



**Society for
International Development**

Netherlands Chapter

Lecture and Discussion:

'Social change, civil society, and the role of the state'

Hilary Wainwright

(Transnational Institute and Red Pepper magazine)



Monday 18 June 2012, VU University, 18.00-19.30

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

In our rapid changing societies social change and innovation are occurring in a rather autonomous way. At the end of the process, it is often the state that codifies what society has already developed and accepted. It seems that we will need a lot of innovation and social transformation in order to cope with the challenges of new scarcities, climate change, migration and demographic changes such as aging populations in Western world and population growth in developing countries. What role has the state, if any, in these processes of social change and innovation? And what kind of state? In other words, how should the state itself be the object, as well as the subject, of social change?

Hilary Wainwright is research director of the New Politics Programme at the Transnational Institute (TNI), and Co-editor of Red Pepper, a popular British new left magazine. She is a leading researcher and writer on the emergence of new forms of democratic accountability within parties, movements and the state. She has documented countless examples of resurgent democratic movements from Brazil to Britain and the lessons they provide for progressive politics. Her books include *Reclaim the State: Experiments in Popular Democracy* (Verso/TNI, 2003) and *Arguments for a New Left: Answering the Free Market Right* (Blackwell, 1993).

Logistical details: Date: Monday 18 June 2012 / Location: Auditorium, VU University, De Boelelaan 1105, Amsterdam / Time: 18:00-19:30 (drinks at 19:30) / Language: English / Admission: Free / Please register through registration@sidnl.org / Website: <http://www.sid-nl.org>