




OPEN PEER REVIEW

# The Impact of Political Culture on the Efficiency of the Criminal Justice System

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## 1. Round 1

### 1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

In the introduction, the opening sentence “Human beings, as the noblest of creatures, have been created from a common nature” gives the article a theological and philosophical tone rather than a scientific-social research orientation. For an interdisciplinary journal in society, law, and politics, the introduction should begin with the scholarly problem, research gap, and relevance of political culture to criminal justice institutions, not with an anthropological or metaphysical premise that is not later analytically used.

In the fourth paragraph of the introduction, the authors directly address “the people” and ask: “Why, then, have you chosen silence and indifference toward your deplorable condition?” This rhetorical formulation is not appropriate for academic analysis because it moralizes the public and risks implying collective blame without accounting for repression, informational asymmetry, political opportunity structures, legal barriers to participation, and institutional constraints. This passage should be rewritten in neutral analytical language.

In “Section Three – The Criminal Justice System and Its Rationale,” the sentence “The criminal justice system is used as a powerful arm in the hands of the governmental structure” needs reconsideration. A modern rule-of-law framework requires the criminal justice system to be distinguished from executive power and protected by judicial independence. The authors should separate police, prosecution, courts, corrections, legal defense, and oversight institutions rather than treating the entire system as a single arm of sovereignty.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

## 1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

In “Section One – Political Culture,” the manuscript defines culture and political culture but does not engage sufficiently with foundational political culture literature. The paragraph beginning “Political culture refers to the set of attitudes, beliefs, and feelings...” should be expanded by distinguishing civic culture, subject culture, parochial culture, elite political culture, and institutional trust, and by explaining which dimension is most relevant to criminal justice performance.

In the paragraph stating that “Almost all Asian countries have historically possessed a corruption-based tradition,” the claim is overly broad, empirically inaccurate, and potentially essentialist. The authors should either remove this sentence or replace it with a carefully qualified comparative claim supported by robust empirical sources, because Asia includes countries with very different institutional histories, corruption-control trajectories, legal systems, and democratic experiences.

In “Section Two – Political Structure and Its Types,” the list of regime types is analytically inconsistent: democracy, republican government, parliamentary government, monarchy, oligarchy, theocracy, dictatorship, communism, colonialism, and aristocracy are not mutually exclusive categories. The authors should use a coherent typology, preferably distinguishing regime type, constitutional form, party system, state ideology, and level of political competition, rather than placing heterogeneous concepts in one classification.

In the paragraph beginning “In governments formed on the basis of democracy,” the sentence “The prerequisite for establishing democracy in any society is economic liberalism” is presented as a settled fact, although it is a controversial theoretical claim. The authors should either substantiate this argument through comparative political economy literature or soften it by recognizing alternative explanations, including state capacity, rule of law, civil society, social movements, constitutional design, and international pressure.

In the same paragraph, the relationship among political culture, economic liberalism, democracy, and corruption is not clearly sequenced. At times political culture appears to determine political structure; elsewhere economic liberalism appears to produce democracy; elsewhere democracy appears to reduce corruption. The authors should construct a clear causal model showing independent variable, mediating variables, moderating conditions, and outcome variables.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

## 2. Revised

Editor’s decision: Accepted.

Editor in Chief’s decision: Accepted.