

POWER AND RELATION IN THE WORLD POLITY: THE INGO COUNTRY NETWORK
SCORE, 1978-1998

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ABSTRACT

World polity theory is explicitly *relational*, implying a global network structure that exists outside of the nation-state. World polity theory also increasingly acknowledges *power* – that some states and regions are dominant in the international field. But current world polity measures of INGOs incorporate neither networks nor power, leading to a mismatch between theory and measurement. In this paper, we develop a new over-time measure of country-level connectedness to the world polity, which we label the “INGO Country Network Score.” We compare our newly-proposed scores to the traditional measure (raw counts of INGO memberships) and demonstrate striking differences. Looking over time, we draw further implications about changing inequality. We also present the first visual representation of country connections through INGOs.