

## Chinese Women's activism in Glocal Era

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## The Actors

- Insider and experts advocates: 1980s →
- Autonomous advocates: mid-1980s →
- NGO advocates: mid- 1990s →
- Citizen advocates: 2012→



## The rising of women's activism since middle 1990s

- **1993-2002:** Sowing seeds and nurturing
- **2003-2012:** breaking-through and ordeal



**Enlightened** by the concept of NGOs, beyond Chinese edition of state-feminism

**Encouraged** to hold the state accountable as a duty bearer, and women as the rights holders

**Equipped** by the Platform for Action, GAD, CEDAW, MDG/SDG, etc.

## features of the activism under the glocal context

phase	poses	Setting
1994-2002	Organizing and networking to inject new thinking	A tension of Marxist View on Women and Western Feminism
2003-2011	Voicing louder and louder in varies ways	Emerging of other social organizations/activism
2012-2015	Revealing issues and self present in more visible, even "radical" ways	Tougher outer environment toward both civil societies and feminist activists

## Glocality: relationship between the regime and women's NGOs

1980s-2010s	authority	Women NGOs and Feminist Groups
<b>Actors</b>	Party Leaders and its leading women cadres	Inside advocates →Autonomous advocates→ NGO advocates→citizen advocates
<b>View on the relationship</b>	Satellite of the Party-state	Supplement → autonomous bodies → Partnership
<b>Discourses</b>	Nationalism+ united leadership of the party	Marxist view on women + selected feminist literatures → Gender equality → Gender mainstreaming → Feminist Activism
<b>Strategies</b>	Top-down corporatism	Women's empowerment and gender equality
<b>Thinking Source</b>	Loyalty to party + Marxist Review on Women + Confucianism on family	Marist women's liberation → second wave of feminism →Global or transnational feminism + MDG/SDG + partnership
<b>Power type</b>	Ideology power	Communicative power
<b>Power field</b>	Party led women's movement + media + Two Sessions + UN	Media + "Two Sessions" +street performance + communities + UN + International women's NGO gathering

## What we achieved

- Levering legislation and policy reforming
- Holding state accountable through CEDAW
- Capacity building for related organizations
- Generating media attention and certain awareness
- Knowledge producing
- Fostering new actors, and bio-diversity within women's organization, feminism activism
- Linking with other social issues/movement

## Prospects and Challenges

- Momentum for continuing policy advocacy vs. stricter controls.
- ▶ Boomerang effect of international commitments (such as the FWCW & CEDAW) vs. ignorance, arrogance, and prejudice toward the international community.
- ▶ Visibility of women's rights advocacy/feminist activism with internal bio-diversity vs. social perceptions and acceptance + demonized feminism.
- ▶ Linking with other social issues/movements vs. gender blindness and stereotype, trivialization.