



**Society for
International Development**
Netherlands Chapter

**Lecture and Discussion:
'The Relevance of the State in a Globalising World'**

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Monday 21 May 2012, VU University, 18.00-19.30

Lecture in the series 'The State in a Globalizing World: Problematic, yet indispensable'

The state has until now been the main governing institution of modern society. However, in a globalising world the role of the state is experiencing some contradictory trends. On the one hand, the rise of multinationals (the so-called "footloose" capitals), the increase in international labour migration, and the proliferation of transnational civil networks have eroded the conventional boundary and jurisdiction of the state. On the other hand, the global financial crisis, widespread market failure, the global environmental challenge, and conflicts over natural resource exploitation have highlighted the relevance of the state in dealing with collective action problems. In these circumstances, what will be the future role of the state? Should the state be strengthened as a strong actor or should it be reduced to become a caretaker?

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