OPEN PEER REVIEW

The Technocratic Monarchist Movement in America: Theoretical Dimensions and Political Impacts

Bahram. Sarmast[1]*

[1] Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Payame Noor University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran

* Corresponding author email address: bahram.sarmast@gmail.com

1.   Round 1

1.1.   Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The introduction effectively outlines the premise of Neoreaction (NRx), but the use of terms like "CEO-monarch" and "algorithmic management" may require clearer definition early on for non-specialist readers. Consider briefly elaborating these terms in the first paragraph.

The term "Cathedral" is used without sufficient critical distance in some instances. Consider more frequent attribution (e.g., "Yarvin's so-called 'Cathedral'") to remind the reader this is a partisan term and not an accepted academic construct.

The concept of "cybernetic governance" is presented with theoretical appeal, but the lack of empirical examples weakens the section. Could the authors provide real-world cases (e.g., China's social credit system, Estonia's e-governance) as comparative references?

The description of Yarvin's neocameralism lacks sufficient critical interrogation. What assumptions about human behavior, accountability, and governance underlie this model? Engage with counterarguments beyond surface-level critique.

The causal link between Yarvin's proposals and Trump administration policies is suggested but not clearly evidenced. Consider reframing as "resonances" rather than direct "operationalization" unless stronger evidence is provided.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

1.2.   Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The statement "democracy's emphasis on equality and mass participation leads to bureaucratic inertia, cultural decay, and political fragmentation" is presented as a claim by NRx but lacks citation or framing as a viewpoint. Clarify that this is a neoreactionary critique, not an empirical assertion.

The literature review is comprehensive but could benefit from a clearer chronological or thematic organization. Currently, the transition between ideological foundations and technocratic focus is abrupt. Consider adding subheadings or transitional sentences.

The article references Burrows' critique extensively. While effective, there is an over-reliance on a single critical voice. Including a broader array of critical sources (e.g., democratic theorists, historians) would enhance the academic rigor.

The treatment of Hobbes, Hoppe, and Land is compelling, yet it would be helpful to clarify how these disparate philosophies are integrated within NRx thought. A visual conceptual model or synthesis paragraph could improve coherence.

Several paragraphs reference Yarvin (2013) repeatedly without page numbers. For such a central text, specific page citations would improve academic traceability and reader comprehension.

The article mentions a qualitative content analysis but does not specify sample selection, coding procedure, or analytic framework. Please elaborate on methodological rigor, including source corpus, inclusion/exclusion criteria, and analytic tools used.

The claim that "275,000 civil service layoffs" occurred is striking. Ensure this number is supported by a primary source (e.g., government reports or congressional data), as the citation currently refers to Wikipedia.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

2.   Revised

Editor's decision: Accepted.
Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.