



Civil Society Under Strain

Counter-Terrorism Policy, Civil Society and Aid Post-9/11

Edited by Jude Howell and Jeremy Lind

Following George W. Bush's declaration of a global War on Terror in the wake of the September 11 attacks, political leaders around the world introduced a swath of counter-terrorist legislation and measures. Often hastily rushed in, not least to satisfy perceived public demand for a strong state response, such extraordinary laws and measures are riddled with ambiguity and trespass unashamedly on basic democratic rights. In many countries the introduction of such measures has fuelled a climate of fear and suspicion, damaging the efforts of civil society actors.

This edited volume investigates the convergence of aid and security objectives following the September 11 attacks. It explores the effects of this convergence on civil society spaces, actors and organizations and analyzes the impact of counter-terrorist legislation, measures,

discourses and practices on civil societies in a range of political contexts. It proposes that the securitization of aid that was already underway in the 1990s has accelerated in the post-9/11 world. The bulk of the literature on civil society and development relates to the golden era of the 1990s. *Civil Society Under Strain* brings the discussion into this newly altered landscape.

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Jude Howell is Professor and Director of the Centre for Civil Society at the London School of Economics and Political Science.

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"The consequences of the first eight years [of the War on Terror] have been all too recognizable in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan but far less so in terms of wider impacts on civil society. In bringing together a great wealth of analysis, *Civil Society Under Strain* goes a long way to remedying this."

- **Paul Rogers, Professor of Peace Studies, University of Bradford**

"The summative message of this critically important collection is that across different country contexts, the so-called 'war on terror' has ricocheted through civil society organizations in ways that are actually and potentially damaging to state-society relations and to international aid and development."

- **Professor Jo Beall, Deputy Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Town**

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