This lecture, based on a forthcoming book of the same title, discusses the practices that key actors employ to wield power and influence in today's more networked, reorganizing world. Professor Wedel explores the implications for democracy to be drawn from the new rules of the game and the extent to which they take us beyond traditional corruption and conflict-of-interest in an accountability-challenged era. Professor Wedel draws on her extensive study of Western aid to Eastern Europe (published in the award-winning book 'Collision and Collusion'), as well as her latest research on neo-conservative networks and the contracting out of governing in the United States.