

# Influence of NGOs

## What is an NGO?

At the UN, virtually all types of **private** bodies can be recognized as NGOs. They only have to be **independent from government control, not seeking to challenge governments** either as a political party or by a narrow focus on human rights, **non-profit-making** and **non-criminal**.

Due to the vague definition there can be many different types of NGOs that are active in many different areas like for example religion or politics.

Anyone, who spots an issue that he/she thinks gets neglected can found an NGO to give more attention to this topic.

## How they accomplish their goals

First of all, members need to act on the objectives of the organization. But public relations, like demonstrations and media, are as important, because you need attention to recruit new members and to get money by the public. Additionally, you can only influence politics if the public shares your opinion.

## Funding

NGOs are primarily funded by private investors, who support the Organisations with their own means. Additional sources of income are donations or even government funding. Even though NGOs are non-profit, many sell products like clothing, so they are less dependent on others.

## Possibilities to restrict NGOs

- Stricter punishment for crimes
- More transparency
- Cut government funding

## Conclusion

Non Governmental Organizations are able to influence the world around them, but they still can be restricted if they try to abuse their power.