

Review of: "Duality, Liberty, and Realism in Entangled Political Economy"

Elena Rodríguez Fontenla¹

¹ Universidad de Vigo

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Aside from addressing a relevant topic, this article offers an interesting insight of the subject analyzed insofar as it addresses it from different –albeit related– areas of knowledge, resulting in a deeply original and instructive piece of research. In this sense, it not only uses categories from the field of Political Economy Theory but also from Political Science and Theory, thus contributing to forge an innovative vision on the subject.

From a formal point of view, I consider that the text is clear and easy to read, as it manages to convey very polished ideas and arguments without being unintelligible to someone not deeply specialized in the subject. The structure of the argumentation is also clear and the conclusions are logically deduced from the steps in which the research is developed.

Perhaps, a weakness that I observe (and that can be easily overcome), is related to the fact that the article does not develop an adequate and fine-grained definition of “realism” and “idealism”. Since both constitute key concepts of the article (in fact, they are part of its title), it would be advisable to provide a broader explanation of their meanings. In this regard, I consider that the precise perspective in which they are used is not very clear: are they used in the sense in which both terms are used in the fields of Political Theory and International Relations Theory, or rather are they used with the meaning in which they are generally referred to in the field of Philosophy of mind? Or, perhaps, are they simply used in a much more colloquial sense? I consider that this question can be resolved simply by devoting more space to making the definitions of these concepts clearer, by linking them to a specific area of knowledge or by mentioning many more authors and schools of thought. That would certainly help to support the main argument of the article even better.

Apart from this aspect, I consider that the article offers a very fine perspective on the subject, and, from a formal point of view, it employs a correct register, conveying the ideas and arguments in an orderly and elegant manner. In short, the article has a high level of both relevance and quality.