

Review of: "The Iron Cage of Internal Efficiency: A Content Analysis of Digital Transformation Strategy Direction in Swedish Regions"

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The author deals with digital transformation within the state administration in Sweden. The topic is relevant due to the advent of the entire conversion of the "analogous" state administration into a digital one.

Even in the abstract, the author should indicate the problem that the paper is going to solve. Then the main objective of the paper should be defined. E.g., the main objective of the paper is to determine the prevalent strategic dimensions in the development of the Swedish healthcare system, or something like this. It is conducive to a better understanding of the content. It is not advisable to start with methodology. It is advisable to search for information not only on websites but to collect information by another method (e.g., contextual interviews) to obtain more relevant information.

As for methodology, content analysis is always helpful as a preliminary method. In this case, it is the sole method, which weakens the reliability of outcomes. The author should better substantiate opting for content analysis as a superior method. Using Boolean operators is a commonplace approach. As for RQ, I would speak for additional RQ: What types of digital transformation strategies are prevalent in the digitalisation of the Swedish healthcare system? I miss information about which scientific databases were subjected to search (WoS, Scopus, ProQuest, etc.). If the author speaks about the direction of the digitalisation strategy, he must be explicit about the meaning of the term "direction of strategy." What all belongs in there? (vision, values, culture, etc.) There are references to Mintzberg or Schein who paved the way for strategic management fifty years ago. It is necessary to address this concept within the context of the age of digitalisation. Too many references are 20-30 years old. Needless to update this part with current references.

Eventually, the strategic direction referring to internal efficiency was highlighted as the prevalent strategic orientation. The author analysed the current strategic direction, but it is still questionable if this direction represents the optimum. This focus indicates a pervasive trend toward optimizing current operations within the constraints of existing bureaucratic structures. The paper provides a simplistic view of the existing strategic direction that is observed by organizations in the Swedish healthcare system. It goes without saying that additional research aimed at the examination of the optimum strategic direction, regardless of the existing one, might lead to higher efficiency. A possible stronger accent on innovation can help increase public organizations' performance.

Anyway, the paper offers an instructive overview of the current status of digitalisation problems in a specific sector. After improvements, it can be published.

