



Alternative Perspectives and Global Concerns (ap-gc.net)
By Dr. Mahmoud Masaeli

**43rd in a series on Alternative Perspectives on Global Challenges,
26th International Seminar on the Pandemic Situation**

Reviewing Development Assistance in Africa Facing Pandemic Situation

The response to underdevelopment has best been addressed by development assistance. The main argument in development assistance is that western societies, by their liberal spirit, are committed to freedom and wellbeing of the world. This commitment becomes largely manifest through assistance programs. Implementing such assistance programs seems to be incumbent on the West; or at least so it seems since this view characterised the *mainstream* approach in international development after WWII. However, development assistance and its impacts on the life of developing countries is not exempt from criticism. The following questions impose themselves in this regard:

- Is development assistance not a kind of interventionism to justify an all-pervasive presence of the donor countries in the developing world?
- Should development assistance be administered by a culture of help? Should the root or systemic causes of underdevelopment not be highlighted instead of remedial interventions?
- Development assistance exclusively aims at poverty reduction. What measures should be adopted to address inequality in a more comprehensive way?
- In spite of 70 years of development assistance, and billions of dollars spent, why are most people in developing countries still suffering from poverty and economic hardship?
- Are there acceptable and unacceptable development assistance? What constitutes either of the two?

These and similar questions will be discussed by our participants who are experts in ethics, spirituality, politics, social activism, and politics. This seminar in webinar format will be held via a Zoom teleconference and will be broadcasted live. It will also be recorded for offline access on the social media.

We encourage our speakers to submit a short paper of 2000-2500 words after the seminar to be published on the website of APGC. The collected papers will also be published in a public e-book by APGC.

Date: Friday, November 27th, 2020

Time: Ottawa: 13-14h30; Amsterdam: 19-20h30 (Find your timezone [here](#)).

Zoomlink:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87234981898?pwd=NUplem9leXdDbmY2SmExMUpsSEtMZz09>

Registration and Participation: Free of charge

We appreciate your donation: <https://ap-gc.net> (PayPal)

Dr Aderemi Oladele specialises in international development policy, governance, public sector management, Africa's geopolitics and multilateral diplomacy. He is a Senior Research Officer at the Permanent Delegation of Nigeria to UNESCO in Paris. His research interests are in sustainable development; Africa's geopolitics and political economy; results culture in international development management; and the linkages between internationally development policy and regional and national development. Aderemi is the Founder and Lead Analyst at 3psmars International, a non-profit think tank focused on capacity building and knowledge management for development effectiveness, with special focus on Africa. He served as a Visiting Associate Professor of International Studies in the Faculty of Social Sciences, National Open University of Nigeria from 2014 to 2016.



Arjo Klamer is emeritus professor of Cultural Economics at the Erasmus University of Rotterdam. His most recent book *Doing the Right Thing*, introduces a value-based approach to economy. With his associates, he is developing the so-called Quality Impact Monitor He gives workshops all over the world, and is politically active in his home country, the Netherlands.

Salma Atalla is a graduate of Leiden University in International Studies, with specialization in Africa and topics with particular focus on (the impact of) development aid in African countries; and an LL.B. undergraduate at Cairo University. Currently, she is a researcher and business developer at a large Egyptian industrial developer and an upcoming research assistant at the Technical University of Munich, where she is also perusing a Master's degree in *Responsibility in Science, Engineering and Technology*. Her published work greatly focuses on aspects of responsibility, such as the reports on *The Military Applicability of Robotic and Autonomous Systems* and *Macro Implications of Micro Transformations: An Assessment of AI's Impact on Contemporary Geopolitics*, which delve into the ethical and moral use of technologies.



Dr. Stanley Uche Anozie (chair) teaches Philosophy/Ethics at Indiana University Kokomo, Indiana. In 2007, he was awarded a Master's Scholarship from Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) and a Doctoral Fellowship from Ontario Graduate Scholarship (Canada) for 2011-2012. Anozie is Vice-President Alternative Perspectives and Global Concerns (ap-gc.net). He has published extensively, among them is the 2020 *Hans-Georg Gadamer and African Hermeneutic Philosophy*. Anozie's areas of research include Western Philosophy, African Philosophy and Religions, Africana Studies, Global and Applied Ethics, Hermeneutics, Continental Philosophy, Ethics of Patriotism, Hermeneutic of Political Belongingness, Social and Political Philosophy.



Dr Mahmoud Msaeli is a Canadian Iranian political philosopher, ethicist, spiritualist, poet, and a global think tank leader. His area of research concentration include Global Ethics, Ethics of Global Development, Human Rights, Global Justice, and Hermeneutics of Selfhood. He also holds a special interest in universal spirituality. Mahmoud is the Founding President of Alternative Perspectives and Global Concerns (ap-gc.net). Mahmoud has published extensively in global ethics, global development, spirituality and human rights.



The panelists



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