

**Call for Papers: Mini-conference “State Capitalism and State-led Development before and after Covid: new pathways and challenges”**

**SASE conference, 3-5 July 2021, Amsterdam**

**Organizers:**

Ilias Alami (Maastricht University): [ilias.alami@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:ilias.alami@maastrichtuniversity.nl)

Milan Babic (Maastricht University, U. of Amsterdam): [m.babic@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:m.babic@maastrichtuniversity.nl)

Adam Dixon (Maastricht University): [a.dixon@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:a.dixon@maastrichtuniversity.nl)

Nana de Graaff (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam): [n.a.de.graaff@vu.nl](mailto:n.a.de.graaff@vu.nl)

Imogen Liu (Maastricht University): [i.liu@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:i.liu@maastrichtuniversity.nl)

Already before the current pandemic, state-led economies and development trajectories called into question core tenets of the liberal world order and its underlying (neo)liberal and coordinated economic models. After Covid-19, this trajectory will be reinforced: so-called “state capitalist” economies and state-led development strategies are projecting alternative pathways of economic success, which resonate with global demands for a stronger role of the state in economic and social matters in the face of the pandemic - also in the “liberal heartland” of the West. The rise and relevance of those alternatives is, however, not a simple return to atavistic statist development tools. The new statist practices are transnationally integrated like never before, as research on networked corporate elites, ownership and investment ties, and state-supported capital flows shows. Moreover, these developments beg for a deeper understanding of the world historical context within which they are unfolding.

The aim of this mini-conference is to further advance this research agenda, especially in the light of the Covid-19 pandemic. Calls for a stronger role of the state in coordinating, managing, and protecting economies and societies of the fallout of this crisis are perceptible all over the globe and from all political corners. We want to critically examine this acceleration of existing trends; and gather a variety of theoretical, methodological, and conceptual approaches in order to understand the dynamics shaping the new state capitalism before and after the crisis. The papers for this mini-conference will analyse concrete new configurations and practices of state capitalism - or varieties thereof - and its tools.

Taking a broad perspective on the issue of state capitalism, the contributions could address some of the following issues:

- What is new about the recent “wave” of state capitalism across the global economy? What are the drivers of its emergence?
- Explaining the diversity of state capitalism across the spaces and scales of the global capitalist economy.
- The rationale for and new tools of state intervention: Are they integrating into or challenging the rules and structures of globalization?
- The transformation of the developmental state and of the logics and instruments of “catch-up” development (e.g. the transformation of industrial and innovation policy).
- The role of (new) national narratives and the reconfiguration of national identities in the light of a global expansion of statism.
- The geopolitical and geoeconomic calculus, drivers and implications of state capitalism.
- Does the Covid-19 crisis instigate new forms of state-capitalism? What is the nature of these state-interventions and what are the consequences?

The mini-conference hence addresses the topics of alternative paths of (capitalist) development and the question of a redistribution of prosperity, power and identities in a world economy at a time of global fragility and change. Scholars from different disciplines, approaches and backgrounds are invited to explore the rise of state capitalism and statist development models, and their consequences in all areas of socio-economics. We especially encourage colleagues from the Global South to submit contributions that help us to better understand the present and future of state capitalism in a time of global crisis and change.

We welcome two types of submissions:

- **For paper submissions:** please provide an abstract with maximum 500 words.
- **For panel submissions (3-5 papers):** please provide an abstract (max. 500 words) for each paper as well as an abstract for the whole panel (also max. 500 words).

The deadline for submissions is **16 January** 2021.

Acceptance notifications will go out end of February.

Information about the conference: <https://sase.org/event/2021-sase-conference/>

Submission information: <https://sase.org/events/conference-submission-and-award-guidelines/>

How to submit:

- Go to <https://sase.org/>
- Create an account (top right corner of the website) or sign in if you have an account
- After signing in, you will have the possibility to submit a paper (again top right corner of the website)
- Scroll down to “TH15: State Capitalism and State-led Development before and after Covid: new pathways and challenges”, where you will have the possibility to choose between a paper or panel submission.

See also: <http://sase.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/SASE-Submitting-a-Proposal-2021.pdf>

Please contact us if you have more questions (email addresses are above).

With best regards,

Ilias, Milan, Adam, Nana, Imogen