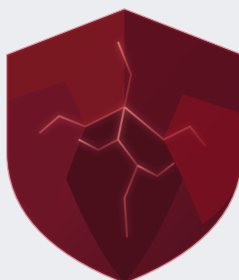


CONSTITUTIONAL EROSION ANALYSIS SYSTEM



EO_14171.PDF

EO 14171 — Multi-Model Comparison Report

AVG THREAT LEVEL: MODERATE [58/100]

Models Compared: gpt-4o-mini • deepseek-r1-0528 • qwen3.5-397b-a17b • kimi-k2.5 •
gemini-3-flash-preview • glm-5 • deepseek-v3.2

Models Analyzed

7

Score Range

45 – 78

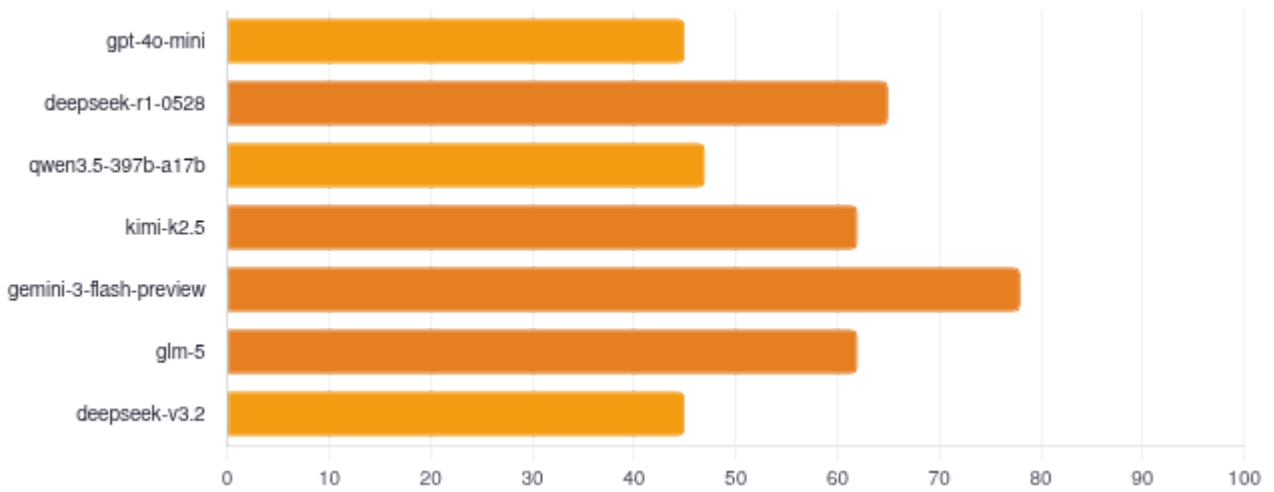
Model Agreement

88%

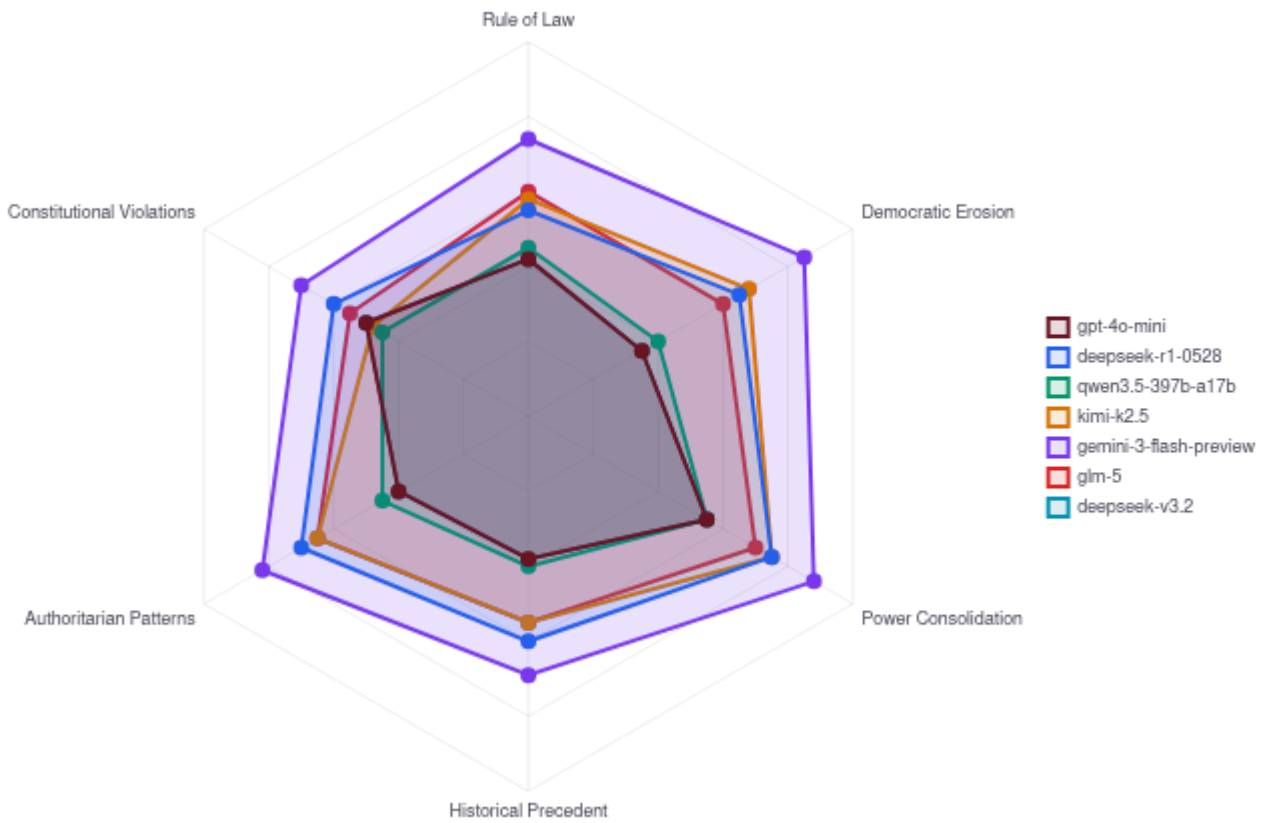
Generated

February 23, 2026

Overall Score Comparison



Framework Score Comparison (Radar)



Models Compared

7

Average Score

58

Score Range

45–78

Model Agreement

88%

Highest Score

78
gemini-3-flash-
preview

Lowest Score

45
gpt-4o-mini

Consensus Scorecard

Average scores across 7 models per framework, with agreement levels and outlier detection.



Rule of Law



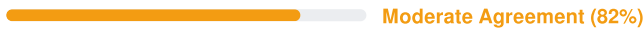
⚠️ [gemini-3-flash-preview](#) scored higher (74)

42–74

spread: 32pts



Democratic Erosion



⚠️ [gemini-3-flash-preview](#) scored higher (85)

35–85

spread: 50pts



Power Consolidation



⚠️ [gemini-3-flash-preview](#) scored higher (88)

55–88

spread: 33pts



Historical Precedent



⚠️ [gemini-3-flash-preview](#) scored higher (69)

38–69

spread: 31pts



Authoritarian Patterns



⚠️ [gemini-3-flash-preview](#) scored higher (82)

40–82

spread: 42pts



Constitutional Violations



⚠️ [gemini-3-flash-preview](#) scored higher (70)

45–70

spread: 25pts

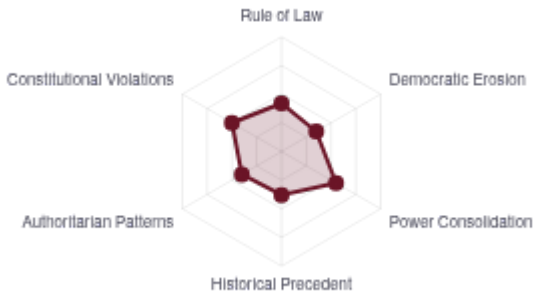
Model Comparison Matrix

Score heatmap across all 7 models and 6 analysis frameworks. Color intensity indicates threat level.

Framework	gpt-4o-mini	0528 deepseek-r1	a17b qwen3.5-397b-	kimi-k2.5	flash-preview gemini-3-	glim-5	deepseek-v3.2	AVG
Rule of Law	42 MODERATE	55 MODERATE	45 MODERATE	58 MODERATE	74 HIGH	60 MODERATE	42 MODERATE	54 AVG
Democratic Erosion	35 LOW	65 HIGH	40 LOW	68 HIGH	85 CRITICAL	60 MODERATE	35 LOW	55 AVG
Power Consolidation	55 MODERATE	75 HIGH	55 MODERATE	75 HIGH	88 CRITICAL	70 HIGH	55 MODERATE	68 AVG
Historical Precedent	38 LOW	60 MODERATE	40 LOW	55 MODERATE	69 HIGH	55 MODERATE	38 LOW	51 AVG
Authoritarian Patterns	40 LOW	70 HIGH	45 MODERATE	65 HIGH	82 CRITICAL	65 HIGH	40 LOW	58 AVG
Constitutional Violations	50 MODERATE	60 MODERATE	45 MODERATE	48 MODERATE	70 HIGH	55 MODERATE	50 MODERATE	54 AVG
OVERALL THREAT	45 MODERATE	65 HIGH	47 MODERATE	62 HIGH	78 HIGH	62 HIGH	45 MODERATE	58 AVG

Threat Level: Minimal Low Moderate High Critical

Framework Scores



Rule of Law	<div style="width: 42%;"></div>	42
Democratic Erosion	<div style="width: 35%;"></div>	35
Power Consolidation	<div style="width: 55%;"></div>	55
Historical Precedent	<div style="width: 38%;"></div>	38
Authoritarian Patterns	<div style="width: 40%;"></div>	40
Constitutional Violations	<div style="width: 50%;"></div>	50

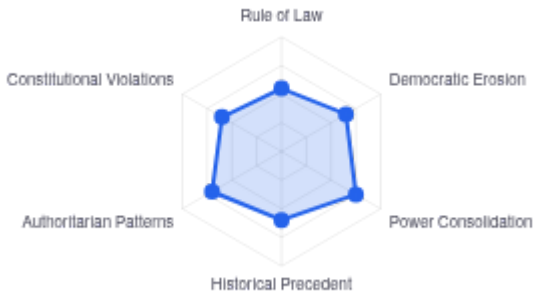
Executive Summary

The document represents a moderate threat to democratic governance by reinstating measures that could politicize the civil service and diminish protections for federal employees. This reflects broader authoritarian patterns and historical precedents of consolidating executive power at the expense of democratic norms.

Top Key Findings

- ✓ **[Rule of Law]** The order appears to sidestep established civil service protections.
- ✓ **[Rule of Law]** Changes in regulatory oversight could lead to arbitrary enforcement of dismissals.
- ✓ **[Democratic Erosion]** The executive order represents a shift towards a more centralized and controlled civil service.

Framework Scores



Rule of Law	<div style="width: 55%;"></div>	55
Democratic Erosion	<div style="width: 65%;"></div>	65
Power Consolidation	<div style="width: 75%;"></div>	75
Historical Precedent	<div style="width: 60%;"></div>	60
Authoritarian Patterns	<div style="width: 70%;"></div>	70
Constitutional Violations	<div style="width: 60%;"></div>	60

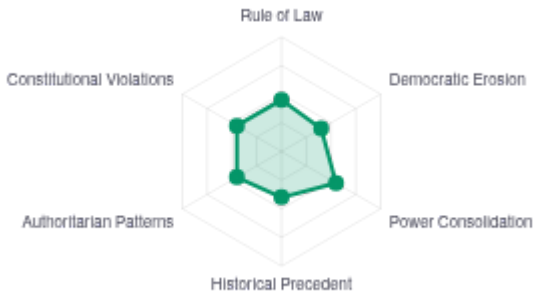
Executive Summary

The order represents a significant escalation in executive power consolidation through systematic dismantling of civil service protections. By reinstating Schedule F under new nomenclature, it creates a mechanism for political purges of policy professionals under the guise of accountability. While stopping short of suspending constitutional rights, it fundamentally restructures the merit-based civil service into a loyalty-based system vulnerable to partisan coercion. The immediate invalidation of regulations and revocation of prior protections demonstrates contempt for institutional continuity.

Top Key Findings

- ✓ **[Rule of Law]** Retroactive invalidation of existing regulations
- ✓ **[Rule of Law]** Bypasses standard rulemaking procedures
- ✓ **[Democratic Erosion]** Targets institutional independence of civil service

Framework Scores



Rule of Law	<div style="width: 45%;"></div>	45
Democratic Erosion	<div style="width: 40%;"></div>	40
Power Consolidation	<div style="width: 55%;"></div>	55
Historical Precedent	<div style="width: 40%;"></div>	40
Authoritarian Patterns	<div style="width: 45%;"></div>	45
Constitutional Violations	<div style="width: 45%;"></div>	45

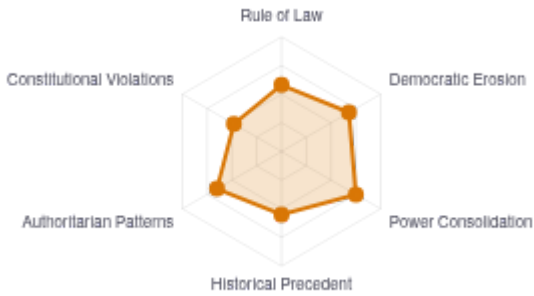
Executive Summary

Executive Order 14171 represents a significant structural shift in federal governance by reinstating and expanding Schedule F classifications. While framed as restoring accountability, the order centralizes personnel authority within the Executive Office, potentially undermining the non-partisan civil service established by the Pendleton Act and Civil Service Reform Act. The legal mechanism relies on a robust interpretation of Article II powers that conflicts with existing statutory protections for competitive service employees. Although the order includes language forbidding political loyalty tests, the expanded definition of 'policy-influencing' positions creates pathways for politicization of the bureaucracy. The threat level is moderate because the action is subject to judicial review and statutory challenge, but it constitutes a notable erosion of institutional guards against patronage.

Top Key Findings

- ✓ **[Rule of Law]** Bypassing standard administrative rulemaking processes
- ✓ **[Rule of Law]** Declaring existing regulations inoperative without full adjudication
- ✓ **[Democratic Erosion]** Weakening of neutral civil service norms

Framework Scores



Rule of Law	<div><div style="width: 58%;"></div></div>	58
Democratic Erosion	<div><div style="width: 68%;"></div></div>	68
Power Consolidation	<div><div style="width: 75%;"></div></div>	75
Historical Precedent	<div><div style="width: 55%;"></div></div>	55
Authoritarian Patterns	<div><div style="width: 65%;"></div></div>	65
Constitutional Violations	<div><div style="width: 48%;"></div></div>	48

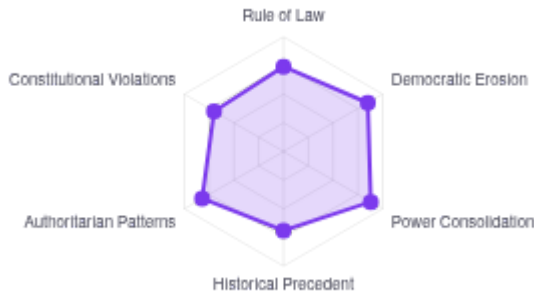
Executive Summary

This document shows moderate constitutional concerns with an overall threat score of 62/100. Key concerns include: The creation of a loyalty test requiring employees to 'faithfully implement administration policies' under threat of dismissal, converting neutral civil service positions into partisan political appointments; The suspension of existing CFR provisions (5 CFR part 302, subpart F) and 2024 final rules without administrative procedure, effectively nullifying congressionally authorized protections.

Top Key Findings

- ✓ **[Rule of Law]** Degradation of merit-based hiring principles established since 1883
- ✓ **[Rule of Law]** Arbitrary dismissal authority replacing just cause requirements
- ✓ **[Democratic Erosion]** Capture of the 'referee' function by eliminating neutral competence in policy implementation

Framework Scores



Rule of Law	<div><div style="width: 74%;"></div></div>	74
Democratic Erosion	<div><div style="width: 85%;"></div></div>	85
Power Consolidation	<div><div style="width: 88%;"></div></div>	88
Historical Precedent	<div><div style="width: 69%;"></div></div>	69
Authoritarian Patterns	<div><div style="width: 82%;"></div></div>	82
Constitutional Violations	<div><div style="width: 70%;"></div></div>	70

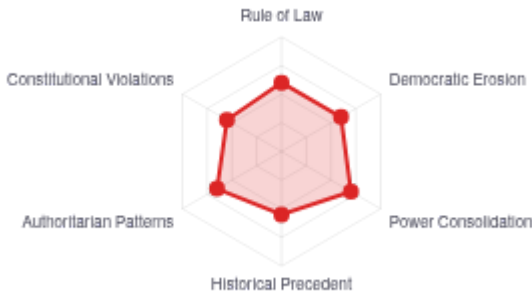
Executive Summary

Executive Order 14171 represents a systemic effort to dismantle the non-partisan nature of the U.S. Federal Civil Service. By reinstating and expanding 'Schedule F' (now 'Schedule Policy/Career'), the order seeks to convert career professional roles into 'at-will' political appointments. This creates a critical threat to democratic stability by removing the institutional 'guardrails' provided by independent experts and career officials. The order's reliance on a maximalist interpretation of the Unitary Executive Theory attempts to bypass statutory protections established by Congress, effectively centralizing control of the entire federal apparatus under the personal discretion of the President.

Top Key Findings

- ✓ **[Rule of Law]** Subordination of statutory merit principles to executive will
- ✓ **[Rule of Law]** Creation of legal uncertainty by holding regulations 'inoperative' without judicial or legislative action
- ✓ **[Democratic Erosion]** Capturing the referees: Neutralizing the bureaucratic agencies that provide checks on executive power

Framework Scores



Rule of Law	60
Democratic Erosion	60
Power Consolidation	70
Historical Precedent	55
Authoritarian Patterns	65
Constitutional Violations	55

Executive Summary

Executive Order 14171 represents a significant threat to democratic governance by reinstating Schedule F (renamed 'Schedule Policy/Career'), which reclassifies career civil service positions to remove merit-based protections. The order asserts expansive unitary executive authority to justify overriding congressionally-established civil service laws, attempts to bypass Administrative Procedure Act requirements by declaring existing regulations 'inoperative,' and establishes a loyalty standard requiring employees to 'faithfully implement administration policies' on pain of dismissal. This combination of actions—politicizing the professional civil service, removing institutional checks, centralizing personnel power, and circumventing rule-of-law procedures—represents a coordinated effort to transform the federal bureaucracy from a merit-based professional workforce into one contingent on political loyalty. The historical parallel to the pre-Pendleton Act spoils system is clear and concerning. While the order cites legal authorities and would be subject to judicial review, its cumulative effect represents a substantial erosion of the institutional guardrails that have protected American democratic governance since the civil service reforms of the late 19th century.

Top Key Findings

- ✓ **[Rule of Law]** Declares existing regulations 'inoperative and without effect' without following proper rescission procedures under the Administrative Procedure Act
- ✓ **[Rule of Law]** Orders rescission of a final rule promulgated through proper notice-and-comment process without equivalent process
- ✓ **[Democratic Erosion]** Removes institutional guardrails by politicizing the non-partisan civil service that provides expertise and continuity across administrations

Framework Scores



Rule of Law	<div style="width: 42%;"></div>	42
Democratic Erosion	<div style="width: 35%;"></div>	35
Power Consolidation	<div style="width: 55%;"></div>	55
Historical Precedent	<div style="width: 38%;"></div>	38
Authoritarian Patterns	<div style="width: 40%;"></div>	40
Constitutional Violations	<div style="width: 50%;"></div>	50

Executive Summary

This executive order represents a significant but not extreme threat to democratic norms. It employs legalistic means to achieve political control over the federal bureaucracy, creating a new category of civil servants with diminished protections. While framed as 'accountability,' the mechanisms enable political dismissals under subjective criteria. The order operates within existing executive authority boundaries but pushes them aggressively. It doesn't dissolve institutions or suspend constitutional rights directly, but systematically weakens institutional independence. The threat is primarily structural and gradual rather than immediate and overt.

Top Key Findings

- ✓ **[Rule of Law]** Suspends existing regulations without legislative or judicial process
- ✓ **[Rule of Law]** Creates subjective standards for employee dismissal
- ✓ **[Democratic Erosion]** Undermines institutional guardrails by politicizing career civil service

Consensus Analysis

Where models agree and disagree across the 7 analyses.

✓ Areas of Agreement (<10pt spread)

No frameworks had close agreement (<10pt spread).

⚠ Areas of Disagreement (≥10pt spread)

⚠ **Democratic Erosion** Range: 35–85 — Spread: **50pts**
High variance between models

⚠ **Authoritarian Patterns** Range: 40–82 — Spread: **42pts**
High variance between models

⚠ **Power Consolidation** Range: 55–88 — Spread: **33pts**
High variance between models

⚠ **Rule of Law** Range: 42–74 — Spread: **32pts**
High variance between models

⚠ **Historical Precedent** Range: 38–69 — Spread: **31pts**
High variance between models

⚠ **Constitutional Violations** Range: 45–70 — Spread: **25pts**
High variance between models

📋 Consolidated Recommendations

Merged and deduplicated across all 7 models — prioritized by how many models suggested each.

Conduct oversight hearings to assess the impacts of the executive order on federal workforce independence.

Suggested by 1 model: gpt-4o-mini

Congress should assert its Article I authority over civil service through legislation clarifying that Schedule F-type reclassifications require statutory authorization

Suggested by 1 model: glm-5

Congressional oversight hearings on implementation and scope of reclassifications

Suggested by 1 model: deepseek-v3.2

Congressional oversight hearings should examine the scope and implementation of Schedule Policy/Career reclassifications

Suggested by 1 model: glm-5

Congressional oversight hearings to define the exact number and scope of positions being reclassified

Suggested by 1 model: gemini-3-flash-preview

Congressional review of statutory conflicts with the Civil Service Reform Act

Suggested by 1 model: qwen3.5-397b-a17b