

**REVIEW: THE RISE OF AUTHORITARIAN IN POLITICAL BEHAVIOR MANY COUNTRIES****<sup>1</sup>Dini Tiara Sasmi, <sup>2</sup>Cifebrima Suyastri**<sup>1</sup>Binghamton University, NY, USA<sup>2</sup>Eotvos Lorand University, Budapest, Hungary

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**ABSTRACT**

*Question about which factors that influenced the rise of authoritarian in political behavior has been long discussion among academician. Many believes economy play a big role of how people choose to a certain political behavior. According to several recent studies, globalization play significant economic and political effects throughout the industrialized world. This paper seeks to answer the previous query based on article entitled "Economic Decline, Social Identity, and Authoritarian Values in the United States," by Ballard-Rosa, et.al (2022), while also seek the strengths, and weaknesses from the readings and try to discover new research questions that arise from the article. They argue that long-term economic developments brought by globalization have a detrimental influence on traditionally dominant populations' social identities. Specifically, they suggest that changes in economic conditions and job status can cause shifts in authoritarian values, which is one way that globalization can contribute to people supporting extreme political candidates. This paper adds to literature revolving around authoritarian literature in at least three ways. To begin with, it throws new insight on the roots of populism and support for radical individuals and parties. Second, it gave new information on authoritarian beliefs' roots, which show that at least in part, authoritarian principles are susceptible to current economic and social situations. Third, the study emphasizes the necessity of comprehending how different forms of economic shocks may impact social identity and status, as well as political conduct.*

**Keywords:** *Authoritarian, Political Behavior, International Political Economy***INTRODUCTION**

In recent years, there has been a concerning trend in many nations: an increase in authoritarianism in political behavior. Authoritarianism is a political philosophy that places a high priority on deference to authority, a powerful central government, and restricted personal freedoms. Authoritarianism has been accepted in certain nations as a solution to political or economic turmoil. Some citizens who experience insecurity or anxiety may find it appealing when leaders pledge to restore order and stability, even if doing so requires restricting individual liberties. Additionally, it is now more challenging to find compromise and common ground due to political polarization,

the emergence of social media, echo chambers, and deepening differences between groups.

The development of authoritarianism, nevertheless, also poses a challenge to democracy because it undercuts the core values of liberty, plurality, and the rule of law. Authoritarian leaders frequently stifle dissenting opinions, restrict free speech and the freedom of the press, and compromise the separation of powers between the several institutions of government. This could result in a situation where the government is no longer held accountable and corruption and power abuse are commonplace. No one philosophy or location is exempt from the authoritarian trend. Recent years have seen an

increase in authoritarianism across a wide range of political spectrums in many nations. For instance, Vladimir Putin, Xi Jinping, and Recep Tayyip Erdogan, respectively, have led Russia, China, and Turkey in directions that are becoming more authoritarian. A surge in populist and authoritarian political forces has also been observed in Europe and the Americas at the same period. A n examples for this current situation include Viktor Orban of Hungary and Jair Bolsonaro in Brazil.

## METHODS

The study "Economic Decline, Social Identity, and Authoritarian Values in the United States" by Ballard-Rosa et al. adds significantly to the body of knowledge on authoritarianism and its connections to both economic decline and social identity. The authors examine the intricate relationship between economic decline, social identity, and authoritarian beliefs in the US environment through a rigorous examination of survey data.

Economic self-interest has been extensively studied as a factor in determining political preferences and is commonly contrasted with causes based on values and social identities. Some academics are unconvinced that globalization or other economic issues are to blame for the growth of authoritarian populism in America. Ballard-important Rossa's insight into why authoritarian populism is on the rise in America is that it is not just a matter of short-term economic gain but also long-term social standing of majority groups. Ballard Rosa and other research should teach academics more about the influence of globalization on voting patterns, how demographics are supported by it, where authoritative values come from, and how economic and value benefits influence collective action.

Ballard-Rosa's ability to bridge the gap between cultural values and economic suffering by citing social identity and material comfort as causes of the growth of authoritarian populism in America is, in my opinion, his greatest skill. Theoretically (and statistically), many studies on both sides have argued that these explanations are a zero-sum game, meaning that it can only be either cultural ideals or economic suffering. This idea has helped us comprehend that there are other factors at play in the "backlash against globalization" besides only negative economic effects. He cleverly analyzes how variables like persistent regional economic decline may change the relative relevance of social conformity across diverse groups rather than arguing that one attribute must come before the other.

The focus on how social identity influences authoritarian values is one of this article's best strengths. The authors contend that economic downturn might increase these tendencies and that social identity is a key factor in determining how people view authoritarianism. In the current political context in the US, where concerns about identity and economic insecurity are typically at the center of political discourse, this nuanced approach to the study of authoritarianism is especially pertinent.

Another strength of this article is the methodology used to analyze the data. The authors use a range of statistical techniques to examine the relationship between economic decline, social identity, and authoritarian values. In doing so, they are able to identify the specific mechanisms through which economic decline and social identity shape authoritarian attitudes.

The way Ballard-Rosa and others present their works is persuasive, providing both a sharp and expansive evaluation of several aspect of their study in relation to the

research question they proposed. However, it contains several theoretical and methodological flaws that may have an impact on the conclusions made from its findings. For instance, in the research design part, data that has been presented looks not convincing enough since the author only comparing the Chinese import to United States and how it is affected to the authoritarian values. Could we build a strong theory that based on one single case and limited factors? Furthermore, using 2017 representative survey in United States to evaluate main arguments in the research might seem sloppy for one year of survey may bring issue in the selection and various in the data. In other words, there could be inaccuracy of the sample which might not diverse enough.

## DISCUSSION

The study argues that the long-term economic impacts of globalization have had detrimental effects on traditionally dominant populations' social identities. Economic changes and shifts in job status can cause a change in authoritarian values, which can contribute to people supporting extreme political candidates. This is a significant contribution to the literature on authoritarianism, as it sheds light on the roots of populism and support for radical individuals and parties.

Furthermore, the study demonstrates that authoritarian principles are influenced to some extent by current economic and social situations, providing a new understanding of the origins of authoritarian beliefs. The study also emphasizes the significance of understanding how various types of economic shocks affect social identity and status, as well as political behavior. This understanding is critical for policymakers and political leaders developing strategies to reduce the

impact of economic shocks and prevent the rise of authoritarian political behavior.

Overall, this paper makes a significant contribution to the body of literature about authoritarianism, including its effects on social identity, the economy, and politics. Important insights are offered by the authors' nuanced strategy and meticulous analysis, which might help us better comprehend the political environment in the US and other countries right now. This study also highlights a number of fresh research questions. In addition to the reading, the findings of comparing the reading to the relevant prior research also led to the potential new research question.

This first path of future research looks at how do the economic decline, social identity and authoritarian values influence political behavior in countries outside of United States? This question stems from Ballard-Rosa's argument that globalization have led to the rise of authoritarian values among traditionally dominant populations. While the paper focuses on the United States, it is worth exploring whether this phenomenon is also present in other countries that have experienced similar economic and political effects due to globalization. Specifically, China's integration into the world economy has affected many other countries, from developed to developing ones. Thus, it would be valuable to investigate the relationship between economic decline, social identity, and authoritarian values in different parts of the world to gain a more comprehensive understanding of this topic.

In addition, are there other variables that might contribute to the rise of authoritarian values in the United States? Ballard-Rosa's paper argues that social identity and economic decline, rather than cultural values or economic hardship alone, are responsible for the rise of authoritarian

values in the United States. However, there may be other factors that contribute to this phenomenon. For example, it could be argued that the incumbent disadvantage or renaissance played a role in the rise of authoritarian values, as Trump's campaign slogan, "Make America Great Again," successfully appealed to voters in certain states. Therefore, future research could explore other potential confounders that may have contributed to the rise of authoritarian values in the United States.

Moving forward to next research question; how much do shifts in economic conditions, including job losses or falling salaries, affect how specific groups in the US develop authoritarian values? How does social identity, such as race, gender, or religion, affect the connection between authoritarian principles and economic decline in the US? Do various parts of the United States have distinct effects of economic collapse on authoritarian values? How might economic measures to combat job loss or income inequality affect the development of authoritarian ideals in the US? How much can education or exposure to diverse opinions prevent the development of authoritarian values in the United States as a result of economic downturn and social identity?

And last, what major circumstances led to the decline of authoritarian ideals in the United States, and might they persist there? Joe Biden's success in the 2020 US presidential contest may be a sign that authoritarian ideas are not a persistent pattern in the country. It is worthwhile to investigate whether these ideals could endure and what might cause them to decline. One may argue, for instance, that the rise of new leaders who reject authoritarian principles, like Biden, contributed to the decline of authoritarianism in the United States. Future studies could therefore examine the persistence of

authoritarian values in American society and the causes of their eventual demise.

It is important to note, however, that the article has some limitations. For example, the study focuses solely on the United States, which may limit the study's generalizability to other contexts. Furthermore, the study does not take into account other factors such as cultural and historical influences on authoritarianism. Future research should account for these limitations and investigate how various contextual factors may influence the relationship between economic conditions and authoritarianism.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, there is a general trend toward authoritarianism across all ideologies and geographic areas. Recent years have seen an increase in authoritarianism across a wide range of political spectrums in many nations. Protecting the institutions and principles that support democracy is crucial in the battle against the emergence of authoritarianism. This entails preserving the rule of law, defending the press' and judiciary's independence, fostering accountability and openness, and making sure that everyone has equal access to political power. It is also critical to address the underlying social, economic, and political issues like inequality, corruption, and societal division that fuel support for authoritarian regimes. By resolving these issues, a more robust and democratic society that can withstand the dangers of authoritarianism can be created.

Finally, the study sheds light on the relationship between economic conditions and authoritarianism. It contributes to the existing literature on authoritarianism by shedding light on the origins of populism, the impact of economic shocks on social identity, and the significance of understanding how economic changes influence political behavior.

However, more research is needed to examine the relationship between economic and non-economic factors in shaping authoritarianism in various contexts.

## **REFERENCES**

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