Global South Review is an academic journal published by Institute of International Studies on behalf of the Department of International Relations Universitas Gadjah Mada dedicated to provide academic and policy platform to exchange views, research findings, and dialogues within the Global South and between the Global North and the Global South. The Journal is designed to be a media to examine all the issues encountered by Global South in the context of current international justice, security, and order. Issued twice a year every June and December, contributors of the Journal are open for those who share concern on south–south cooperation.

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The editorial board of Global South Review would like to express our utmost gratitude to all the peer reviewers that participated in this edition's articles review process.
Editor’s Note
Mohtar Mas’oed
Suci Lestari Yuana

In this issue of the Global South Review Journal, we are delighted to present a collection of articles and a book review that collectively enrich the discourse on the Global South, offering diverse perspectives on the challenges and opportunities faced by nations in this dynamic region. As editors, we find these contributions instrumental in fostering a deeper understanding of the complex interplay of economic, political, and environmental factors that shape the Global South’s trajectory.

The first article, authored by Kanyadibya Cendana Prasetyo, delves into the responses of Global South nations, with a particular focus on Indonesia, to China’s Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) projects. The study sheds light on the Jakarta-Bandung High-Speed Railway project, emphasizing Indonesia’s active role in shaping the initiative to align with its New Developmentalism approach. This case study adds nuance to the prevailing discourse, highlighting the contrasting interests between the government and local communities, thereby emphasizing the importance of considering agency and responses of host nations in BRI initiatives.

Lacin Idil Oztig, in the second article, critically examines the inequalities within the discipline of International Relations (IR) that perpetuate a strong center-periphery dynamic. The author challenges the discipline’s Eurocentric tendencies and calls for a truly global IR by addressing the intellectual and material barriers that hinder the representation of Global South IR theories. This aligns with the broader theme of empowerment and representation, urging a reevaluation of knowledge production in IR.

Tim Anderson and Dina Yulianti, in the third article, present a persuasive argument for the developmental case of Indo-Pacific and Global South nations joining BRICS Plus. The article positions this move as essential to escape the challenges posed by the dominance of the dollar and unilateral coercive measures, providing a potential alternative through BRICS Plus. This contribution resonates with the overarching theme of economic empowerment within the Global South.

Wenbo Wu’s article, the fourth in this volume, explores the evolution of internationalism in the Global South, emphasizing three major components – pluralism, solidarism, and developmentalism. The study traces the historical development of these concepts and envisions an international order rooted in post-colonial solidarity, a pluralistic political outlook, and redistributive justice. This aligns with the ongoing discourse on the diverse trajectories of
internationalism in the Global South.

The fifth article, by Wulan Kencana Adjani, maps Indonesia’s South-South Cooperation initiatives, particularly in the context of climate adaptation and sustainable development. The article underscores the strategic benefits of such cooperation and emphasizes the significance of technological exchange in fostering effective collaboration. This resonates with the broader theme of international cooperation and mutual support within the Global South.

Finally, the book review by Nino Viartasiwi and Geubrina Putri Ramadhani provides a critical examination of “Women, Peace, and Security: Feminist Perspectives on International Affairs.” This review contributes to the broader discussion by emphasizing the importance of diverse voices and perspectives, particularly those representing women, within the international affairs narrative.

In conclusion, this issue of the Global South Review Journal offers a comprehensive exploration of the region’s responses to global challenges, demonstrating the resilience, agency, and diversity of nations within the Global South. We hope these contributions stimulate further dialogue and understanding, fostering a more inclusive and nuanced approach to global discussions.

Sincerely,

Mohtar Mas’oed - Editor in Chief
Suci Lestari Yuana - Managing Editor
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