The Routledge Handbook of NGOs and International Relations, edited by Thomas Davies, is a superb and valuable resource for scholars interested in the role that non-governmental organisations play in international affairs. It contains 42 consistently high-quality chapters, written by 57 global scholars including many who are long-standing and valuable members of ARNOVA. The book provides wide-ranging coverage of NGOs in international relations, beginning with the emergence of NGOs as actors in world politics, and the roles they play interacting with states and fellow NGOs and other non-state actors. It is a truly inter-disciplinary achievement, with theoretical and analytical contributions from the perspective of international relations, politics, economics, sociology, law, management, public health, and sustainability studies.

The structure of the book is comprised of five sections: History and contributions of NGOs; Theory and analysis; Issue areas and sectors; Regional perspectives; and Contemporary challenges. Its significance and originality is underlined by its being the first comprehensive research handbook that offers a broad overview and diverse perspectives not only on the work of NGOs, but also in relation to questions of legitimacy and accountability, with insights from the Global South as well as the Global North.

The book is an accessible and indispensable resource for readers ranging from students to established scholars, covering key issues and questions of concern for those seeking to understand the activities, contributions, and challenges faced by NGOs when they interact with world politics and international affairs. All chapters feature high-quality writing, strong analysis, and succeed in delivering on the stated goal of demonstrating the dynamism and diversity in the field, and shedding worthwhile light on the research conducted to date, and the potential for future research.