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This study builds on a previous edited book, Critical Citizens: Global Support for Democratic Governance, published by Oxford University Press in 1999. Many of the core ideas which are developed, updated, and expanded in this book first arose a decade ago with the earlier volume and I remain indebted to all the original contributors, not least to Joseph Nye and the Visions of Governance project. Some preliminary ideas from this study were also first presented as conference papers, generating useful feedback from discussants and colleagues at various professional meetings, including the IPSA general conference in Santiago, Chile in June 2009, the research seminar at the Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin fur Sozialforschung, Berlin in September 2009, the ECPR General Conference plenary roundtable in Potsdam, September 2009, the APSA Taskforce on Democratic Indicators at the University of California, Berkeley in October 2009, a visiting talk at the University of Sydney in January 2010, the University of Connecticut ‘Democracy and Democratization’ conference in February 2010, and the American Political Science Association annual meeting in Washington DC in August 2010, as well as the faculty seminar at Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government.

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