North and South

Forms of Inequality within the International Politics of Scientific Production

HANOVER, GERMANY OCTOBER 6-8, 2021





Hanover, Germany, October 6-8, 2021

Since the 1960s, the North-South divide has been used to express spatial representations of inequality, resulting from the expansion of European colonialism and Western capitalism. While the North relates to geographies of wealth and development, the South became a symbol of the lack thereof and illustrated life in peripheral spaces.

More recently, the South has been instrumentalized to highlight the importance of diversity in sciences, allegedly more relevant to humanities than to natural sciences. However, does the South represent an option to the encompassing hegemonic intellectual agendas of the North? How the North-South divide influences funding policies impacting on creativity and diversity of ideas, theories, and methods in the sciences, and vice-versa?

Our transdisciplinary symposium concentrates on the critical potential of the South for challenging established agendas and funding priorities in science. Speakers will explore the relevance of the South as a resourceful tool to address funding and publishing priorities in research, and to shed light on international asymmetries and inequalities in academia. Ultimately, South to geographies of inequality, to critical positionalities, but fundamentally to an attitude: a Southern Attitude, which embraces an invitation for amplifying forms of ethical engagement that address social justice in science production at large.

Panels will discuss

- Language, Translation and Circulation of Science
- Ontological Diversity and Politics of Conviviality
- Religious Studies and Human Sciences
- Gender, Politics of Ethnicity and Intersectionality
- Political Geographies of Scientific Research
- Inequality and funding priorities

Confirmed Speakers include

- Jocelyn Ben Burnell, Astrophysicist, Oxford University
- Farid Alatas, Sociologist, National University of Singapore
- Mohammed Hassan, Physicist, The World Academy of Sciences
- Rhoda Reddock, Educator and Social Activist, University of West Indies
- Sergio Costa, Sociologist, Freie Universität
- Afe Adogame, Historian, Princeton University
- Olufemi Táíwò, Philosopher, Cornell University

Convenors Claudio Pinheiro (Rio de Janeiro Federal University), Barbara Potthast (University of Cologne), Sinah Kloß (University of Bonn)

Organization Sephis Programme & Global South Studies Centre

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Registration and Information sephis.org & gssc.uni-koeln.de

