

**Analysis of the Influence of the Political Survival of
Nicolas Maduro Towards the Venezuelan Socio-Political
and Economic Crisis (2013-2024)**



**UNDERGRADUATE THESIS
SUBMITTED AS A REQUIREMENT TO OBTAIN
SARJANA SOSIAL**

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ABSTRACT

This thesis explores the relationship between Nicolás Maduro's political survival and Venezuela's socio-political and economic crisis between 2013 and 2024. While external factors, including declining oil prices and international sanctions, deepened the crisis, the persistence of Maduro's presidency highlights the internal dynamics of authoritarian governance. Using a qualitative case study approach and guided by Jonathan Gerschewski's Autocratic Stability Theory, the research examines how legitimization, repression, and co-optation have shaped regime's survival. This thesis shows that Maduro employed practices of institutional manipulation, clientelism through the state-owned Oil Corporation, PDVSA, and coercive measures enforced by Bolivarian Intelligence Body to weaken opposition and maintain authority. These actions secured his political survival despite hyperinflation, migration issues, and economic collapse. Economically, limited relief emerged when Maduro restructured diplomatic relations with the United States and Europe, resulting in partial lifting of sanctions and renewed oil exports. In the end, this research suggest that Maduro's survival is sustained less by effective governance than by authoritarian strategies that prioritize regime security over national stability. Consequently, Venezuela remains locked in a multidimensional crisis where short-term economic openings fail to resolve deeper structural and political breakdowns.

Keyword: Nicolas Maduro, Venezuela, Socio-Political and Economic Crisis; Political Survival; SEBIN; Autocratic Stability

ABSTRAK

Tesis ini mengeksplorasi hubungan antara kelangsungan hidup politik Nicolas Maduro dan krisis sosial-politik dan ekonomi Venezuela antara tahun 2013 dan 2024. Sementara faktor-faktor eksternal, termasuk penurunan harga minyak dan sanksi internasional, memperdalam krisis, persistensi kepresidenan Maduro menyoroti dinamika internal pemerintahan otoriter. Dengan menggunakan pendekatan studi kasus kualitatif dan dipandu oleh Teori Stabilitas Otokratis Jonathan Gerschewski, penelitian ini mengkaji bagaimana legitimasi, represi, dan kooptasi telah membentuk kelangsungan hidup rezim. Tesis ini menunjukkan bahwa Maduro menggunakan praktik manipulasi kelembagaan, klientelisme melalui Perusahaan Minyak milik negara, PDVSA, dan tindakan koersif yang diberlakukan oleh Badan Intelijen Bolivarian untuk melemahkan oposisi dan mempertahankan otoritas. Tindakan-tindakan ini mengamankan kelangsungan hidup politiknya meskipun hiperinflasi, masalah migrasi, dan keruntuhan ekonomi. Secara ekonomi, hal positif tentang kepemimpinan Maduro muncul ketika Maduro berhasil mereformasi hubungan diplomatik antara Venezuela dengan Amerika Serikat dan Uni-Eropa, yang menghasilkan pencabutan sebagian sanksi dan dimulainya kembali ekspor minyak. Pada akhirnya, penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa kelangsungan hidup Maduro lebih ditopang oleh strategi otoriter yang memprioritaskan keamanan rezim daripada stabilitas nasional, bukan pemerintahan yang efektif. Akibatnya, Venezuela tetap terkurung dalam krisis multidimensi di mana peluang ekonomi jangka pendek gagal menyelesaikan kerusakan struktural dan politik yang lebih dalam.

Kata Kunci: *Nicolas Maduro, Venezuela, Krisis Sosial-Politik dan Ekonomi Venezuela; Keberlangsungan Politik; SEBIN; Stabilitas Autokrat*

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