

[David Fogelson](#)

March 8th Reaction Paper

Posted: Mar 8, 2005 4:43 AM

Keck and Sikkink, Activists Beyond Borders

These two chapters discuss the nuts and bolts of transnational advocating networks, give a brief history of the environmental breed, and discuss two cases. The authors go into detail about campaigns, and how they work their message into the transnational scenes. Most important to these campaigns is the "boomerang effect," requiring organizations to work through international states and NGOs to influence their state through a variety of political methods. The cases were demonstrative of these networks, but were surprisingly unsuccessful in terms of their stated goals, especially the Sarawak case, though there were indirect important accomplishments. How might these organizations have moved more effectively in accomplishing their objectives?

Rodrigues, "Advocating for the Environment"

Rodrigues compares three case studies in Rondonia Brazil, Ecuador's Oriente, and Nimir Valley, India with the Narmada network. She does this to show how transnational advocacy networks succeed and fail. She states that they must work towards different strategies, but mainly think on the local, national, and international level, preparing for a variety of results and backlash that may occur. These organizations seemed to have been shooting stars, shining in their early stages, and fizzing out towards the end. Could they have prepared better to cope with the obstacles they encountered after early successes? How so?

Reimann, "Building Networks from the Outside In"

Japan is a perfect example of the power of transnational network advocacy. In a country where the barriers to establish and maintain an NGO are insurmountable, the late 90's were a banner year for an increase in these organizations. This was mainly due to the influence international organizations had on the Japanese government and the resources they wielded in terms of funding, media and other resources. It was this type of effort that led to the Kyoto Protocol. It's amazing to think that civil society would be such a hard thing to establish in a "Northern democracy" like Japan. What other places are like Japan was before COP3?