

## Global Ideas, Local Adaptations

### Chinese Activism and the Will to Make Civil Society

Taru Salmenkari, Senior Researcher, University of Helsinki, Finland

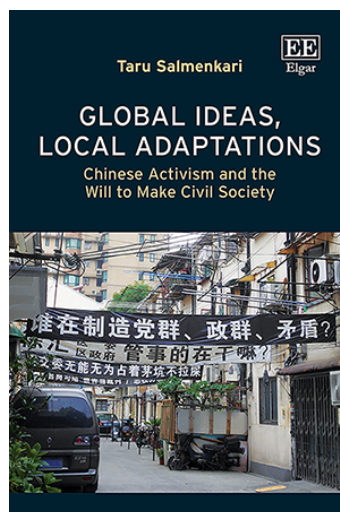
Exploring the boundaries, fringes, and inner workings of civil society, Taru Salmenkari investigates local forms of political agency in China in light of the globalization of political values, practices, and institutions. She provides a theoretical framework for globalization to examine new forms of governance emerging with non-government organizations (NGOs) and how these have reconfigured social power in China.

'Salmenkari correctly notes that terms such as civil society and NGO are all imports to China and investigates the situational, strategic, and cultural variance in Chinese self-organizing. This book offers a unique perspective on the development and meaning of civil society in China, and is an important resource for tracing the academic study and local practices of these groups.'

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'What happens when Chinese civic groups encounter a global civil society keen to promote its own ideas and practices? Anything is possible, from creative adaptation and translation rooted in traditional values and local networks to class-based exclusion and omission. Full of theoretical insights and ethnographic details, Taru Salmenkari's remarkable book presents a new vision of civil society in China. A timely book for uncertain times.'

– Guobin Yang, University of Pennsylvania, USA



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