

The Role of AI-Based Intelligent Systems in Public Policy Formulation

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1. Round 1

1.1 Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The sentence “It appears that inattention to the public needs of the people constitutes public problems...” requires a clearer conceptual definition. Consider offering a formal definition before using the term in applied arguments, as this will enhance analytical precision throughout the manuscript.

In the methodology section, the manuscript lists the six-step thematic analysis model but does not explain why this method is particularly suited to the research aims. Provide reasoning that distinguishes it from other qualitative methodologies.

The paragraph describing semi-structured interviews does not specify how questions were formulated, tested, or refined. Including a description of pilot testing, reliability checks, or expert validation would significantly enhance methodological transparency.

In the findings section, numerous basic themes are listed, such as “The sovereignty does not identify and formulate policy for the people's real public problem.” To enhance credibility, include direct anonymized interview excerpts showing how these themes emerged.

The manuscript states that experts reviewed the coding process, but does not detail how agreement was measured. Report inter-coder agreement procedures or describe how discrepancies were resolved to reinforce analytical rigor.

The section discussing system hierarchy introduces helpful concepts but does not explicitly connect these ideas to the intelligent policy formulation model. Strengthening the theoretical linkage would improve conceptual cohesion.

The manuscript describes both system types but merges their roles when applied to policymaking. A more explicit delineation of what each contributes—and where their limitations lie—would improve conceptual clarity.

Tables 1–7 present themes, but the narrative does not clearly synthesize how these categories interact. Add a section or figure that visually connects basic themes → organizing themes → global themes → final theoretical model.

Author revised the manuscript and uploaded the updated document.

1.2 Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

In the paragraph beginning “Numerous public problems are observed at the societal level...”, the shift to AI capabilities occurs abruptly. A bridging explanation is needed to connect classical agenda-setting theory with the introduction of technological intervention.

The statement “AI can better identify the priorities and urgencies of public problems...” presents an exclusively positive portrayal. A balanced discussion of risks—such as bias, opacity, and misalignment with democratic accountability—would strengthen the argument.

When describing capabilities such as processing complex problems and interfacing with society, the manuscript assumes high scalability. Consider addressing computational, organizational, or infrastructural constraints.

Statements such as “The Intelligent System can be trusted by the people and the sovereignty” would benefit from more elaborate discussion. Explain what mechanisms—transparency, auditability, oversight—would help establish trust.

In several places, such as where you note “No fatigue...” and “Infinite memory...”, the manuscript overemphasizes AI’s superiority. A more nuanced discussion of situations where human judgment remains essential is recommended.

The proposal for a national intelligent policy formulation system would likely generate institutional resistance. Include at least a brief reflection on implementation barriers, governance concerns, or cultural limitations.

Author revised the manuscript and uploaded the updated document.

2. Revised

Editor’s decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief’s decision: Accepted.