

Other mechanisms involved

- American sentiments towards political violence
- Mainstream GOP politicians continue to engage in Trumpism for personal gain
- Armed groups and militant organizations
- Large numbers of disillusioned military veterans (including combat veterans)
- The Republican Party functions as a neofascist party
- The continued installation of Trump loyalists to positions critical for a constitutional crisis
- Accelerationist terrorist groups
- Voter suppression efforts
- Political barbarism
- The asymmetry of what small numbers/a minority can achieve

How it could unfold

- January 6th-like event
- Constitutional coup
- Via the Left: backlash to Bush v Gore-like electoral upset OR another loss of electoral college despite winning popular vote
- Entrenched minoritarian government
- Dems won't address the drivers of polarization even if they retain power
- Competent authoritarian inherits Trumpism
- Mutiny in military
- High-level of dysfunction in place of destabilization

Counterarguments to the possibility and respective rebuttals

- Historically a low-probability event
- Democratic norms and institutions prevailed in January 6th insurrection
- America has been in this position before and managed to find a way out
- This political moment is an aberration
- The majority is on the side of democracy
- Politicians will draw a line before it gets too far
- Big business will not allow authoritarianism or civil conflict
- The military and intelligence community won't allow destabilization
- We can function in a polarized society where there are two different realities
- Prediction markets don't rate it high
- America is the oldest democracy and will require more than following the pattern of other democracies turned regimes or civil conflicts
- Destabilization could be beneficial for X-risk coordination from an accelerationist point of view
- Our politics are less violent and we are more of a democracy this century than we have ever been in the past