

Public Workshop

Multistakeholderism and UN 2.0: Challenges and Alternatives for Developing Countries

7 September 2023 | 10:00 - 11:30 EDT

Co-organized By the South Centre and the Transnational Institute

Co-sponsored by

Corporate Accountability and ESCR NET, Peoples' Working Group on
Multistakeholderism

Background

The preparations for the September 2024 Summit for the Future (SOTF) are well underway. In this process, further proposals are being made arguing for multistakeholderism as a key instrument for the UN system and global governance. The increasing role of 'multistakeholderism' runs the risk of marginalizing States, especially those from the Global South, in making key policy and programmatic decisions. In addition, the role of civil society has been negatively affected, as the increasing participation of well-funded business' associations in multilateral forums have reduced its ability to contribute to the development and implementation of the intergovernmental agenda.

This Public Workshop **“Multilateralism and 2.0. Challenges and Alternatives for Developing Countries”** will question this idea by discussing from a new report commissioned jointly by South Centre and The Transnational Institute (TNI) and elaborated by Prof. Harris Gleckman. The report, which will be presented at this Forum, shows that multistakeholderism limits the role of developing countries in global

governance. It also undermines multilateralism by outsourcing global governance and leads to a decline in trust in the international community through the erosion of sovereignty. The workshop will also serve as an opportunity to discuss the recommendations on how to deal with multistakeholderism and its risks for global governance and the participation of developing countries.

In view of these developments, the South Centre and the Transnational Institute, are co-organizing this public workshop with developing countries' representatives in Geneva and New York and civil society organizations to discuss the new challenges arising from multistakeholderism and the alternatives that developing countries have in order to face them.

Objectives

- Examine, in dialogue with G77 and China member states and CSOs, the impact and challenges posed by the contemporary trend towards multistakeholderism in the context of intergovernmental process.
- Identify the recommendations on how to deal with Multistakeholderism in the United Nations and its risks for global governance and the participation of developing countries.

Agenda

10:00 – 10:15	Welcoming remarks
	- Fiona Dove, Executive Director, Transnational Institute (Virtual Participation)
10:15 – 10:45	Presentation of the Report Multilateralism and 2.0. Challenges and Alternatives for Developing Countries
	- Prof Harris Gleckman, Transnational Institute (TNI)
10:45 – 11:10	Discussion Panel
	- Ambassador Pedro Luis Pedrosó, United Nations Permanent Representative of Cuba
	- Ambassador Akram Munir, United Nations Permanent Representative of Pakistan (TBC)
	- Prof Carlos Correa, Executive Director, South Centre (Virtual Participation)

- Anita Gurumurthy, Executive Director, It for
Change

11:10 – 11:30 **Open dialogue**

Format

The dialogue will be held in a hybrid format.

In-person participants will be welcomed at:

Church Centre of the United Nations

777 United Nations Plaza

New York, NY 10017

United States

Online participants will join using the Zoom platform. Please register in the following link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_x19YIOiuQZeLA9lr_B-XKg

All discussions will take place under the Chatham House Rules.

Information

For more information, please contact Mr. Daniel Uribe, Lead Programme Officer, South Centre (Uribe@southcentre.int)