



The Neoliberal Project and the Rise of Populist Nationalism: Ideology and Development since 1991

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues:

All probably agree that the core telos of the neoliberal imaginary contrasts with the practical emergence of regressive and authoritarian populist nationalism. The neoliberals themselves portray nationalism as a backwardly dangerous and authoritarian anti-neoliberal force, diametrically alien to what they see as their project: to make a cosmopolitan global market civilization. Some neoliberalism scholars accept that nationalism and neoliberalism are generically unrelated, but they observe how the cosmopolitan neoliberal project is nonetheless mutating towards movements that are incorporating state, capital and popular movements in nationalist coalitions.

In another view, even though in contradiction with its core mission, competitive national rivalries are seen to be inscribed in the neoliberal model of development's core trajectory. Its wrap-over veil of cosmopolitan ideology hiding its regressive nationalist tendency are actually the contradictory expressions of the neoliberal model of development's national-trans-national dynamic that turns countries into 'competition states'.





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