

Review of: "Geopolitical constructs of international politics - their cultural & ideological roots"

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This brief manuscript makes a basically valid argument; namely, that the reliance on the Westphalian model of global political order is less-than-historical and far from universal. It reflects a particular model of political order which has been extended globally. As the author argues quite correctly, other possible models of diplomatic intercourse and political order do exist and could form the basis of a new global order.

That being said, there are at least two problems with the present draft. First, the discussions of the Egyptian, Chinese and Indian systems, while quite intriguing, are nevertheless quite skimpy. They need to be appropriately fleshed out. Otherwise it is impossible to glean any meaningful insights or propositions from their workings.

Second, the manuscript is quite weak when it comes to suggesting possible pathways to a new global order. While drawing on other regions and their historical workings may well be desirable, how does one proceed to make that transition? In many ways, this brief essay reminds me of the much-vaunted World Order Modeling Project that the noted international relations scholar and international lawyer, Richard Falk, had spearheaded at Princeton University in the late 1970s. The ideas in that project were certainly admirable and imaginative. However, in the end, they made not even an iota of difference to the texture of world politics.