

OPEN PEER REVIEW

The Logical Relationship Between National Interests and Ideology in the Foreign Policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The introduction mentions, "an idealist foreign policy negates the established order in the international system." It would be beneficial to include specific references to Iran's foreign policy actions that exemplify this negation for better empirical support.

In the introduction, the reference to "democratic systems, where foreign policy... moves beyond semantic ambiguity" needs more clarity. Provide a comparison with non-democratic systems using specific examples, possibly referencing Iran's foreign policy instances.

The section on "Second Intelligibles" is highly abstract. Consider simplifying or adding examples from Iran's foreign policy to make this section more accessible to readers unfamiliar with advanced logical terminology.

In the theoretical framework, the sentence "concepts like 'benefit' or 'interest' are formed in comparison with the concept of 'harm'" would benefit from empirical examples. Highlight specific foreign policy decisions where Iran weighed national benefits against potential harms.

The discussion on "Logical Discovery of the Relationship" refers to "the study of terms, concepts, intelligibles." This section would benefit from a flowchart or diagram illustrating how these logical elements interact in the context of Iran's foreign policy.

The explanation of the "Fourfold Relationships" is well-detailed but remains abstract. Include specific instances from Iran's foreign policy that reflect these relationships to ground the theory in practice.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The section on "Definition of Logic" states that logic "teaches humans the general rules of correct thinking." This is a classical definition; consider integrating contemporary perspectives from modern philosophers or logicians to update the theoretical foundation.

The discussion on "Duality of Science in Logic" (p. 5) mentions "acquired science is obtained through mediation." Adding a practical example from Iran's foreign policy to illustrate acquired science would strengthen the argument.

In the section on "Duality of Imagination and Affirmation," the statement, "ideology and national interests are separate and distinct, each being two 'universal' concepts," needs more support. Provide evidence from Iran's constitutional texts or foreign policy decisions to substantiate this claim.

The methodology section lacks specific details about how logical reasoning was applied to Iran's foreign policy data. Include a step-by-step outline of the logical analysis process for clarity and reproducibility.

In the findings, the statement "the ideology of the Islamic Republic of Iran can be extracted from the text of its constitution" is important. However, citing specific articles from the constitution would provide stronger evidence.

The findings section mentions, "Islam is a comprehensive religion encompassing everything from food to governance." While relevant, this section could benefit from specifying how this comprehensiveness directly impacts Iran's foreign policy decisions.

In the discussion, the statement "national interests are a composite concept of national identity and Islamic identity" is crucial. Provide historical examples from Iran's foreign policy where this composite nature is evident to strengthen the argument.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

2. Revised

Editor's decision: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.