Legislating for International Organizations:
The US Congress, the IMF, and the World Bank

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What do we know?

How activist networks operate (from international relations)
How interest groups operate (from American politics)
What don’t we know?

*How does the institution of Congress advocate for policy goals in international organizations?*
“Congressional advocacy”

“Congressional” because it is unique to U.S.

“advocacy” because it seeks to influence policy outcomes in another political institution
Groups seek initiative in IMF/World Bank and approach a sympathetic member

Or

Member may initiate Congressional role vis a vis executive branch in this area

Member may write letter to IFI

Member may draft legislation, or attach measure to piece of moving legislation

Committee may hold hearing

Groups may mobilize against initiative (i.e. take the other side)

Other groups may join one side or another

_Treasury, IMF or WB may respond to preempt further legislative action_

Measure may pass

Measure may fail

How does it work?
How has it changed?

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How does it help us to predict future?

*Multilateralism needs domestic constituencies in American politics in order to flourish.*