

Conversing Andy Pike's Financialization and Local Statecraft: a response to the commentaries

16th April 2026 (Thu)
04:30 – 06:00 pm (UTC+8)
Rm 221, Chen Kou Bun
Building, CUHK

The seminar is based on the author's response to a set of commentaries on his book – Financialization and Local Statecraft – to be published as a book symposium in the journal Environment and Planning A. The commentators' interpretations support the book's argument dispelling the 'councillors at the casino' narrative and redirecting the gambling and risk-taking charge at national rather than local government. They also recognise the book's interdisciplinary and international reach and links in the book from its geographical political economy to critical financial and policy studies, public administration, and local public management. Continuing the conversation, the seminar focuses on discussion and debate about three themes from across the commentaries worthy of response, further thinking, and research: agency and structure in local statecraft and financialisation; empirical research and theory building and challenging; and political economy, politics, and public interest research.



Andy Pike

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Andy Pike is the Henry Daysh Professor of Regional Development Studies in the Centre for Urban and Regional Development Studies (CURDS), Newcastle University, UK. His research interests, publications and research projects are focused on the geographical political economy of local, regional and urban development and policy. He has undertaken research projects for the OECD, UN-ILO, European Commission, UK Government and national, regional and local institutions. He is a Fellow of the Regional Studies Association and the UK's national Academy of Social Sciences.



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