversity of viewpoints in their coverage and tailor editorial policies to suit the interests of their owners. In addition, the New Public Sphere theory is used to analyze the impact of media ownership on public space and freedom of expression, affirming that the media must be a forum for free and open public debate.

Along with the existence of media conglomerates, media owners are increasingly aggressive in merging several of their companies. With the increasing success of the companies they merged, it shows the increasing loyalty of the power of the media owners. This means that they also begin to influence public opinion through information disseminated through the media. Then the factors that affect the role of MNC Group include extensive media ownership, political relations with certain candidates or political parties, and editorial policies. In other words, the more media held by media conglomerates, the weaker the journalistic control function over themselves and their groups.

One of the factors related to influencing press freedom, for example, media content always reflects the interests of capital owners and power. The ideology of entrepreneur activities is to sell something to get a profit or profit. The media has an interest, so the content conveyed is regulated and adjusted so that the perception created looks objective, therefore the media sometimes makes the audience become a certain stereotype, for example in the formation of public opinion about the media that is chosen to get information about political and economic news. MNC Media Group's coverage of conflicts between politicians, criminals versus the apparatus or vice versa (negative issues) is generally made to fit the scheme. For MNC Media Group, conveying information content in this way means providing consistency and offering value that previously wanted to be offered to the audience.

The development of mass media in modern times is no longer placed and understood in the context of social institutions but also seen in the context of economic institutions. The reality shows that the media has developed in the social, political and cultural world order, which is also a place that emphasizes financial surplus. Economic conditions have an influence on all mass media workers today. The process of mass communication in the free market contributes quite a lot as the cause of competition and economic demand.

In addition, media conglomerates can also be an entry in politics. Because the media is an important thing and everyone must have that media that makes the media a tool for political interests to carry out an image in front of the public. For example, the owner of MNC Group is Bambang Hary Iswanto Tanoesoedibjo who is also the founder and chairman of the Perindo party. In the 2024 election,

Hary Tanoesoedibjo's family ran as candidates for legislative members of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia even though it ended unsuccessfully. This shows that media conglomerates are a powerful tool for anyone who wants to be in power.

As for the other, the partisanship of the political media, if in a developed country such as South Korea, people who are public figures such as artists or idols are not allowed to openly vote for certain candidates. They could do that, but it could have consequences for their careers. Unlike in Indonesia, which is always blatant in any case, such as in the 2024 election, Hary Tanoesoedibjo uses his media to support the Ganjar-Mahfud election candidate.

One of the efforts to get the people's vote is through the formation of positive framing in the media as happened to the framing of candidate Ganjar-Mahfud in the news at MNC Media. One of the sub-units of the MNC Group manages various media from television stations to mass media consisting of RCTI, MNCTV, GTV, iNews, Okezone, Sindonews and IDX Channel.

MNC Media owner Hary Tanoesoedibjo influences the content of news in favor of the candidate of the Ganjar-Mahfud candidate pair through the development of positive framing in every news presented to the public. This phenomenon occurred because the media conglomerate Hary Tanoesoedibjo is affiliated with the Perindo Party where the party is the party that supports Ganjar-Mahfud to become the winner in the 2024 general election. There are several framing carried out by MNC Media on the Ganjar-Mahfud candidate, namely the Ganjar Pranowo adhan show which is broadcast on RCTI and MNCTV television stations, the results of the iNEWS survey which is broadcast via youtube with the title "NU Young Generation Netizens' Choice Presidential Poll: Ganjar is 69 percent superior", Hary Tanoesoedibjo declared MNC Corp employees as volunteers to win Ganjar-Mahfud, various positive news about Ganjar-Mahfud in the Official iNEWS youtube with titles "Support Continues to Arrive, Perindo Presidential Candidate Ganjar Pranowo is Considered a Simple and Popular Figure", "Ganjar-Mahfud's Electability Soars to the Top of the Presidential Exchange in the 2024 Presidential Election in the Charta Politika Survey" and "Declaration of Ganjar-Mahfud MD, Once Mekel: Mahfud MD is a Popular Figure". Media coverage with these various titles can influence public opinion in determining their political decisions to choose the candidate. The above phenomenon illustrates the manipulation of media news according to the will of conglomerates affiliated with the party only for personal interests by ignoring the freedom of the press and the freedom of the people

to obtain factual, independent and neutral information related to presidential and vice presidential candidates in the 2024 general election.

Forms of Media Ownership Investigation in Indonesia in the Case of MNC Group

Hary Tanoesoedibjo, started the process of expanding the media business in the early 2000s. In addition to having three televisions (MNCTV, RCTI, and GlobalTV), Global Mediacom owns 34 local radio stations that have been acquired since 2005. The previous Sindo News newspaper also had a sindonews.com news portal and the Okezone news portal was also included in this group. MNC has its own satellite purchased in 2010, and MNC Group has 19 pay TV channels, 46 local TV stations and 2.6 million subscribers through IndoVision, TopTV, and OKVision. In 2015, the expansion was even bigger when I-News, a 24-hour news station, was launched after MNC Group spent 250 million US dollars to buy 40 studio facilities in Central Jakarta. Eddy Sariaatmadja's Emtek Group was founded in 1983 as a computer service company, developing into a digital conglomerate since buying SCTV in 2004. Sariaatmadja also bought Indosiar with a deal of Rp1.6 trillion in 2011. In addition to these three digital conglomerates, there is Visi Media Asia owned by the Bakrie Family and Media Group owned by Surya Paloh. Visi Media Asia, through its acquisition of Lativi (now known as TVOne) in 2007 formed a conglomerate with ANTV. In 2008, Bakrie Group bought ArekTV in Surabaya and the Surabaya Post newspaper. Together with businessman Erick Thohir, the Bakrie family converged TVOne, ANTV, and the new online news portal Viva.co.id. Meanwhile, Surya Paloh's Media Group, although it has been built from its investment in a number of newspapers from 1988 to 1990, only changed into a media empire after establishing Metro TV in 2001. Paloh also still has the national newspaper Media Indonesia, whose online portal is now converged with metrotvnews.com.

The process of commodification of media content can be seen in the context of political news on MNCTV. Just like other media, MNCTV has an important role in shaping public opinion and influencing the political agenda. Through various news programs, talk shows, and political discussions, MNCTV has the power to form political narratives that can influence public perception of certain political issues. In the relationship between politics and the media, there are complex dynamics. On the one hand, the media often tries to maintain its independence in order to provide objective and critical coverage of the government and political power. However, on the other hand, politics also has a significant influence on the media, both through public policy and the relationship between media

owners and political elites. The development of MNC Media to become the largest integrated television station in Southeast Asia, there has been a practice of commodification of its workers. The spatial carried out by MNC Media through the integration of four private television stations caused journalists to experience commodification. Media workers have been transformed into a major commodity in the mass media industry as a tool for accumulating capital capital. The power centered on the owner of capital makes the process of commodification easily carried out against media workers, while they accept this form of commodification as a justification for their profession. New Public Sphere Theory, This theory is used to analyze the impact of media ownership on public space and freedom of expression, affirming that the media must be a forum for free and open public debate.

The form of media ownership investigation in Indonesia in the case of MNC Group includes an analysis of ownership structures, editorial policies, narrative choices, and external influences that may influence political partisanship displayed in its news and programs. This study aims to understand how media ownership by MNC Group can affect press freedom and journalists' independence, as well as how media conglomerates can threaten that freedom.

The results of the interviews illustrate that the intervention of media owners in news content greatly affects press freedom. The source stated that journalists often limit themselves to avoid problems, especially when the news they are raised can demonize the government or go against the interests of media owners. This shows that journalists cannot always report what is true if it is contrary to the interests of the owners, so press freedom is limited.

CONCLUSION

The more branches a large company has, the greater the power it has. The independence of journalists is free and impartial, but if it is limited by strong pressure from media companies, then press freedom can be threatened. The development of media groups such as MNC Group has strengthened various business sectors in various industries economically and politically. This can jeopardize press freedom and journalistic independence. Freedom of the press should be free and not regulated by institutions, companies, authorities or even the state. With the existence of media conglomerates, more and more media owners are willing to merge some of their companies. It is clear that the more successful the merged company, the more loyal the media owners are to power. This means that they also begin to influence public opinion through the information they disseminate

through the media. In addition, there are factors that affect the role of MNC groups, such as extensive media ownership, political ties with certain candidates or political parties, and editorial policies.

In addition, media conglomerates can also lead to a lack of diversity of viewpoints in the content presented by the mass media, thus controlling public opinion and directing it in one direction, and can further create hegemony over the media, to weaken the control function of journalism by restricting press freedom. In other words, the more media a media conglomerate owns, the less journalistic control it has over the media conglomerate and its group. The media has an interest, the content they provide is regulated and adjusted to ensure that the perception created seems objective. Therefore, the media can force viewers to follow certain stereotypes, for example in shaping public opinion about the media chosen to obtain information about political and economic news. MNC Media Group reports on the conflict between politicians and criminals.

A form of investigation into media ownership in Indonesia in the case of MNC Group, Hary Tanoesoedibjo began to develop his media business in the early 2000s. In addition to the three television networks (MNCTV, RCTI, and GlobalTV), Global Mediacom has 34 local radio stations that were acquired in 2005. The former newspaper Sindo News also has a sindonews.com news portal and the Okezone news portal is also included in this group. MNC is known to have its own satellites that it bought in 2010, MNC Group owns 19 pay TV channels, 46 local TV channels, and 2.6 million subscribers on IndoVision, TopTV, and OKEVision. In 2015, the expansion became even bigger with the launch of I-News, a 24-hour news channel, after MNC Group invested \$250 million to buy 40 studio facilities in Central Jakarta. MNCTV plays an important role in shaping public opinion and influencing the political agenda. Through various news programs, talk shows, and political debates, MNCTV has the power to form political narratives that affect public perception of certain political issues. There are complex dynamics in the relationship between politics and the media. On the other hand, the media often seeks to maintain its independence in order to present objective and critical news about the government and political forces. But on the other hand, politics has a significant impact on the media, both through public policy and through the relationship between media owners and political elites. The development of MNC Media to become the largest integrated television network in Southeast Asia requires the commercialization of its workforce. The spatialization carried out by MNC Media through the integration of four private television channels led to commercialization among journalists

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