

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-52378

Date: 21-06-2025

Title: Improving Democracies, Improving Economies: Lessons from the Corporate World

Recommendation:

Accept as it is.....**YES**.....
 Accept after minor revision.....
 Accept after major revision
 Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality			√	
Techn. Quality			√	
Clarity			√	
Significance			√	

Reviewer's Name: Dr Abdul Hameed Shah

Reviewer's Decision about Paper: **Recommended for Publication.**

Comments (*Use additional pages, if required*)

Reviewer's Comment / Report

General Overview:

This paper provides an insightful and thought-provoking examination of the intersection between democratic governance and economic performance. By applying principles from corporate management to political systems, the author offers a unique and timely perspective on how improving the quality of political leadership can positively affect both democratic institutions and economic outcomes. The work is conceptually strong, analytically coherent, and politically relevant.

Relevance and Originality:

The topic is highly relevant in contemporary global discourse. As democracies worldwide confront challenges such as populism, corruption, and leadership crises, this paper identifies a critical and often underexplored linkage between the caliber of elected officials and macroeconomic progress. The originality of this paper lies in its analogy with the corporate world—specifically, the vetting and

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performance evaluation systems used in the private sector—which enriches the discussion on political reform and institutional resilience.

Structure and Clarity:

The manuscript is well-structured, with a clearly stated abstract that outlines the core thesis and methodological approach. Both the English and Spanish summaries are well-written and concise, making the paper accessible to a broader, bilingual audience. The articulation of the problem and proposed pathways is logically organized, and the writing maintains clarity and coherence throughout.

Thematic Depth and Analytical Insight:

The analysis is grounded in practical observations and political realities. The paper effectively distinguishes between democratic ideals and democratic outcomes, highlighting the discrepancy that can arise when leadership selection is influenced by superficial traits rather than competence and ethical grounding. The emphasis on leadership integrity, public accountability, and systemic checks aligns with contemporary governance challenges.

The argument that toxic or incompetent leaders can derail both democratic functioning and economic progress is well-supported. Moreover, the paper highlights a compelling corollary: improved vetting processes could also enhance gender representation in political leadership, suggesting a dual benefit of reform.

Methodology:

The descriptive-analytical approach is appropriate for the paper's objectives. It allows for conceptual exploration and the identification of patterns without requiring empirical quantification. This method supports the normative arguments made, drawing on comparative and theoretical insights rather than case-specific data.

Scholarly Merit:

The paper demonstrates scholarly merit by integrating political theory, economic behavior, and organizational management perspectives. It avoids overt partisanship, remaining focused on structural solutions rather than ideological critique. The interdisciplinary framing enhances its academic contribution and policy relevance.

Conclusion:

This paper offers a valuable contribution to discussions on democratic reform and economic development. By drawing lessons from corporate governance to inform political processes, it presents a compelling case for instituting higher standards for leadership selection. The work is both timely and visionary, offering a hopeful pathway for strengthening democracies in the face of global political uncertainty.

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