Meeting Global Challenges: Regaining Sovereignty
Inge Kaul (Hertie School of Governance, Berlin)

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Abstract: It often seems that the world is caught in an ever denser web of global crises—climate change, energy insecurity, new and resurgent communicable diseases, excessive financial volatility, war and conflict, with migration, water and land scarcity and other challenges already looming on the horizon, set to grab the political spotlight in not too distant a future. Are policymakers losing control? Yes, national policymaking sovereignty has been squeezed is the answer that will be offered for debate in this lecture. But, the good news is: Policymakers are in the process of regaining control. Policymaking is gradually—too slowly, perhaps, but steadily—adjusting to today’s new policymaking realities, notably to the growing importance of global public goods.

Speaker: Inge Kaul is adjunct professor at the Hertie School of Governance, Berlin, Germany and advisor to various governmental, multilateral and non-profit organizations on issues of international cooperation finance, public-private partnerships and global-issue diplomacy. She was the first director of UNDP’s Human Development Report Office, a position, which she held from 1989 to 1994, and director of UNDP’s Office of Development Studies from 1995 to 2005. Inge Kaul is the author of numerous publications on international public economics and finance and the lead editor of Providing Global Public Goods; Managing Globalization (Oxford University Press, New York, 2003) and The New Public Finance; Responding to Global Challenges (Oxford University Press, New York, 2006). Her current research focuses on institutional issues of global public goods provision, especially UN system reform and the future of multilateralism.

Discussant: Anton Hemerijck is the dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences at the VU University Amsterdam, and vice rector. Between 2001 and 2009 he was director of the Netherlands Council for Government Policy (WRR). He also held a chair in Comparative European Social Policy, Department of Public Administration at Erasmus University Rotterdam. He studied economics at Tilburg University (1979-1986), and obtained his doctorate from Oxford University in 1993. He publishes widely on issues comparative social and economic policy and institutional policy analysis.
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