

Peer Review

Review of: "Neoreaction, Accelerationism, Entrepreneurship"

Julian G. Waller¹

1. Political Science, George Washington University, United States

I understand this is a very short paper; however, it is missing even a brief reference to the limited academic literature on Neoreaction (here, mostly regarding the earlier writings of Curtis Yarvin/Mencius Moldbug and its interpretation by Nick Land). At a minimum, the paper should cite Tait ("Mencius Moldbug and Neoreaction" in Sedgwick 2019 and "American Illiberal Thinkers" in Laruelle 2024), Smith and Burrows 2021 ("Software, Sovereignty and the Post-Neoliberal Politics of Exit"), as well as the small crop of writing on the "Network State" and "exit" more broadly.

By not including some earlier research on this particular ideological development, the author misses that it is not generic 'libertarianism' that is the forerunner to Neoreactionary thought, but a specific school within libertarianism derived from people like Hans-Hermann Hoppe. Revising to make it clearer exactly where the combination of authoritarian political rule with exit dynamics comes from is critical to understanding the Neoreactionary corpus of thought from Yarvin in the late 2000s.

The author raises an interesting point that Land is explicitly a tech-accelerationist, while it is not always clear that Yarvin is (or at least, one must do more work to find it succinctly put). Does this matter for our interpretation of Neoreaction as a whole? Or is this simply another dimension perfectly compatible with it? Is there actually a problem of combining deterritorialization-reterritorialization dynamics into a political theory of CEO-kings?

Finally, I am not sold that the final paragraph about Thiel and entrepreneurship matters much - this needs to be fleshed out more. In principle, if the author is correct, then someone like Thiel, who still operates within a state structure and has not in fact successfully seceded from authority as of the end of 2025, is the entrepreneurial type required to continue exit dynamics in a neoreactionary future - can he even be produced in such an environment?

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.