This main topic of this workshop will be the democratic developmental state (DDS), the notion of a state taking the driver’s seat in the country’s economic development, as opposed to market forces alone. DDS is based on the premise that democracy and development are complementary. This premise is, however, questioned and the debate is increasingly relevant in light of the post-2015 development agenda.

The aim of the workshop is to encourage genuine academic discussion based on empirical findings, cross national comparisons, in addition to theoretical discussion as to what a democratic developmental state model could mean in different cultural, economic and political contexts.

Call for papers

Papers for this workshop may address questions such as:

- What are the socio-political conditions for the emergence and consolidation of a DDS?
- What levels of poverty, inequality, and environmental threat can current states afford? How is this theoretically and empirically related to DDS?
- What historical experiences in the South and in the Nordic countries can be useful for a fruitful debate on governance structures in the 21st century?
- What is the role of universities and research based knowledge for DDS?

We welcome papers from all over the world with preferably (but not exclusively) comparative approaches to the above issues.

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