

***How can the democratic principle of ‘rule by the people’ operate with respect to global forms of authority and governance?***

*The best place to start a discussion on democracy in world politics in the absence of a world government and thus a corresponding citizenship, is to take a somewhat creative approach to solving problems like abuse of power and other global political problems (Grant & Keohane 2005, pp. 29-43). This paper will explore two models of accountability for states to see whether similar general hierarchical institutionalized models can, do and/or should exist globally as well as consider different ways power can be constrained in relation to non-state actors (Grant & Keohane 2005, pp. 29-43). To this end, this paper will engage in a contemporary debate on globalization, expansion of the scope and authority of multilateralism and the growing interdependence of state and non-state actors (Grant & Keohane, 2005, pp. 29-43).*

*As such, the overall purpose of this essay will be to see if “global democracy” can exist beyond mere replication of the most democratic of nation-state models of rule by the people into the transnational and/or global political arena (Grant & Keohane, 2005, pp. 29-43). If not, this paper will explore a more realistic approach to political representation that advocates the strengthening of existing democratic accountability mechanisms within global governance networks that allow for the moral authority of transnational civil society (Price, 2003, pp. 579-599) to mould the course of global governance, so as to distinguish it from utopian notions of cosmopolitan democracy in which sovereignty is often subordinate to international law (Held cited in Murphy, 2000, pp. 789-803; Held cited in Dryzek, 2006, pp. 152-153).*

