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| Book Name: | [New Ideas Concerning Arts and Social Studies](https://www.bookpi.org/bookstore/product/new-ideas-concerning-arts-and-social-studies-vol-1/) |
| Manuscript Number: | **Ms\_BPR\_5042** |
| Title of the Manuscript:  | **THE LIMITS OF STATE POWER IN A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY** |
| Type of the Article | **Book chapter** |

**Special note:**

**A research paper already published in a journal can be published as a Book Chapter in an expanded form with proper copyright approval.**

**Source Article:**

**This chapter is an extended version of the article published by the same author(s) in the following journal.**

**Journal of Civil & Legal Sciences, 2016**

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| PART 1: Comments |
|  | Reviewer’s comment**Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated or assisted review comments are strictly prohibited during peer review.** | Author’s Feedback *(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)* |
| **Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.** | **In this manuscript, there is critical analysis of the concepts of lawfulness, legitimacy, discretionary power, and of power excess in democratic societies, and its contributions to the body of knowledge of legal scholars, policymakers and practitioners are significant. It attempts to deepen understandings of how public authorities should exercise their powers if they want to be reasonably sure that their acts are constitutional by considering the interplay between legality and legitimacy. With regard to contemporary governance, the talk about discretionary power and its restrictions is especially important, because it enables the balancing of authority and of rights of individual. Altogether, this work helps to raise the scientific community’s understanding of legal frameworks and their application, as well as to encourage further debate and research to administrative as well as constitutional law.** |  |
| **Is the title of the article suitable?****(If not please suggest an alternative title)** | **However the current title of the article is not given, but, from the content, a more apt and precise title could be:** **"Lawfulness, Legitimacy, and the Limits of Discretionary Power in Democratic Governance"** **The title of this manuscript is better suited to the subject of the manuscript in that it addresses the relation between legality, legitimacy, and discretionary power in relation to how the power of public authorities are exercised. Another alternative if the article highlights the risks of abuse of power is:** **"Legality, Legitimacy, and the Risk of Power Excess in Public Administration"**  |  |
| Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here. | **Suggested Improvements for the Abstract:****Then, clarify on the Research Objective: Make sure the abstract clearly declares the main purpose of the study, whether it is to comprehend the link between legality and legitimacy, to discover discretionary power and its limits or to evaluate threats of power excess in governance.****State Key Arguments: The main concepts to be discussed, that is, between legality and legitimacy, the place of constitutional supremacy and conditions under which a discretionary power becomes abuse of power.****If there is any theoretical, doctrinal, or comparative legal analysis in the article, it should include include Methodological Approach (if applicable) in the abstract.****Significance: The Significance of this study should be emphasised on why this study is important (e.g. – adds to legal scholarship, governance, or administrative law with new insights into or clarifications of existing concepts).****Streamline the Language for Conciseness: If the abstract sentences are complex and use redundant text, these would be better organized for clarity and readability for improved effect.** |  |
| **Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.**  | **Scientifically, the manuscript is largely correct, it truly is a well thought structured analysis of various legal concepts like lawfulness, legitimacy, the discretionary power and abuse of that power in the context of a democratic society. References from past legal scholars and jurisprudence back up the arguments, providing a well founded theoretical basis. However, some sections could be clarified further especially in clarifying the key words in the same way, and in explaining all the citations that have been made. Furthermore, strengthening the link between the theoretical discussions and real world legal applications would improve the paper’s scientific rigor.** |  |
| **Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.****-** | **It has solid theoretical foundation, whereas mentions of legal scholars and jurisprudence can be found several times in its manuscript. Nevertheless, a few refer to older references, dated to early 20th century (e.g., Leon Duguit, I.V. Gruia). Although these classic sources are worthwhile, the manuscript would be more useful with the inclusion of more current literature, including contemporary legal scholarship and recent case law. Recent decisions from other constitutional courts, administrative litigation cases or scholarly articles that study modern legal issues of lawfulness, legitimacy and discretionary power should be available. Further strengthening the academic depth of the manuscript could also be achieved by including sources from internationally recognized legal journals and comparative legal studies. To make sure the manuscript will include the most current trends in the field, I recommend checking recent reports in some of the legal databases such as \*\*HeinOnline, Westlaw, LexisNexis, or Google Scholar.** |  |
| Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications? | **Overall the statements made in the manuscript are suitable for scholarly communication, but the manuscript needs improvement in grammar, clarity, and conciseness of ideas. Complex sentences make some sentences overly long and, consequently, less readable. It is recommended that you review a language thoroughly to increase fluency and coherence.** |  |
| Optional/General comments | **Although the analysis in the chapter gives a good explanation on lawfulness, legitimacy and discretionary power in a democratic society, this would be more scholarly impactful, if clarity on the arguments is improved, references are updated and real life examples are given.** |  |

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| **PART 2:**  |
|  | Reviewer’s comment | Author’s comment *(if agreed with the reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)* |
| **Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?**  | *(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in detail)*  |  |

**Reviewer details:**

**Syed Rizwan Haider Bukhari, Islamia College University Peshawer, Pakistan**