Global Capitalism, Global War, Global Crisis

Global Capitalism, Global War, Global Crisis. How can these conditions be understood in terms of their internal relationship to capture capital’s connection to the states-system of uneven and combined development, social reproduction, and the contradictions facing humanity within world-ecology?

This book assesses the forces of social struggle shaping the past and present of the global political economy from the perspective of historical materialism. Based on the philosophy of internal relations, the character of capital is understood in such a way that the ties between the relations of production, state-civil society and conditions of class struggle can be realised. Conceiving the internal relationship of Global Capitalism, Global War, Global Crisis as a struggle-driven process is a major contribution of this book, providing a novel intervention on debates within theories of ‘the international’. Through a set of conceptual reflections, on agency and structure and the role of discourses embedded in the economy, class struggle is established as our point of departure. This involves analysing historical and contemporary themes on the expansion of capitalism through uneven and combined development (Global Capitalism), the role of the state and geopolitics (Global War) and conditions of exploitation and resistance (Global Crisis). The conceptual reflections and thematic considerations raised earlier in this book are then extended in a series of empirical interventions. These include a focus on the ‘rising powers’ of the BRICS (Global Capitalism), conditions of the ‘new imperialism’ (Global War) and the financial crisis since the 2007–8 Great Recession (Global Crisis). As a result of honing in on the internal relations of Global Capitalism, Global War, Global Crisis the final major contribution of this book is to deliver a radically open-ended dialectical consideration of ruptures of resistance within the global political economy.
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Global Capitalism, Global War, Global Crisis

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For our families
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Producing a book on relationality produces its own relationality. For Marx, the threads of the inner connection of the production process under capitalism get more and more lost, so that the relations of production give the appearance of independence from one another and value ossifies into its independent forms. For us, it is important to recover the threads of the inner connection not just of capital but also of our own production process with this book, in order to trace the rich totality of its many determinations and relations. The following are the dialectical ties that stretch across conditions of space as well as changes over time, forming a cluster of our own internal relations.

The origin story of this book stretches back to the British International Studies Association (BISA) annual conference that was held in Durham in December 1996. As we were graduate students at the time, it was the first conference presentation for Andreas and the first conference attendance for Adam during which we began chatting over coffee about shared theoretical and political interests. Since then, more than twenty-one years of friendship have flourished based on academic and activist collaboration. This has developed through joint work on conference papers and their conversion into journal articles, book chapters and edited volumes. It has also entailed combined participation in some of the major fora of protest and resistance over that same time period, whether that be within the European Social Forum, the World Social Forum or in the movement against the Iraq War, as well as through our teamwork within the Centre for the Study of Social and Global Justice (CSSGJ) at the University of Nottingham, setting up events in the form of conferences and seminars, establishing and maintaining the Marxism Reading Group or jointly supervising PhD students.

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Of course, despite all the advice and assistance from all of these colleagues, full and final responsibility for any remaining errors or omissions in this book is ours alone.
Abbreviations

ACFTU All-China Federation of Trade Unions
AIFM alternative investment fund manager
BRICS Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa
CCP Chinese Communist Party
CDM Clean Development Mechanism
CEE Central and Eastern Europe
CETA Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement
CTA Central de Trabajadores de la Argentina (Argentine Workers’ Central Union)
ECB European Central Bank
ECI European Citizens’ Initiative
EFSF European Financial Stability Facility
EMU Economic and Monetary Union
EPSU European Federation of Public Service Unions
ESF European Social Forum
ETUC European Trade Union Confederation
EU European Union
FCO Foreign and Commonwealth Office
FDI foreign direct investment
GFC global financial crisis
GVC global value chain
IMF International Monetary Fund
IPE international political economy
IR international relations
LAWAS Latin American Workers’ Association
MIC military-industrial-academic complex
NGO non-governmental organisation
OPEC Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries
ORHA Office of Reconstruction and Humanitarian Assistance
PAH Plataforma de Afectados por la Hipoteca (Platform for People Affected by Mortgages)
PASOK Panhellenic Socialist Movement
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<tr>
<td>PRD</td>
<td>Pearl River Delta</td>
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<tr>
<td>SEWA</td>
<td>Self-Employed Women’s Association</td>
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<td>SGP</td>
<td>Stability and Growth Pact</td>
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<tr>
<td>SIGTUR</td>
<td>Southern Initiative on Globalisation and Trade Union Rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOE</td>
<td>state-owned enterprise</td>
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<tr>
<td>TC</td>
<td>textile and clothing</td>
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<tr>
<td>TCC</td>
<td>transnational capitalist class</td>
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<tr>
<td>TMSA</td>
<td>Transformational Model of Social Activity</td>
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<td>TNC</td>
<td>transnational corporation</td>
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<tr>
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<td>transnational state</td>
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