## Civil Society Turns 1NC

### Draw a line – Civil society assistance undermines civil society and democracy

### Party exclusion – assistance only goes to politically neutral organizations – that severs ties between civil and political society and creates dysfunctional politics

Rob Jenkins – Poli Sci Prof @ Birkbeck College – 2001, “Mistaking “Governance” for “Politics”: Foreign Aid, Democracy and the Construction of Civil Society,” http://www.nu.ac.za/Ccs/files/Mistaking\_Governance\_Politics.pdf)

That donor agencies are not unaware of the

AND

is a well-intentioned, but unrealistic,

attempt to ensure good governance.

### Picking winners – funding attracts opportunistic rent-seeking and vested interests – only the free “political market” solves

Rob Jenkins – Poli Sci Prof @ Birkbeck College – 2001, “Mistaking “Governance” for “Politics”: Foreign Aid, Democracy and the Construction of Civil Society,” http://www.nu.ac.za/Ccs/files/Mistaking\_Governance\_Politics.pdf)

What they are attempting to support -- through

AND

-choice explanations of political and economic behaviour.

### Local ties - Funding NGOs exacerbates cleavages in civil society and severs their ties with grassroots constituencies

Claire Mercer – Department of Geography, University of Leicester, UK – 2002, NGOs, civil society and democratization: a critical review of the literature, Progress in Development Studies 2,1 (2002) pp. 5–22

Representing something of a backlash against the fascination

**AND**

**to weaken civil society** (Tvedt, 1998).

### Backlash – US assistance will cause a backlash by making opponents look like a credible threat – it’s a net loss for democracy

Jay Ulfelder - Research Director, Political Instability Task Force - June 13, 2011, (Ph.D., Stanford University, Political Science), The Illiberal Consequences of U.S. Government Investments in Liberation Technology, http://dartthrowingchimp.wordpress.com/2011/06/13/the-illiberal-consequences-of-u-s-government-investments-in-liberation-technology/

What worries me is that those well-

AND

those governments see as threats to their power.

## 2NC

### Empirics – US civil society assistance has a long track record of hollowing out civil society

Mai Choucri - Rosa Luxemburg Foundation – 9/15/11, Egypt’s civil society organizations: Between a rock and a hard place, http://www.palestine.rosalux.org/fileadmin/ab\_palestine/pdf/RLF\_newsletters\_EN/RLF\_PAL\_Foreign\_Funding\_Debate\_Egypt.pdf

In an article of 14 August 2011,

AND

for an effective struggle for freedom and independence.

### History shows no correlation between CS assistance and democratization – their ev is based on flawed studies

Anne Mariel Peters – prof of government, Wesleyan - February 14, 2011, Why Obama shouldn't increase democracy aid to Egypt , Foreign Policy, http://mideast.foreignpolicy.com/posts/2011/02/14/why\_obama\_shouldn\_t\_increase\_democracy\_aid\_to\_egypt

Most of the debate around these programs has

**AND**

**programs only achieved 52 percent of planned results.**

### Civil society support trades off with resources for political organization

Hansen and Smimpp – March 2004

Gary Hansen (Division Chief, Civil Society) and Michele Schimpp (Division Chief, Elections and Political Processes), CIVIL SOCIETY GROUPS AND POLITICAL PARTIES: Supporting Constructive Relationships, USAID, OCCASIONAL PAPERS SERIES, http://www.usaid.gov/our\_work//democracy\_and\_governance/publications/pdfs/pnacu631.pdf

But where political parties generally are weak—

AND

and participation and effect policy change through CSOs?

### Civil society assistance incentivizes the creation of projects that fracture political engagement

Jay Ulfelder – PhD, poli sci, Stanford - July 25, 2011, Assumptions Check: Does Civil Society Aid Promote Democratization?, http://dartthrowingchimp.wordpress.com/2011/07/25/assumptions-check-does-civil-society-aid-promote-democratization/

In a provocative recent Boston Review article called

**AND**

.” You can find the whole thing here.

### Reporting and funding requirements make NGOs more tied to their donors than their grassroots

Amy Hawthorne - associate in the Democracy and Rule of Law Project at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace – 2004, MIDDLE EASTERN DEMOCRACY Is Civil Society the Answer?, Democracy and Rule of Law Project, Number 44

Where civil society assistance fell short was in

AND

pursue causes and activities of their own choosing.

### Strong Syrian diaspora is eager to fund democracy assistance – comparatively better than US assistance

Qayyum, 11

(Fellow—The Middle East Institute, August, Syrian Diaspora, “Cultivating a New Public Space Consciousness,” http://www.mei.edu/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=HHPUvt1JpOI%3D&tabid=539)

Diaspora communities in both the US and UK have mobilized to echo Syria’s

AND

to the beginnings of a civil society in Syria and beyond.

### Squo solves internet

Meinrath Director Open Technology Initiative New America Foundation ‘11

(Sascha-, July 1, Contact, “İnternet in a suitcase – a worry for dictators ?”, <http://www.contact.az/docs/2011/Interview/07016931en.htm>)

Following the Russian and Iranian officials, a

AND

in multiple different countries though an international collaboration.

### Strong Syrian civil society solves soft landing – the aff undermines it and causes more instability

James Harkin – 12/16/11, Syria's opposition should be careful not to overplay its hand, http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2011/dec/16/syria-opposition-media-war

But what's also clear is that some activists

the traps laid for them by geopolitical manoeuvring.