

Review of: "State crisis theory: A systematization of institutional, socio-ecological, demographic-structural, world-systems, and revolutions research"

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Review of

Tilman Hartley's article

"State crisis theory: A systematization of institutional, socio-ecological, demographic-structural, world-systems, and revolutions research"

First of all! The article is very interesting, useful and timely, since modern state crises can become a source of threats, complications and crises not only for the state that is the source of the crisis, but also for states-partners, states-competitors and neutral participants in interstate relations.

The object of Tilman Hartley's study is state crisis, stability and existence of a state and state institutions which are designed to manage crises. In crisis moments, the state and state institutions are tested in key ways that threaten its existence, its legitimacy, its monopoly of force and author shows us the different outcomes of the state crises. Crises can lead to catastrophe, it can be solved peaceful way as well, crises can bring positive reforms, but and bloody revolutions as well. State institutions intended to manage crises, practitioners and researchers of crises know that crisis response and management is progressively more challenging.

So, after author draws together five theorizations of state crisis – neo-institutionalism, socio-ecological systems, demographic-structural theories, world-systems approaches, and revolutions research, he systematized this hypotheses for conditions of scarcity and sufficiency and describing the state of a state's institutions in times of crisis. The main result and merit of the study is the author's systematization of the crisis factors both in the typical scarcity or abundance crises. He is looking for answers to questions: Why do state crises occur? Why do state crises have different outcomes? What factors influence societal responses to state crises?

But it is very important for us to know more not only about the types, causes and effects of crises. We must get clear advice for the state elite and officials on how to deal with these crises in the management of states. Unfortunately, although the subject of Tilman Hartley's research is state crisis, the text makes no enough references to the broad literature on crisis governance and management.

All hypotheses regarding the occurrence of state crises, which were investigated and compared by the author, are divided by him into crises arising in conditions of worsening deficit and crises caused by conditions of sufficiency. However, in my opinion, the article will benefit greatly if the author recognizes the fundamental cause of state crises as the errors of the human intellect in making unqualified, unprofessional, unfounded, voluntaristic, criminal, etc. decisions by elites and state administration bodies.

After all, it is human intelligence is the primary source of governmental, scientific, technological, business, etc. decisions, due to the implementation of which crises of scarcity or abundance are formed in society.

Human intelligence has also synthesized five scientific schools of thought about state crisis, a term that refers to challenges serious enough to represent the possibility that the elite and the governing apparatus of the state, which controls its territory and population, will not be able to survive the crisis created by it.

By the way, the author himself refers to the concept of "open societies and open institutions", which are able to implement a feedback system that stabilizes economic and political equality, creates effective crisis management institutions and limits the internal struggle of elites solely on the basis of intellectual interaction of participants.

For confirmation of this, I will allow myself to cite well-known quote of Peter Drucker "It can be said without too much oversimplification that there are no 'underdeveloped countries' (typical scarcity crises, V.P.). There are only 'undermanaged' ones" (typical scarcity crises of managing, V.P.).

Thus, identified by Tilman Hartley 10 general factors that shape sufficiency crises and 11 general factors that influence society's response to a sufficiency crisis, as well as 7 types of shock and 8 types of falling returns, which also become causes of crises and 17 factors that influence deficit crises. This factors will, without the slightest doubt, become an important theoretical basis for an in-depth study of methods for preventing their complex impact on the intellectual state of the individuals, integrated intelligence and the mental state of human communities without crises.

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