

THE NGO ACADEMY'S

Advocacy Algorithm



with Karen Judd Smith

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Advocacy Algorithm



Module IV: Lesson 20

NGO Diplomacy & Influence

NGOs & Global Complexity

- 1972: 39 democratic countries
- 2002: 139 democratic countries
- Increasing dissatisfaction with representational democracy ie. voting is inadequate involvement
- Govt. have to increasingly listen to their citizens eg. UK Royal Society for the Protection of Birds > 3 main political parties together
- NGO diplomats represent issues that transcend national boundaries and affect the global commons

NGOs & Global Complexity

- NGOs as stakeholders
- NGOs subdivided into:
 - environmental
 - community based organizations
 - social movements
- Re. NGO Diplomacy, we are differentiating activism here from social movements that mobilize networks through protest or disruptive actions that seek to encourage mass participation.

NGO Diplomacy

Citizen or “track two diplomacy”

- NGO representatives represent constituencies that are not bound by territory but by common values, knowledge, and/or interests related to a specific issue
- Diplomats are actors who act on the behalf of a clearly identified constituency.
- Some negotiations cannot be understood in terms of inter-state diplomacy
- (see Starkey, Boyer, and Wilkenfeld 2005).

NGO Diplomacy

- Not necessarily outside the realm of formal, inter-state politics
- More often seen this way for issues of environment & sustainable development
- Also, historically, in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice issues (just hasn't had the press)
- NGO diplomats perform many of the same functions as state delegates: they represent the interests of their constituencies, they engage in information exchange, they negotiate, and they provide policy advice

NGO Diplomacy

NGOs effect both the process and the outcomes

- Traditionally, the types of NGOs that have been considered in studies addressing issues of NGO influence: environmental, social, scientific, & business/industry.
- 3 types of NGOs: advocacy, research and outreach
- It would be also useful to be able to consider whether NGOs are generally more influential in particular arenas, and if so, why.

NGO Diplomacy

Many NGOs attend negotiations to take advantage of the opportunities to network with other NGOs; they show very little interest in engaging in NGO diplomacy—more general influence

- More immediate effects of NGO diplomacy take place through specific negotiating situations

NGO Influence

- The difficulty of definitively identifying NGO influence is ongoing.
- Some studies are being done, but still no definitive outcomes...
- My own “case study”
- Connects to “idea whose time has come” but without the trigger and the energy, would never have happened







MIDDLE EAST PEACE INITIATIVE

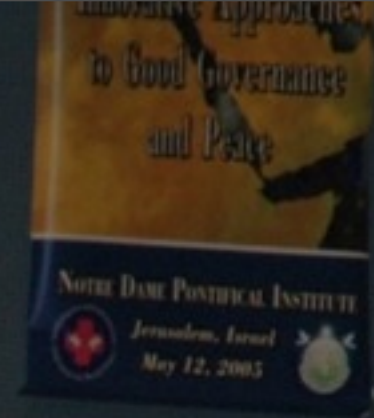
Women of Peace

Women Building Peace through Heart to Heart Reconciliation and Loving Service

JERUSALEM • MAY 21-28, 2004







Eliezer Glaubach

Karen Smith

Howard Nielson

Glen Segell

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United Nations

A/RES/59/23



General Assembly

Distr: General
11 November 2004
Original: English

Fifty-ninth session
Agenda item 35

Resolutions adopted by the General Assembly

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/59/L.15/Rev.1 and Add.1)]

59/23. Promotion of interreligious dialogue

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

At the UN, governments and religious NGOs convene a peace conference

UNITED NATIONS – At its heart, the United Nations is a secular institution. The UN Charter, for example, does not mention religion, other than to encourage nations not to discriminate on religious grounds when it comes to human rights.

And for many years, in both official and unofficial activities, the UN kept its distance from religion, preferring to deal with other ideologies and challenges that seemed more directly related to the UN's basic mission of promoting world peace.

More recently, however, and especially since the 9/11 attacks, many at the UN have come to recognize that religion is a force in world events that must be addressed.

Perhaps the most significant recent evidence of this trend can be seen in the coming together of an unusual group here on 22 June 2005 to discuss the increasing need to address interfaith harmony in world affairs.

Held in Conference Room Four at UN headquarters, the day-long "Conference on Interfaith Cooperation for Peace" brought together three distinct groups — governments, UN agencies, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Sponsors said it was the first time ever that representatives of those three groups have convened a substantive interfaith event at the United Nations.

"Religions lie at the heart of each culture and civilization," said Alberto G. Romulo, Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines, who opened the event. "We look forward to a more proactive approach of religious NGOs, in partnership with governments, in promoting sustainable peace

List of Speakers No. 1 – 4 October 2007

LS-HLDIU

GENERAL ASSEMBLY – SIXTY-SECOND SESSION
HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE ON INTERRELIGIOUS AND INTERCULTURAL
UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION FOR PEACE

PLENARY MEETINGS
4 – 5 October 2007
10:00 a.m.

General Assembly Hall

17th plenary meeting

1. PHILIPPINES (VP)
2. PAKISTAN (CD)
3. SAN MARINO (HG/FM)
4. ARMENIA (M)
5. BANGLADESH (M)
6. UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (M)
7. LEBANON (M)
8. THAILAND (M)
9. BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA (M)
10. SURINAME (M)
11. COTE D'IVOIRE (M)
12. SENEGAL (M)
13. GHANA (M)
14. SAUDI ARABIA (M)
15. NICARAGUA (M)
16. RUSSIAN FEDERATION (M)
17. AZERBAIJAN (M)
18. AUSTRALIA (Senator)
19. PORTUGAL (on behalf of the

41. VENEZUELA (BOLIVARIAN
REPUBLIC OF (CD)
42. SRI LANKA (CD)
43. ALGERIA (CD)
44. COLOMBIA (CD)
45. INDONESIA (CD)
46. PANAMA (CD)
47. KUWAIT (CD)
48. QATAR (CD)
49. NORWAY (CD)
50. GUATEMALA (CD)
51. UZBEKISTAN (CD)
52. CHINA (CD)
53. FINLAND (CD)
54. JORDAN (CD)
55. CROATIA (CD)
56. JAPAN (CD)
57. TAJIKISTAN (CD)
58. SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC (CD)
59. TUNISIA (CD)
60. MOROCCO (CD)

NGO Influence

What takes place in the formal negotiations are ALSO influenced by what take place domestically. ie international negotiations are influenced at different levels... the international and the domestic.

- Therefore, while the influence may not be direct, NGOs engaged in the domestic context necessarily influence international negotiations.
- Strategic domestic influence is that which impacts international negotiations

Stages of Influence

Negotiation processes and outcomes are influenced during the international meetings, AND

- Multilateral negotiations are also influenced during the pre-negotiation/agenda setting phases
- ie consider “How did those negotiations come about in the first place?”