

Reaction Paper for Week 3
Student 1

The transnational nongovernmental organizations carry out their activist work through a very important dimension, which is also defined as “**world civic politics**”. They shape the public affairs by setting up a network within and across the whole societies without directly pressuring states. This dimension exists above the individual and below the state, but also across national boundaries. For more details, they achieve this attempt by doing work in three directions:

---- They disseminate scientific information to the public. They bring hidden spots of the globe into people’s daily life and make them to be bear witness and be informed the seriousness of the environmental abuse.

---- They play an important role in convincing corporations to alter their practice. The convince is achieved neither by directing efforts to governments and politicians, nor by organizing constituent pressuring. The economic realm/social responsible investment works. (*Question remains for SRI*)

----- They play role in developing countries for natural resource conservation by focusing more on human communities and the local economic development. They link human economic well-being with environmental protection.

Although the transnational nongovernmental organizations play important role in the environmental conservation by leading special functions beyond the states and take over some functions previously held by the government, the evolving relationship between states and the organizations must be achieved within the context of globalization for the following three reasons:

---- NGOs have advantages in identifying environmental issues, acting as the guardian of the environment by using the public diplomatic and political pressure.

---- Special roles in the international negotiations and decision-making process.

----- Collaborations with the grassroots for smaller scale projects for short-term effects.

----- International environmental accords

----- Function of monitoring compliance

----- The development of information technology plays significant roles for NGO function evolution.

From basic natural protection to civil activist, then to the international wide decision-making looks like one perspective of the NGO’s developing paths. On this path, I think the most crucial step might be the well-established management structure which will decide whether the organization could expand its function from oppositional position to an international wide position.