OPEN PEER REVIEW

Development of Capabilities and Nafy al-Sabil in the Foreign Policy Authority of the Islamic Republic of Iran

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The section on "Nafy al-Sabil Rule" presents several Islamic legal references but lacks a structured theoretical framework. It would be beneficial to explicitly define key constructs and how they relate to foreign policy.

While the article references various Islamic and international legal principles, it does not sufficiently compare Iran's approach with other nations that apply religious jurisprudence to foreign policy. A comparative discussion would enhance the analysis.

The introduction discusses Western pressures on Iran but does not provide specific historical examples. Adding references to key events (e.g., sanctions, JCPOA negotiations) would ground the discussion in real-world cases.

The sentence, "Expanding relations with key countries, Latin America, and Africa has been effective and has increased the scope of exports," needs data or sources to substantiate the claim. Consider providing export statistics or trade agreement references.

The article uses "authority," "capability," and "power" interchangeably (e.g., "Increasing Authority and Rejecting Domination from a Legal Perspective"). It would be useful to define these terms explicitly and ensure consistency.

The article states, "Imposing its will on hostile states and enhancing deterrence, authority, and the growth and development of the Islamic system." This wording appears politically charged. Consider adopting a more neutral academic tone.

The article predominantly cites Iranian Islamic jurists. To increase credibility, it would be beneficial to include perspectives from international scholars on foreign policy and sovereignty.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The discussion heavily supports Iran's foreign policy stance. To improve academic balance, consider addressing potential criticisms or counterarguments regarding the application of Nafy al-Sabil in modern international relations.

Several references cited, such as Mousavi Khomeini (2001) and Hosseini Maraghi (1996), are valuable but somewhat dated. Including more recent scholarly sources (2015-2025) would improve the article's relevance.

The phrase "resisting domination" is used frequently (e.g., "Findings showed that resisting domination and developing power in scientific production..."). It would be helpful to clarify whether "domination" refers to economic dependence, political influence, or military intervention.

While the article discusses Iran's constitutional principles regarding foreign policy, it lacks a detailed discussion on how these principles interact with international law beyond UN Charter references. Consider engaging with legal debates on sovereignty and non-intervention.

The article references Quranic verses and Islamic legal texts, but it would strengthen credibility to incorporate primary documents such as Iranian foreign policy statements or UN reports on Iran's international relations.

The discussion on alliances mentions Iran's relationships with Latin America and Africa but lacks specifics. Consider detailing how these alliances function in diplomatic, economic, or military terms.

The article references "ideational power" but does not fully explain how Iran leverages cultural, religious, or media influence internationally. A discussion of Iran's use of soft power in foreign policy would be valuable.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

2. Revised

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

