

# Review of: "Free Speech Regimes and Democratic Vehemence"

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**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

This study opens a quite current, relevant, and intriguing topic, worth of researchers' attention. The research successfully adds a scientific contribution to the theoretical discussion on the issue of freedom of expression, aiming to explore one perspective of a clash between liberal and illiberal visions of democracy. Its research question and hypothesis are well established within the theoretical background of the study. The article is consistent within itself, and its research design is appropriate to answer highlighted aims, by developing a logical progression from some existing knowledge contradictions. Literature review has clarity of presented information. The references are appropriate: close to the theme, valid, and current. By dealing with the research question, arguments are presented logically, directly, and cohesively, contributing to the discussions at the end of the paper. The overall strengths of this article are contained in its successful analytical approach, considering a variety of arguments from multiple angles.

When it comes to weaknesses of the article, first, it is missing explicitly defined and described methods applied in the conducted research. Also, although the topic is well introduced, it could be more relevant for defined goals to expand the theoretical background by studies of democratic transitions. Finally, my impression is that the study did not offer concluding remarks regarding its main question: "Do rising speech restrictions in major organizations, imposed by left- and right-leaning elites, fundamentally undermine traditional liberal democracy?", nor suggestions or ideas for further research in the area.

All in all, I strongly recommend this excellent and useful work.