

Digital Diasporas

Identity and Transnational Engagement

In the first full-length scholarly study of the increasingly important phenomenon of digital diasporas, Jennifer M. Brinkerhoff examines how immigrants who still feel a connection to their country of origin use the Internet. She argues that digital diasporas can ease security concerns in both the homeland and the host society, improve diaspora members' quality of life in the host society, and contribute to socioeconomic development in the homeland. Drawing on case studies of nine digital diaspora organizations, Brinkerhoff's research supplies new empirical material regarding digital diasporas and their potential security and development outcomes. She also explores their impact on identity negotiation, arguing that digital diasporas create communities and organizations that represent hybrid identities and encourage solidarity, identity, and material benefits among their members. The book explores these communities' implications for policy and practice.

Iennifer M. Brinkerhoff is an Associate Professor of Public Administration and International Affairs at the George Washington University. She holds a Ph.D. in public administration from the University of Southern California in Los Angeles and an MPA from the Monterey Institute of International Studies. She consults for multilateral development banks, bilateral assistance agencies, NGOs, and foundations. Combining her research with this work, she published *Partnership for International Development*: Rhetoric or Results? (2002), as well as three co-edited journal issues and more than forty-five articles and book chapters on topics ranging from evaluation to NGOs, failed states, governance, and diasporas. She is the editor of Diasporas and Development: Exploring the Potential (2008). She also completed an edited volume for the Asia Development Bank titled Converting Migration Drains into Gains: Harnessing the Resources of Overseas Professionals (2006), and she is the editor of the book series Diasporas in World Politics. She is the co-director and co-founder of GW's Diaspora Research Program, a multidisciplinary research program on diasporas, identity, policy, and development; she also co-founded the GW International NGO team and co-edited NGOs and the Millennium Development Goals: Citizen Action to Reduce Poverty (2007).



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JENNIFER M. BRINKERHOFF

George Washington University





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