

ABSTRACT

Changing Multilateral Governance in Contemporary Globalization: the Cases of the World Bank and the United Nations

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This thesis uses the social constructivist theory, especially as expounded by John Gerard Ruggie, to examine the present reality, changing trends and the consequences thereof, in the way that the United Nations and the World Bank govern themselves in this present epoch of globalisation. The social constructivist theory guides the analysis into an examination of the *intersubjective* realities of the different states and actors- including transnational corporations, civil society groups and groups of experts- that may and do play a part in changing the present governance structures and outcomes of the two aforementioned institutions.

Keywords: United Nations; World Bank; Good Governance Principles: participation, transparency, accountability, equity, legitimacy; Globalisation; Social Constructivism; Small States; John Gerard Ruggie.