This is the accepted version of the following article: Dinan W (2005) New Activism and the Corporate Response (Book Review), Book review of: New Activism and the Corporate Response, edited by Steve John and Stuart Thomson, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2003, 336pp. ISBN 978-1403903112, *Political Studies Review*, 3 (1), pp. 152-153, which has been published in final form at <a href="http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1478-9299.2005.00020\_8.x/full#ss8-3">http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1478-9299.2005.00020\_8.x/full#ss8-3</a>

The editors of this collection straddle the boundary between the academic study of interest representation - or corporate political activism - and its practice. Both are lobbying consultants in a public affairs unit of a multinational corporate law firm, and both have undertaken applied and academic research on lobbying. This volume offers a snapshot of current thinking on anti-corporate activism and corporate strategy with chapters from several leading academic commentators and consultants. Regrettably, the editors were not as successful in soliciting contributions from the new activists (a key subject for the collection) as they were from those more familiar with the corporate response: as such the book is somewhat diminished. Nevertheless, the range of topics addressed gives a good sense of the issues and agendas facing corporate strategists in formulating responses to the contemporary 'generational shift in how governments, businesses, interest groups and citizens interact' (p. 1). The chapters dealing with the inter-related phenomena of governance, social dialogue, corporate-activist engagement, and the new globalised communications environment provide a useful set of ideas and questions about the possibilities of the 'new activism'. These should be read in conjunction with Charles Miller's grounded account of the evolution of the (UK) business lobby which neatly captures an important tension within this book (and indeed in wider debates): namely the problematic distinction between the public and private in 'public' affairs and 'public' relations. The volume is well written and will appeal to readers across business and social science disciplines. Though primarily Anglo-American and European in focus (i.e. a western-centric take on political activism and globalisation), the book is accessible and grounded in contemporary public affairs. This should recommend it to those interested in conceptually and empirically coming to grips with the dynamics of governance, protest and corporate political action in advanced political economies

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