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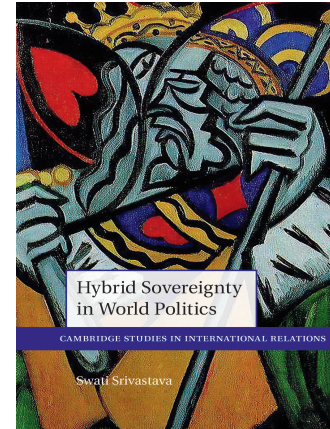
# Hybrid Sovereignty in World Politics

**Swati Srivastava**

*Purdue University, Indiana*

The idea of 'hybrid sovereignty' describes overlapping relations between public and private actors in important areas of global power, such as contractors fighting international wars, corporations regulating global markets, or governments collaborating with nongovernmental entities to influence foreign elections. This innovative study shows that these connections – sometimes hidden and often poorly understood – underpin the global order, in which power flows without regard to public and private boundaries. Drawing on extensive original archival research, Swati Srivastava reveals the little-known stories of how this hybrid power operated at some of the most important turning points in world history: spreading the British empire, founding the United States, establishing free trade, realizing transnational human rights, and conducting twenty-first century wars. In order to sustain meaningful dialogues about the future of global power and political authority, it is crucial that we begin to understand how hybrid sovereignty emerged and continues to shape international relations.

1. Hybrid sovereignty in international theory; 2. Ideal-types of public/private hybridity; 3. Hybrid sovereign empire in the English East India Company; 4. Contracting American wars through Blackwater; 5. Institutionalizing markets through the international chamber of commerce; 6. Shadowing for Human Rights through amnesty international; 7. Conclusions on Power and Responsibility in hybrid sovereignty.



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'The idea that sovereignty in the contemporary international system is an attribute of states is fundamental to much of international relations theory. In *Hybrid Sovereignty in World Politics* Swati Srivastava argues that the world is much more complicated than that. States and non-state actors are entangled in sovereign global politics in various ways, including contractually, institutionally, and performatively. Through case studies ranging from the English East India Company to Blackwater in the Iraq War, Srivastava provides fascinating historical illustrations of this important and timely argument.'

**Samuel Barkin,**  
*University of Massachusetts Boston*



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