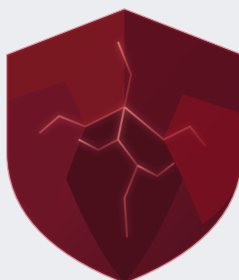


# CONSTITUTIONAL EROSION ANALYSIS SYSTEM



## EO\_14290.PDF

EO 14290 — Multi-Model Comparison Report

**AVG THREAT LEVEL: MODERATE [52/100]**

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

**Models Analyzed**

7

**Score Range**

45 – 68

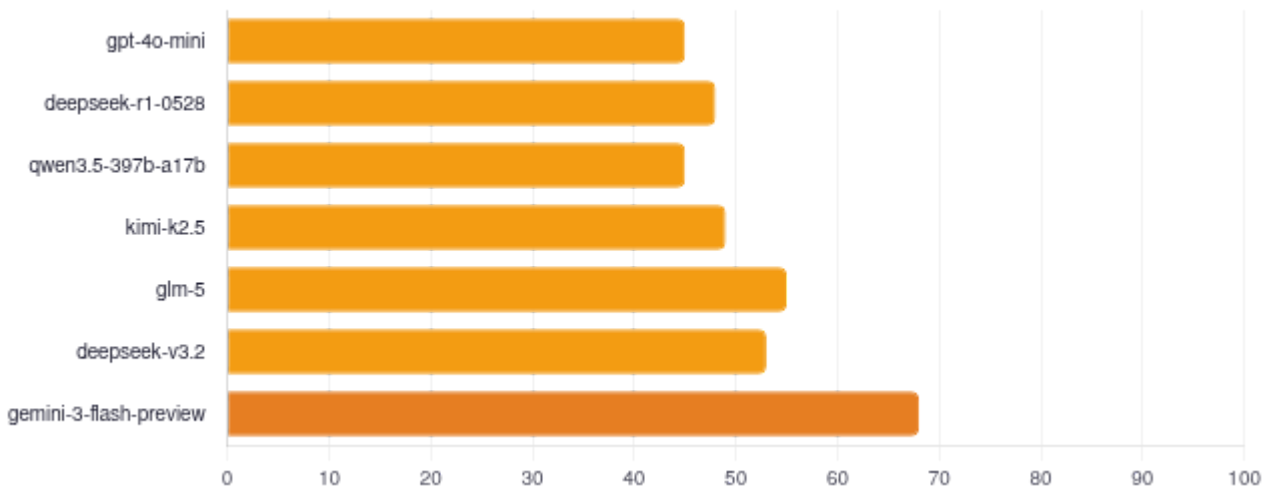
**Model Agreement**

93%

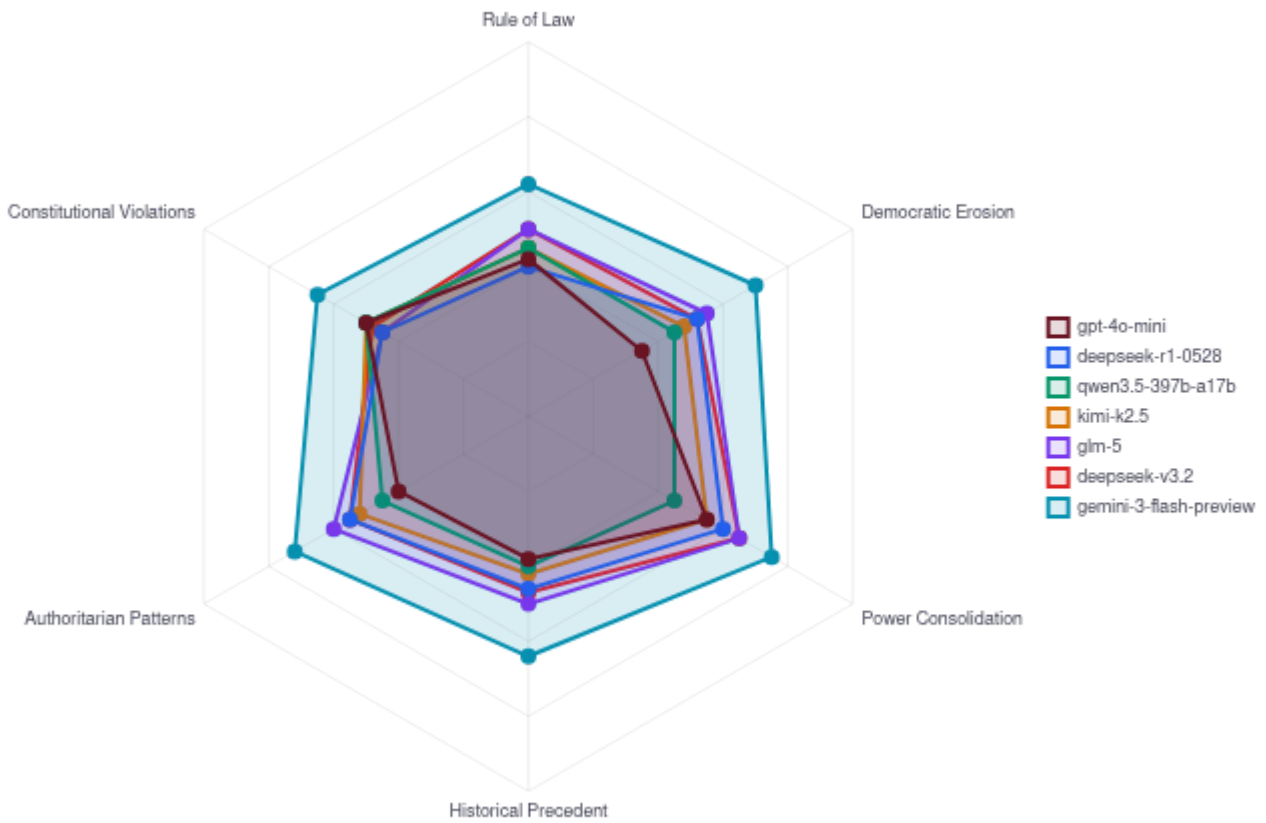
**Generated**

February 23, 2026

### Overall Score Comparison



### Framework Score Comparison (Radar)



Models Compared

**7**

Average Score

**52**

Score Range

**45–68**

Model Agreement

**93%**

Highest Score

**68**  
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



⚠️ [gpt-3.5-turbo](#) scored higher (62)

40–62

spread: 22pts



## Democratic Erosion



⚠️ [gpt-4o-mini](#) scored lower (35) · ⚠️ [gpt-3.5-turbo](#) scored higher (70)

35–70

spread: 35pts



## Power Consolidation



⚠️ [qwen3.5-397b-a17b](#) scored lower (45) · ⚠️ [gpt-3.5-turbo](#) scored higher (75)

45–75

spread: 30pts



## Historical Precedent



⚠️ [gpt-3.5-turbo](#) scored higher (64)

38–64

spread: 26pts



## Authoritarian Patterns



⚠️ [gpt-4o-mini](#) scored lower (40) · ⚠️ [gpt-3.5-turbo](#) scored higher (72)

40–72

spread: 32pts



## Constitutional Violations



⚠️ [gpt-3.5-turbo](#) scored higher (65)

45–65

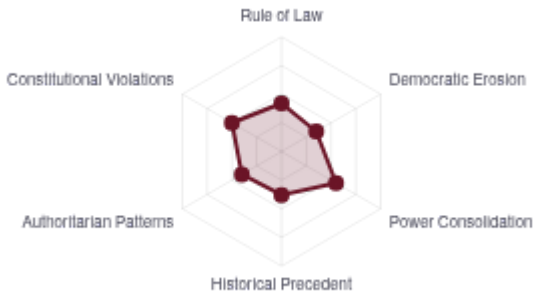
spread: 20pts

# Model Comparison Matrix

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



### Framework Scores



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

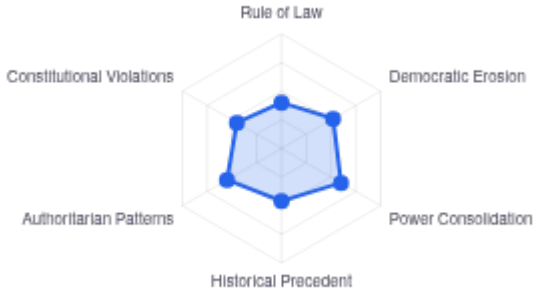
### Executive Summary

The Executive Order presents a moderate threat to democratic principles, particularly through its targeting of public broadcasters based on alleged bias. It reflects authoritarian governance patterns and potential constitutional violations, particularly concerning free speech and press protections. The consolidation of power over media funding raises urgent concerns about the independence of journalism and the integrity of democratic discourse.

### Top Key Findings

- ✓ **[Rule of Law]** The order could circumvent existing laws that protect media funding based on impartiality.
- ✓ **[Rule of Law]** It raises questions about the legality of terminating funding without due process.
- ✓ **[Democratic Erosion]** The document reflects a trend of diminishing support for independent media.

Framework Scores



Rule of Law	<div style="width: 40%;"></div>	40
Democratic Erosion	<div style="width: 52%;"></div>	52
Power Consolidation	<div style="width: 60%;"></div>	60
Historical Precedent	<div style="width: 46%;"></div>	46
Authoritarian Patterns	<div style="width: 55%;"></div>	55
Constitutional Violations	<div style="width: 45%;"></div>	45

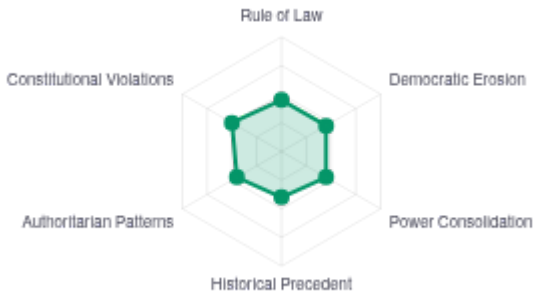
Executive Summary

The executive order demonstrates moderate but concerning authoritarian tendencies through its punitive approach toward disfavored media outlets. While operating within technical legal boundaries via severability clauses and appropriation caveats, it establishes dangerous precedents for viewpoint-based funding decisions and executive interference in public broadcasting independence. The most significant threats emerge from the normalization of content-based discrimination without due process and the consolidation of media oversight within the executive branch.

Top Key Findings

- ✓ **[Rule of Law]** Procedural shortcuts in determining funding eligibility
- ✓ **[Rule of Law]** Selective application of statutory requirements
- ✓ **[Democratic Erosion]** Undermining institutional independence of public media

## Framework Scores



Rule of Law	<div style="width: 45%;"></div>	45
Democratic Erosion	<div style="width: 45%;"></div>	45
Power Consolidation	<div style="width: 45%;"></div>	45
Historical Precedent	<div style="width: 40%;"></div>	40
Authoritarian Patterns	<div style="width: 45%;"></div>	45
Constitutional Violations	<div style="width: 50%;"></div>	50

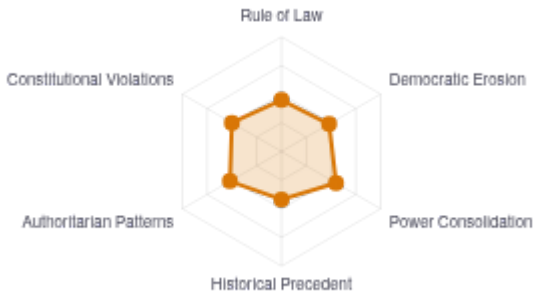
## Executive Summary

Executive Order 14290 represents a moderate threat to democratic governance primarily through its potential violation of separation of powers and appropriation laws. While defunding public media is a policy debate, using an Executive Order to unilaterally cease congressionally appropriated funds raises significant Rule of Law and Constitutional concerns. The order employs authoritarian patterns by delegitimizing independent media as 'biased' to justify financial strangulation, which aligns with historical tactics used to weaken institutional checks on executive power. However, it stops short of direct censorship or dissolution of institutions, keeping the threat within the moderate range rather than critical.

## Top Key Findings

- ✓ **[Rule of Law]** Potential conflict with Impoundment Control Act of 1974
- ✓ **[Rule of Law]** Ambiguity in statutory authority for unilateral defunding
- ✓ **[Democratic Erosion]** Undermining trust in public information infrastructure

## Framework Scores



Rule of Law	<div><div style="width: 45%;"></div></div>	45
Democratic Erosion	<div><div style="width: 48%;"></div></div>	48
Power Consolidation	<div><div style="width: 55%;"></div></div>	55
Historical Precedent	<div><div style="width: 42%;"></div></div>	42
Authoritarian Patterns	<div><div style="width: 52%;"></div></div>	52
Constitutional Violations	<div><div style="width: 50%;"></div></div>	50

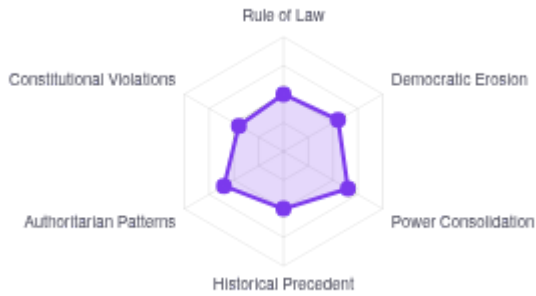
## Executive Summary

This document shows moderate constitutional concerns with an overall threat score of 49/100. Key concerns include: The selective targeting of named media organizations based on the President's subjective determination of 'bias' constitutes viewpoint discrimination and mirrors classic authoritarian strategies of media capture through economic strangulation..

## Top Key Findings

- ✓ **[Authoritarian Patterns]** Targeted punishment of specific media outlets based on subjective content analysis and accusations of 'bias'
- ✓ **[Authoritarian Patterns]** Utilization of state funding mechanisms as leverage to control media narrative and eliminate critical coverage

### Framework Scores



Rule of Law	50
Democratic Erosion	55
Power Consolidation	65
Historical Precedent	50
Authoritarian Patterns	60
Constitutional Violations	45

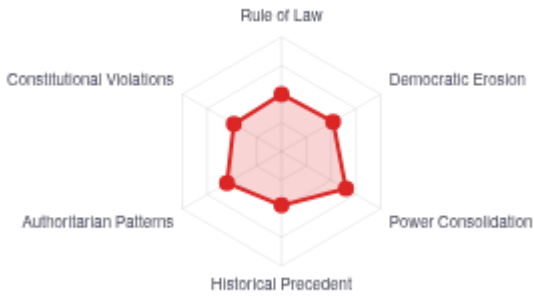
### Executive Summary

This Executive Order represents a concerning pattern of executive overreach targeting specific media organizations. While the government has discretion over funding decisions, the order’s approach—naming specific outlets, declaring them biased without process, and directing an independent agency to defund them—raises significant constitutional and rule of law concerns. The First Amendment prohibits viewpoint discrimination, and the CPB’s statutory independence appears to be circumvented. The order follows patterns identified by democratic erosion scholars: using state power against critical media, undermining institutional norms, and centralizing power. While the order includes legal caveats ('consistent with applicable law'), its structure suggests the outcome is predetermined. This is not routine administrative action but a targeted effort against specific media entities, representing a moderate-to-high threat to democratic norms and institutional integrity.

### Top Key Findings

- ✓ **[Rule of Law]** Order includes 'consistent with applicable law' language but presumes legal authority that may not exist
- ✓ **[Rule of Law]** Pre-determines statutory noncompliance without formal investigation or hearing
- ✓ **[Democratic Erosion]** Politicizes public media funding decisions that were designed to be insulated from political pressure

## Framework Scores



Rule of Law	<div style="width: 50%;"><div style="width: 50%;"></div></div>	50
Democratic Erosion	<div style="width: 52%;"><div style="width: 52%;"></div></div>	52
Power Consolidation	<div style="width: 65%;"><div style="width: 65%;"></div></div>	65
Historical Precedent	<div style="width: 47%;"><div style="width: 47%;"></div></div>	47
Authoritarian Patterns	<div style="width: 55%;"><div style="width: 55%;"></div></div>	55
Constitutional Violations	<div style="width: 48%;"><div style="width: 48%;"></div></div>	48

## Executive Summary

The executive order represents a moderate threat to democratic norms through its targeted defunding of specific media organizations based on subjective accusations of bias. While framed as eliminating taxpayer support for 'biased' media, the order establishes dangerous precedents: (1) executive branch determination of media 'fairness' standards, (2) punitive action against disfavored media organizations, and (3) circumvention of congressional authority over public broadcasting funding. The threat is moderated by the order's recognition of legal constraints ('consistent with applicable law') and severability provisions, but the underlying pattern of using administrative power to punish critical media aligns with authoritarian playbooks for undermining independent institutions.

## Top Key Findings

- ✓ **[Rule of Law]** Bypasses legislative process for policy change
- ✓ **[Rule of Law]** Uses executive order for what should be appropriations decisions
- ✓ **[Democratic Erosion]** Attacks independent media institutions

## Framework Scores



Rule of Law	<div style="width: 62%;"><div style="width: 62%;"></div></div>	62
Democratic Erosion	<div style="width: 70%;"><div style="width: 70%;"></div></div>	70
Power Consolidation	<div style="width: 75%;"><div style="width: 75%;"></div></div>	75
Historical Precedent	<div style="width: 64%;"><div style="width: 64%;"></div></div>	64
Authoritarian Patterns	<div style="width: 72%;"><div style="width: 72%;"></div></div>	72
Constitutional Violations	<div style="width: 65%;"><div style="width: 65%;"></div></div>	65

## Executive Summary

The Executive Order represents a significant escalatory move in the consolidation of executive power over the information environment. By using the 'power of the purse' to bypass the statutory independence of the CPB, the order attempts to exert editorial control through financial strangulation. While framed as 'taxpayer protection,' the framework analyses reveal a pattern of viewpoint discrimination and the weaponization of administrative audits (HHS/Compliance checks) to achieve political ends. This aligns with modern 'democratic backsliding' techniques where legal and administrative tools are used to weaken independent institutions rather than using overt violence or censorship.

## Top Key Findings

- ✓ **[Rule of Law]** Vague standards ('biased') allow for arbitrary enforcement and selective prosecution.
- ✓ **[Rule of Law]** Undermining established legal protections for station licensees.
- ✓ **[Democratic Erosion]** Levitsky & Ziblatt's 'Referees' and 'Opponents' framework: Weakening independent media 'watchdogs' who provide accountability.

# 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: 35–70 — Spread: **35pts**  
High variance between models

⚠ **Authoritarian Patterns** Range: 40–72 — Spread: **32pts**  
High variance between models

⚠ **Power Consolidation** Range: 45–75 — Spread: **30pts**  
High variance between models

⚠ **Historical Precedent** Range: 38–64 — Spread: **26pts**  
High variance between models

⚠ **Rule of Law** Range: 40–62 — Spread: **22pts**  
High variance between models

⚠ **Constitutional Violations** Range: 45–65 — Spread: **20pts**  
High variance between models

## 📋 Consolidated Recommendations

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

**Conduct a thorough review of the implications of this Executive Order on media independence.**

Suggested by 1 model: gpt-4o-mini

**Congress should reaffirm CPB's independence and its exclusive authority over funding decisions**

Suggested by 1 model: glm-5

**Congressional oversight hearings on CPB independence preservation**

Suggested by 1 model: deepseek-v3.2

**Congressional oversight hearings to reaffirm the independence of the CPB Board.**

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

**Congressional reaffirmation of CPB's statutory independence**

Suggested by 1 model: deepseek-r1-0528

**Congressional review of Executive Order compliance with Appropriations Clause**

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

**Engage in public discourse about the importance of unbiased public broadcasting and its role in democracy.**

Suggested by 1 model: gpt-4o-mini