

# IPW LECTURES

## Labour, Capital and Debates on Development in the Post-2001 Crisis Period in Turkey

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### **Abstract:**

The economic crisis of 2001 was one of the most important turning points of the capitalist development process of Turkey. The most significant indicator of this was the comprehensive legal, institutional and structural transformation the capitalist development process of Turkey saw after the crisis. The developments, policies and regulations of the period led to a transformation within the structure of the state and guaranteed the continuation of capital accumulation while the waged classes of the country suffered from more flexible working conditions, lower real wages and fatal work accidents. This process went hand in hand with the intensification of power within the administrative state apparatus, or, with the 'increasing authoritarianism'. However, during the period, the term economic development functioned as a cover creating legitimacy for the process mentioned above together with a (neo)liberal orientation and rhetoric by the Justice and Development Party (AKP). When the crisis of 2008 hit the world capitalist system, the country was one of the most effected countries around the world. The effects of the crisis were and have been overcome through more flexible and repressive labour market policies. In the post- 2008 crisis period, the neoliberal authoritarianism has been gradually replaced with the permanent "the state of emergency regime" in Turkey and the term "development", together with the term "new Turkey", as a top title, continued to be used to create legitimacy for the 'new' phase. The aim of this presentation is to discuss the 'accumulation by authoritarianism' and by 'the state of the emergency regime' in ('new')Turkey with particular focus on the situation of labour.