

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

Government, civil society and private regulation in transnational governance

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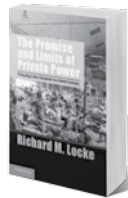
The development of transnational rules, norms and standards to regulate markets has involved government, civil society, and private firms. Many emphasize the role of social movements and private actors in the rise and development of regulation of business conduct. Governments, however, still remain involved and engaged in transnational governance in diverse areas such as finance, food safety, CSR, corruption, biodiversity, labor and human rights. Our efforts to understand transnational dynamics need to bring in national and local governments as relevant actors together with firms and civil society in regulating a broad array of market activities. **Paola Perez-Aleman**, Professor of Strategy and Organization at McGill University suggests the following books:



LOOKING BEHIND THE LABEL: Global industries and the conscientious consumer.

Tim Bartley; Sebastian Koos; Hiram Samel; Gustavo Setrini; Nik Summers.
USA: Indiana University Press, 2015. 304 p.

This book focuses on ethical consumption and global production. It analyzes “conscientious consumerism,” which the authors define as consumers viewing their purchasing decisions as a way to express ethical responsibility. The book analyzes what it means for consumers to choose products labeled as fair or sustainable, and what lies behind the myriad of eco and social labels that have resulted from social movements putting pressure on companies or the endorsement of alternative production models.



THE PROMISE AND LIMITS OF PRIVATE POWER: Promoting Labor Standards in a Global Economy.

Richard Locke. UK: Cambridge University Press, 2013. 208 p.

This book examines the initiatives of multinationals to enforce fair labor standards in global supply chains. Using company level data, it presents a comparative analysis of compliance-based versus capability-based approaches. Given the rise of private transnational regulation, it examines improvements in labor conditions, but also the limits of private regulation. Upstream business practices generate negative consequences for downstream suppliers. The author argues for a mix of private and public regulation to improve labor conditions.



CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY IN A GLOBALIZING WORLD.

Kiyoteru Tsutsui and Alwyn Lim. UK: Cambridge University Press, 2013. 487 p.

This edited volume focuses on the global expansion of corporate social responsibility, as a component of the social regulation of the economy. The first part analyzes the processes of CSR legitimation and contestation internationally. The second section discusses the combined national and global forces driving the emergence of transnational CSR fields and their variation. The third part analyses corporate reactions to pressures brought to bear for more accountability. Finally, it explores the impact of CSR outcomes.



EXTENDING EXPERIMENTALIST GOVERNANCE? The European Union and Transnational Regulation.

Jonathan Zeitlin. UK: Cambridge University Press, 2015. 393 p.

This edited book examines the European Union’s efforts to extend its rules and standards to other countries and the emerging experimentalist regime in transnational governance. The EU has developed a governance framework for the recursive review of goals and implementation. The book analyses transnational regulation in areas such as food safety, chemicals, forest law, financial regulation, and fundamental rights. Diverse institutional channels extend EU governance through trade agreements, market access, development aid, and capacity building.



TRANSNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE: The Emergence and Effects of the Certification of Forests and Fisheries.

Lars H. Gulbrandsen. UK: Edward Elgar Publishing, 2010. 213 p.

The subject of this book is the emergence of non-state governance and its implementation in the case of forests and fisheries. More specifically, it compares the cases of the Forest Stewardship Council and the Marine Stewardship Council certification schemes. From an institutional perspective, the book deals with the characteristics, design approach, complexities and challenges of non-state certification. It analyzes these schemes in the context of the United Kingdom, Sweden, and Norway.