

## **Civil Society: From Local to Global**

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Department of Political Science and International Relations

Fall 2007

MW 2:00 pm - 3:15 pm

Lecture Center 108

Office Hours: M 10-12 and 3:45-5:00

W 3:45-5:00 or by appointment

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The field of International Relations has been dominated by questions pertinent to the state and intergovernmental organizations. In recent years there has been growing literature on global civil society, transnational actors and the role of non-state actors in international politics. This course focuses on non-state actors in international politics. We will explore the role of transnational advocacy networks (TANs), international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) and transnational social movement organizations (TSMOs). The focus is on the debates about global civil society: What is global civil society? Does global civil society have an impact on international relations between states? Does it influence local politics within states? How global is 'global' civil society?

### **Course Requirements**

#### **Attendance and Class Activities**

Students are required to attend class regularly. Unless excused in advance or you have proof of emergency, you may not miss more than 2 class periods without penalty. Do not come to class late. If you walk in late, you are responsible for getting the instructor to mark you present after class. 3 late arrivals equal an absence up to two absences, after the 6<sup>th</sup> lateness all late arrivals are counted as absent.

Students are expected to come to class prepared to participate. I would like discussions to be focused on the relevant topic, but the expression of varying viewpoints is encouraged.

#### **Readings**

Students are required to do all the readings for the week before coming to class.

There are two books available in the bookstore:

Keck, Margaret & Kathryn Sikkink, *Activists Beyond Borders* (Cornell, 1998).

Friedman, Elisabeth Jay, Kathryn Hochstetler, Ann Marie Clark *Sovereignty, Democracy, and Global Civil Society State-Society Relations at UN World Conferences* in Global Politics (SUNY Press, 2005)

### **Additional Readings Available on BB:**

- Bob, Cilfford. 2001 "Marketing Rebellion: Insurgent groups, international media and NGO support" *International Politics*, 38 (311-333)
- Boli, John and George Thomas, "INGOs and Organization of World Culture" in *Constructing World Culture*, Boli and Thomas, eds. (1999).
- Cooley and Ron, 2002. "The NGO Scramble: Organizational Insecurity and Political Economy of Transnational Action" *International Security*, 27 5 (5-39).
- Neera Chandhoke, "The Limits of Global Civil Society," pp. 35-53, in: Marlies Glasius, Mary Kaldor, and Helmut Anheier (eds.), *Global Civil Society 2002* (Oxford, 2002)
- Jacqui True; Michael Mintrom "Transnational Networks and Policy Diffusion: The Case of Gender Mainstreaming" *International Studies Quarterly*, Vol. 45, No. 1. (Mar., 2001), pp. 27-57.
- Kelly, Christine and Joel Lefkowitz "Radical and Pragmatic: United Students against Sweatshops" (83-97).
- Leslie Sklair, "Social Movements for Global Capitalism: The Transnational Capitalist Class in Action," *Review of International Political Economy* Vol 4, 3 (Sept. 1997): 514-38
- Okumu, Wafula. "Humanitarian International NGOs and African Conflicts" *International Peacekeeping*, Spring2003, Vol. 10 Issue 1, p120-137,
- Rigby, Andrew. 2001. "Humanitarian assistance and conflict management: the view from the non-governmental sector" *International Affairs*. 4 (957-966).
- Risse Kappen, Thomas, 1994. "Ideas do not float freely: transnational coalitions, domestic structures and the end of the cold war" *International Organization* Vol 48,2 (185-214).
- Ron, James, Howard, Ramos, and Kathleen Rodgers. 2005. "Transnational Information Politics: NGO Human Rights Reporting" *International Studies Quarterly*, Vol 49 (557-587)
- Tarrow, Sidney, "Transnational Politics: Contentious Institutions in International Politics," *Annual Review of Political Science* 4 (2001):1-20,
- Wapner, Politics Beyond Borders: Environmental Activism and World Civic Politics (311-340)
- Smith, Jackie and Dawn Wiest, 2005 "Uneven Geography of Global Civil Society: National and Global Influences on Transnational Association" *Social Forces*, vol 84-2 (621-652)

### **Papers and Presentations**

Students are expected to present on a specific topic related to human rights, environment or development on the designated dates in class. This presentation will be a part of a group of students coordinating on similar issue topics. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with a specific NGO or transnational network and a campaign targeting state and/or intergovernmental organization.

There are two papers: first paper is about the organization and their campaign on the chosen issue. There will be a second paper building on the initial presentation and paper. The final paper should include an analysis of the organization based on one of the hypothesis presented in class. A more detailed assignment will be provided during the semester.

## Exams

There will be two written in-class exams. These exams are made up of essay and short answer questions.

## Grading Policy

Mid Term Exam	20%
Final Exam	25%
Paper 1	10%
Paper 2	20%
Group Presentation	10%
Class Participation/attendance	15%
Total	100%

### WARNING!!!

**You are responsible for all of the policies explained in this syllabus. Ignorance of these policies is not an acceptable excuse for failing to meet the course requirements. You are encouraged to read over this syllabus very carefully and refer to it regularly throughout the course. On rare occasion, changes in policy which supersede the syllabus may be announced in class. You are responsible for knowing any updated policies regardless of whether you were in attendance when new policies were announced.**

**Note: It is the policy of SUNY New Paltz to provide reasonable accommodation for qualified individuals with disabilities. Students in need should contact the Disability Resource Center in room 205 of the Student Union Building or phone (845) 257-3020 for more information.**

**Note: Students should be aware of and adhere to all college academic integrity policies in regard to cheating, forgery, and plagiarism.**

**Note: If questions arise about class cancellations or delays due to snow or other conditions call 257-INFO.**

## Course Outline

Date	Topic and Reading
Aug 27	Introductions and course expectations
<b>Global Civil Society: How do we define it? What is its role in IR?</b>	
Aug 29	Global Civil Society Boli and Thomas, INGOs and the Organization of World Culture (13-49)
Sept 5	Role of domestic structure Risse-Kappen, Ideas do not float freely.

Sept 10	Transnational Activist Networks Keck and Sikkink, <i>Activists Beyond Borders</i> Ch 1 (1-38)
Sept 12	Role of International institutions Sidney Tarrow, <i>Transnational Politics</i> .
<b>Sovereignty, Democracy and Global Civil Society</b>	
Sept 17	State-Society Relation and impact of civil society Friedman, Ch 1-2 (1-67)
Sept 19	United Nations and civil society Friedman (69-97)
Sept 24	Bargaining over sovereignty Friedman (97-157)
Sept 26	Is Global Civil Society transforming global democracy? Friedman (157-172)
Oct 1	Review and/or catch up
Oct 3	<b>Exam 1</b>
<b>Human Rights</b>	
Oct 8	Human Rights Advocacy Networks In Latin America Keck and Sikkink, Ch 3 79-120
Oct 10	What shapes the agendas of Human Rights INGOs? Ron, Ramos, Howard, <i>Transnational Information Politics</i> (557-587)
Oct 15	Access to international supporters: Bob, <i>Marketing Rebellion</i> (311-333)
Oct 17	Gender Mainstreaming True and Mintrom, <i>Transnational Networks and Policy Diffusion</i> (27-57)
Oct 22	Human Trafficking (TBA)
Oct 24	Student Activism and Anti-sweatshop movement Kelly and Lefkowitz, <i>Radical and Pragmatic</i>
Oct 29	Human Rights and current problems discussion <b>(Paper 1 due for Group 1)</b>

<b>Environment</b>	
Oct 31	Environmental Advocacy Networks Keck and Sikkink, Ch 4 121-165
Nov 5	Environmental Activism and civil politics Wapner, Politics Beyond Borders: Environmental Activism and World Civic Politics (311-340)
Nov 7	Environment and current problems discussion <b>(Paper 1 due for Group 2)</b>
<b>Poverty, Development and Humanitarian Assistance</b>	
Nov 12	North South Divide Smith and Wiest, Uneven Geography of Global Civil Society (621-652)
Nov 14	Humanitarian Assistance Okumu, Wafula, Humanitarian International NGOs and African Conflicts
Nov 19	Humanitarian Assistance cont Andrew Rigby, Humanitarian assistance and conflict management (957-66)
Nov 26	North South divide current problems discussion <b>(Paper 1 due for Group 3)</b>
<b>Global Economy and Civil Society</b>	
Nov 28	Global Economic System and Civil Society Sklair, Social Movements for Global Capitalism (514-38)
Dec 3	Global Economic System and Civil Society Cooley and Ron, The NGO Scramble (5-39) <b>(Paper 2 due for all)</b>
Dec 5	Chandhoke, Limits of Global Civil Society (35-53)
Dec 10	Wrap up!

**Final: YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE TO VERIFY THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS CORRECT!**

MONDAY, DEC 17 02:30-04:30PM