

# Indonesia candidates battle for presidency

The world's most populous Muslim nation votes for its next president on July 9, with the race tightly contested between Jakarta governor Joko Widodo and former army general Prabowo Subianto



**Joko Widodo, 53**  
*Indonesian Democratic Party – Struggle (PDI-P)*

Running mate (inset)  
**Jusuf Kalla** Golkar



■ **Campaign:** Known as “Jokowi,” Widodo has won praise for his leadership of Jakarta, attempting to tackle traffic congestion and flooding, starting construction of long-awaited subway line and launching health insurance programme for residents

■ **Appeal:** Former furniture salesman known for his down-to-earth demeanour has risen from relative obscurity to forefront of national politics. Popularity driven by clean track record and moves aimed at shoring up support among poor

■ **Policies:** Promising to build clean government by fighting corruption, and prioritise funding for education and healthcare. Pledges to gradually eliminate costly fuel subsidies over four-year period, saving government \$30 billion

**Prabowo Subianto, 62**  
*Gerindra Party*

Running mate (inset)  
**Hatta Rajasa**  
*National Mandate Party*



■ **Campaign:** Marred by accusations of human rights abuses while head of Indonesia's feared special forces unit, in particular during violence that toppled his former father-in-law and long-time Indonesian dictator **Suharto** in 1998

■ **Appeal:** Has projected tough-man image in effort to connect with voters who think Indonesia needs strong leadership. Stresses importance of nationalism and protectionist approach to economy, potentially worrying to foreign investors

■ **Policies:** Focus on conserving natural resources to make Indonesia more self-sufficient, and changing economic structure to benefit poor and farmers. Proposes to hold fuel prices steady, but only for lower income citizens