

TRANSNATIONAL ACTORS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GLOBAL POLITICS



TRANSNATIONAL ACTORS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GLOBAL POLITICS

In diplomacy, international law, journalism, and academic analysis, it is widely assumed that international relations consist of the relations between coherent units called states. This chapter will argue that better understanding of political change is obtained by analysing the relations between governments and many other actors from each country. Global politics also includes companies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).*

*From textbook: John Baylis, Steve Smith, Patricia Owens ed., *The Globalization of World Politics*, Oxford UP, 2014.

TRANSNATIONAL ACTORS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GLOBAL POLITICS

Thus the five main categories of political actors in the global system are:

- nearly 200 governments, including 193 members of the UN;
- 103,800 transnational companies (TNCs), such as ExxonMobil, Shell, Wal-Mart, Mitsubishi, Volkswagen, General Electric, Hewlett-Packard, Arcelor-Mittal, Vodaphone, Microsoft, or Nestle, with these parent companies having 892,100 foreign affiliates;
- around 10,800 single-country non-governmental organizations, such as World Development Movement (UK) or the Sierra Club (USA), which engage in significant international activities;

TRANSNATIONAL ACTORS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GLOBAL POLITICS

- 262 intergovernmental organizations (IGOs), such as the UN, NATO, the European Union, or the International Coffee Organization, plus more than 2,500 regular autonomous conferences and treaty review bodies; and
- 8,400 international non-governmental organizations (INGOs), such as Amnesty International, the Baptist World Alliance, or the International Chamber of Shipping, plus a similar number of less well-established international caucuses and networks of NGOs.

TRANSNATIONAL ACTORS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GLOBAL POLITICS

All these actors play a regular part in global politics, and each government interacts with a range of non-state actors. Sometimes guerrilla groups challenge the authority of particular governments. In addition, even though they are considered not to be legitimate participants in the system, terrorists and other criminal gangs have an impact-often minor, but sometimes in a major way. Very many more companies and NGOs operate only in a single country, but have the potential to expand into other countries.

TRANSNATIONAL ACTORS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GLOBAL POLITICS

Nobody can deny the proliferation of these organizations and the range of their activities. The controversial questions are whether the non-state world has significance in its own right and whether it makes any difference to the analysis of inter-state relations. It is possible to define international relations as covering the relations between states. This is known as the state-centric approach, or realism. Then it is only a tautology (true by definition) to say that non-state actors are of secondary importance.

TRANSNATIONAL ACTORS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GLOBAL POLITICS

A more openended approach, known as pluralism, is based on the assumption that all types of actor can affect political outcomes. The very phrase 'non-state' actors implies that states are dominant and other actors are secondary. An alternative phrase, transnational actors, has been coined by academics in order to assert forcefully that international relations are not limited to governments, and that other actors operate across country boundaries. This chapter will first consider how assumptions made about 'states' inhibit analysis of transnational actors and international organizations. Then the nature of each different type of actor will be outlined. Finally, the case will be argued for always considering the activities of a range of political actors.

IR GRAMMER EXERCISES

Finally, the commissioners settled on a short, simple, constitutional amendment granting Congress the authority to ---- guidelines for selecting temporary members in an emergency.

- a) hold up
- b) bring down
- c) call out
- d) serve up
- e) set up

In the 1990s the Belgian government was involved in numerous scandals that contaminated it with a reputation for incompetence and ----.

- a) participation
- b) despair
- c) corruption
- d) dislike
- e) certainty

IR GRAMMER EXERCISES

In 1968, Bermuda, which used to be a British colony, was ---- a new constitution and autonomy except for foreign relations, defense and internal security.

- a) leased
- b) exploited
- c) appropriated
- d) granted
- e) abolished

The Council of Europe, the continent's oldest political organization, was ---- in 1949 to defend, among other things, human rights and the rule of law.

- a) set up
- b) pulled through
- c) set aside
- d) put up
- e) made out

ULUSLARARASI KURULUŞLAR

T.C. Dışişleri Bakanlığı
Tercüme Dairesi Başkanlığı

Kasım 2014

Avrupa Yatırım Bankası	EIB	European Investment Bank	EIB
Bağımsız Devletler Topluluğu	CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States	CIS
Balistik Füze Yayılmasına Karşı Lahey Davranış İlkeleri Rehberi	HCOC	The Hague Code of Conduct Against Ballistic Missile Proliferation	HCOC
Baltık Asamblesi	BA	Baltic Assembly	BA
Baltık Bakanlar Konseyi		Baltic Council of Ministers	
Baltık Denizi Çevre Koruma Komisyonu (Helsinki Komisyonu)	HELCOM	Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission	HELCOM
Baltık Denizi Parlamento Konferansı	BSPC	Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference	BSPC
Barents Avrupa-Arktik Konseyi	BEAC	Barents Euro-Arctic Council	BEAC
Batı Afrika Ülkeleri Ekonomik Topluluğu	ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States	ECOWAS
Batı Afrika Ülkeleri Ekonomik ve Parasal Birliği	UEMOA	West African Economic and Monetary Union	UEMOA
Batı Afrika Yatırım Bankası	BOAD	West African Development Bank	BOAD
Birleşmiş Milletler	BM	United Nations	UN
Afet Yönetimi ve Olağanüstü Hallerde Müdahale Amaçlı Uzay Kaynaklı Bilgi için BM Platformu	UN-SPIDER	United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response	UN-SPIDER
Birleşmiş Milletler Afet Riskinin Azaltılması Uluslararası Stratejisi	UNISDR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction	UNISDR
Birleşmiş Milletler Asya ve Pasifik Ekonomik Komisyonu	UNESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	UNESCAP
Birleşmiş Milletler Avrupa Ekonomik Komisyonu	AEK	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe	UNECE
Birleşmiş Milletler Barışı İnşa Komisyonu	PBC	United Nations Peace Building Commission	PBC
Birleşmiş Milletler Biyolojik Çeşitlilik Sözleşmesi	UN CBD	United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity	UN CBD
Birleşmiş Milletler Bütçe ve İdare Konuları Danışma Komitesi	ACABQ	The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions	ACABQ
BM Cinsiyet Eşitliği ve Kadının Güçlendirilmesi Birimi	UN Women	UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women	UN Women
Birleşmiş Milletler Çevre Programı	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	UNEP
BM Cinsiyet Eşitliği ve Kadının Güçlendirilmesi Birimi	UN Women	UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women	UN Women
Birleşmiş Milletler Çocuk Fonu	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund	UNICEF
Birleşmiş Milletler Çocuk Hakları Komitesi	CRC	UN Committee on the Rights of the Child	CRC
Birleşmiş Milletler Çölleşme ile Mücadele Sözleşmesi	UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification	UNCCD
Birleşmiş Milletler Dünya Gıda Programı	WFP	United Nations World Food Programme	WFP
Birleşmiş Milletler Dünya Turizm Örgütü	UNWTO	United Nations World Tourism Organization	UNWTO
Birleşmiş Milletler Eğitim, Bilim ve Kültür Örgütü	UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	UNESCO
UNESCO Dünya Miras Komitesi	DMK	UNESCO World Heritage Committee	WHC
UNESCO Somut Olmayan Kültürel Mirasın Korunması Hükümetlerarası Komitesi		UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage	
Birleşmiş Milletler Enformasyon Merkezi	UNIC	United Nations Information Centre	UNIC