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Joko Widodo (Indonesian: [dʒɔkɔ wɪdɔdɔ]; born 21 June 1961), also known as **Jokowi**, is an Indonesian politician and businessman who is the 7th and current **president of Indonesia**. Elected in July 2014, he was the first Indonesian president not to come from an elite political or military background. He was previously the Mayor of **Surakarta** from 2005 to 2012 and the Governor of **Jakarta** from 2012 to 2014. Before his political career, he was an industrialist, carpenter and businessman.^{[2][3]}

He achieved national prominence in 2009 for his work as the Mayor of Surakarta. A member of the **Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle** (PDI-P), he was named as the party's candidate for the **2012 Jakarta gubernatorial election**, alongside **Basuki Tjahaja Purnama** (often known as *Ahok*)^[4] as his running mate.^[5] Defeating incumbent **Fauzi Bowo**,^[6] he took office in October 2012 and reinvigorated Jakartan politics, introducing publicised *blusukan* visits (unannounced spot checks)^[7] and improving the city's bureaucracy, reducing corruption in the process. He also introduced years-late programs to improve quality of life, including universal healthcare, dredging the city's main river to reduce flooding, and inaugurating the construction of the city's subway system.^[8]

The PDI-P nominated Jokowi, who was already seen as a rising star in Indonesian politics, for the **2014 presidential election**.^[9] Winning a majority of the popular vote, he was named **president-elect** on 22 July 2014, to bitter protest from his opponent **Prabowo Subianto**, who disputed the outcome and withdrew from the race before the count was completed.^{[10][11]} As president, Jokowi has primarily focused on infrastructure, introducing or restarting long-delayed programs to improve connectivity in the Indonesian **archipelago**.^[12] On foreign policy, his administration has emphasised "protecting Indonesia's sovereignty",^[13] with the sinking of illegal foreign fishing vessels^[14] and the prioritising and scheduling of **capital punishment** for drug smugglers. The latter was despite intense representations and diplomatic protests from foreign powers, including Australia and France.^{[15][16]} He was re-elected in **2019** for a second five-year term, again defeating Prabowo Subianto.^[17]

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Early life and career

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Education and business career

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Joko Widodo



Official portrait, 2019

7th President of Indonesia

Incumbent

Assumed office

20 October 2014

Vice President

Jusuf Kalla (2014–2019)

Ma'ruf Amin (2019–present)

Preceded by

Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono

14th Governor of Jakarta

In office

15 October 2012 – 16 October 2014

Deputy

Basuki Tjahaja Purnama

Preceded by

Fauzi Bowo

Succeeded by

Basuki Tjahaja Purnama