

SUMMARY: The article by Candidate of Political Science, Professor Sergey Sevastiyarov is focused on the role that civil society is playing in region building in East Asia. It addresses how civil society organizations (CSO) in individual states and at the regional level – in the form of networks – are reacting to numerous challenges posed by globalization. The diversity of political systems in individual states means that regional cooperation among CSO is more likely to emerge around issues where interests of the state, international organizations and CSOs converge, such as environment, migration, and so on. While the region remains dominated by the influence of the state, the author suggests that the growing array of CSOs have an important role to play in the ongoing formation of an East Asian identity.