

Review of: "Carl Friedrich's Path to "Totalitarianism""

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This article fulfils the specific purpose of providing an in-depth and critical overview of Carl Friedrich's account of totalitarianism. The author states that Friedrich's notion of 'totalitarianism' has been largely unexamined, and I tend to agree with the author. The value and contribution of this article lies in providing an in-depth historical account of Friedrich's notion of 'totalitarianism' and its development. The author also provides a clear description and reflection on Friedrich's search for a comprehensive understanding of 'totalitarianism' and along with Friedrich's own limitations in developing this comprehensive understanding which is worth additional reflection and further research. However, the author provides an extensive discussion of how Friedrich's ever-developing account of totalitarianism influenced our understanding and development of democracy and freedom. Specifically, the author discusses how Friedrich's project to define totalitarianism can be distinguished him from his contemporaries such Max Weber, Hannah Arendt, Carl Schmitt, Harold Lasswell etc. Furthermore, the author provides detailed accounts of Friedrich's influence on significant political theorists and academics such as Hans Kelsen and Friedrich Hayek which remain relevant today and are worth exploring.