

# Postneoliberalism – A beginning debate

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Acknowledgements .....  | 2   |
| Preface .....   | 3   |
| Postneoliberalism : catch-all word or valuable analytical and political concept?<br>– Aims of a beginning debate.....                       | 5   |
| <i>Ulrich Brand and Nicola Sekler</i>   |     |
| Ways out of the crisis of neoliberalism .....   | 15  |
| <i>Michael Brie</i>   |     |
| Postneoliberalism and its bifurcations.....   | 33  |
| <i>Ana Esther Ceceña</i>  |     |
| Postneoliberalism and post-Fordism<br>– Is there a new period of capitalist mode of production?.....  | 45  |
| <i>Alex Demirovic</i>   |     |
| Postneoliberalism from and as a counter-hegemonic perspective .....   | 59  |
| <i>Nicola Sekler</i>  |     |
| Postneoliberalism or postcapitalism?<br>The failure of neoliberalism in the financial market crisis .....                                   | 73  |
| <i>Elmar Altvater</i>   |     |
| ‘Neoliberalism’ and development policy – Dogma or progress? .....   | 89  |
| <i>Kurt Bayer</i>   |     |
| Environmental crises and the ambiguous postneoliberalising of nature .....  | 103 |
| <i>Ulrich Brand</i>   |     |
| The crisis of neoliberalism and the impasse of the union movement .....   | 119 |
| <i>Gregory Albo</i>   |     |
| Women peasants, food security and biodiversity in the crisis of neoliberalism .....   | 133 |
| <i>Christa Wichterich</i>   |     |
| On recent projects and experiences of the sufficiency economy: a critique .....   | 143 |
| <i>Chanida Chanyapate and Alec Bamford</i>  |     |
| Struggles against Wal-Martisation and neoliberal competitiveness in (southern) China<br>– Towards postneoliberalism as an alternative?..... | 157 |
| <i>Ngai-Ling Sum</i>  |     |
| Postneoliberalism in Latin America.....   | 171 |
| <i>Emir Sader</i>   |     |
| Notes on postneoliberalism in Argentina .....   | 181 |
| <i>Verónica Gago and Diego Sztulwark</i>  |     |
| Realistic postneoliberalism – A view from South Africa .....  | 193 |
| <i>Patrick Bond</i>   |     |
| Notes on contributors .....   | 212 |

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We hope that this volume will contribute to and further inspire an important debate on alternative ways of organising society and concrete possibilities of achieving this.

Vienna, December 2008

*Ulrich Brand and Nicola Sekler*

## Preface

The Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation has a long tradition of engagement related to global governance issues. It has therefore also actively participated in World Social Forum (WSF) events ever since these began. As a result of its presence at the WSF in January 2007 in Nairobi, the Foundation published its *Development Dialogue* no. 49 in November 2007 on *Global civil society – More or less democracy?* The volume gathered a variety of approaches, voices and views within the wide panorama of actors related to the WSF. Some of the contributions were originally presented and discussed at a panel in Nairobi.

The current volume is further evidence of the Foundation's interaction with scholars and activists who are pursuing an analytically based advocacy role for and within social movements dealing with governance issues. It is produced in time for the WSF in Belém in January 2009 and is presented there at a panel organised by the guest editors. It brings together a range of views from different regions in the world, from thinkers engaged in critical assessments of neoliberal policies, their failures and resulting perspectives.

These analyses seek ways extricating ourselves from the current developmental impasse, and explore the scope of postneoliberal governance. Their authors share the view of so many others engaged in the WSF movement that another world is possible. Supporting such a vision, the Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation will continue to seek opportunities to create a space where a variety of stakeholders with different views can meet and discuss. This will include initiatives to facilitate interaction, exchange and dialogue not only among the like-minded but also across the political-ideological spectrum of an alter-global movement.

The Foundation would like to thank the two guest editors and all the contributors for the time and work invested in this result. We trust that it will be welcomed as an attempt to encourage reflection both in seeking to come to terms with existing social realities and in the search for a better future – if not for all, then at least for the majority of people living on this planet.

Uppsala, December 2008

*Henning Melber*