

# Review of: "Carl Friedrich and the Cancellation of Pareto"

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The piece is part historical biography, part conceptual analysis. The author has considerable control over both Friedrich's and Pareto's thought. There are many themes in the piece that deal with democratic theory, particularly the role of elites and bureaucracy.

One issue is the attention of detail. As a blend of historical biography and theoretical exegesis, the piece gets very far into Friedrich's and Pareto's respective works. That's fine, but the work's readership would be increased if other thinkers were actively involved in the discussion, throughout. As is, I feel like the piece appeals almost exclusively to Friedrich and Pareto scholars. Of course, this is incorrect, as the themes have been discussed by others. Sure, Parsons and so on are listed, but there is minimal attention to exploring how they relate to Friedrich. I also wonder if there could be more attention to why we should care about this piece, especially now. Sure, we care about democracy, but could the work be situated in some way with both current events, and/or more contemporary scholars on democratic theory? The point on 'setting the record straight' on Pareto is part of this, which I see. Yet, why should we care about Pareto? What is at stake in digging into this debate?