

It gives us great pleasure to present to your mailbox this edition of our quarterly newsletter, where we share recent developments around our work.

In July, we hosted our inaugural board meeting with Prof Pratap Bhanu Mehta, Prof Taibat Lawanson, Dr. Jelena Vidojevic and Martha Ngoye. We are now very pleased to announce that Stephan Malherbe, the founder and Chair of Genesis Analytics has accepted to be chair of the NSI board.

The NSI is pleased to announce a new partnership with the Blavatnik School of Government at Oxford, which will see some of their Masters in Public Policy students (often influential policymakers from the new South) join NSI's research programmes.

We have been part of several premier platforms both locally and abroad, from the Conduit Club in London where we engaged on issues of government and democracy, to contributing to a panel discussion by the University of Free State's Thought-Leader series looking at threats to democratic stability. In June, we participated in the On Think Tanks Conference in London. In August, the New South Institute attended a two-day workshop in Addis Ababa, upon the invitation from the Ghana Center for Democratic Development.

## TOP NEWS

### Migration governance in flux. What can Africa learn from the rest of the world? [Migration Governance Reform](#)

In a recent article for the Global Government Forum, Alan Hirsch, Research Fellow at the New South Institute (NSI) and Head of the Migration Governance Reform Programme, explores the nuances of migration governance in Africa and what the continent can learn from European and South American experiences.

The article, "Migration governance in flux. What can Africa learn from the rest of the world?" unpacks the challenges and prospects of achieving free movement of people across the continent.

[The full article is available here...](#)



### Public Administration Reform [National Framework Towards the Professionalisation of the Public Sector](#)

The NSI attended a two-day retreat hosted on July 13-14 by the Public Service Commission under the theme Implementing the National Framework Towards the Professionalisation of the Public Sector. The NSI participated in a panel discussion sharing insights alongside The Presidency's Rudi Dicks, Auditor-General of South Africa Tsakani Maluleke, Business Unity South Africa's Khulekani Mathe and Daily Maverick's Mark Heywood. The panellists discussed the challenges in the South African public sector and the implementation process of the professionalisation framework. As Chipkin noted in an OpEd the moment felt historic. Fundamental reform may finally be coming. Read the article [here](#).

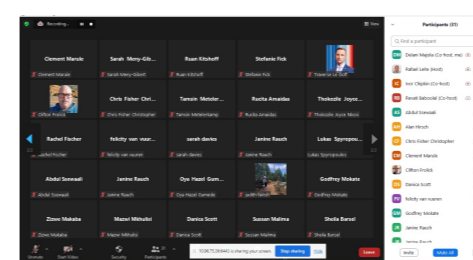
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### Calls for civil society to get behind public service reform [Civil society meeting](#)

On July 20, the New South Institute hosted an online gathering of civil society organisations to share news about developments aimed at creating autonomous and professional government administrations.

The virtual gathering of more than 40 civil society organisations, outlined the NSI's proposal for reforming government, work that the institution has been pioneering for more than a decade. The NSI has called for civil society organisations to join in on efforts to help reform public administration in South Africa. Among others, the NSI proposes a distinction between the political office and administrative office in South Africa. [Here](#) is our new policy brief on professionalising the public service

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### Framing A Study of African Migration Governance [MIGRA takes off](#)

The New South Institute has published the first in a series of reports on migration in the African continent from a governance point of view. The Migration Governance Reform in Africa (MIGRA1) report explores the challenges and future of migration policy reform in Africa, mapping out possible pathways for easier movements.

[Please see the full report here...](#)



### Steps for reform in South Africa [Public Service Reform](#)

In this piece, published by the Global Government Forum, NSI Researcher Rafael Leite provides a critical review of international best practice practices for improving the work of governments. Achieving a balance between meritocracy and democratic governance is critical. The analytical piece cites several thriving countries with documented successes in improving the work of their governments.

[The police report is available here...](#)



### In conversation with William I. Robinson [Comparative and International Policy](#)

From our Comparative and International Policy desk, Senior Researchers at the NSI, Jelena Vidojevic and Radmila Nakarada have conducted and published an interview with sociologist William I Robinson on the current crisis of global capitalism.

Robinson, a Distinguished Professor of Sociology, Global and International Studies at the University of California, argues that capitalism has demonstrated its resilience and adaptability, but the current crisis is distinct in several ways.

[Please read the full interview here...](#)



### A need for a welfare revolution in South Africa [Welfare Reform](#)

The Global Government Forum recently published a piece by the Head of Welfare Reform at the New South Institute, Jelena Vidojevic, which calls for the introduction of comprehensive welfare reform to address socio-economic divisions. She argues that inequality poses a threat to the country's democracy and solidarity.

[The police report is available here...](#)



### Contemporary South Africa and the Politics of Self-Determination [Politics of self-determination](#)

The New South Institute, together with the Belgrade International Law Circle (BILC), launched a pioneering report on the politics of self-determination in South Africa. Are there secessionist tendencies in SA politics today and/or forces seeking greater political autonomy? If so, what does this mean for the future of South Africa as a unitary state? Speakers at the hybrid event provided a critical review and analysis of post-Yugoslavia while discussing the challenges facing South Africa and all modern political communities.

The report itself, titled The End of South Africa? Contemporary South Africa and the Politics of Self-Determination asks fundamental questions about the identity of the people and who belongs and who doesn't to the political community.

[Please see the full report here...](#)



We thank you again for your  
interest in and support of our  
work