



PUBLIC SERVICE REFORM  
ROUNDTABLE SERIES

## State Capture and its Aftermath: Developing an Agenda for State Reform



APART FROM MAJOR CHALLENGES IN THE STRUCTURE AND THE MANAGEMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA'S ECONOMY, STATE CAPTURE REVEALED IMPORTANT WEAKNESSES IN THE DESIGN, IN THE ORGANISATION AND IN THE STAFFING OF MANY STATE INSTITUTIONS.

In December 2017, the ANC elected a new President, Cyril Ramaphosa. This event is being widely celebrated as a 'new dawn', that is, as an opportunity to deal with the corruption and economic mismanagement and opportunity to restore the constitutional project and return government to action on the basis of sound policies.

Civil society and academic, along with constitutional bodies, several courageous journalists and some ANC members themselves have played an important part in this renewal.

In the spirit of this democratic opening, the Public Affairs Research Institute, working in partnership with a broader civil-society, will host a major conference on reconstructing public institutions in South Africa in the aftermath of state capture.

Date: 22-24 October 2018

Venue: Wits University

## About the conference

The conference will bring together scholars and practitioners from South Africa and from around the globe to discuss and share their experiences of state reform initiatives in countries struggling with the legacies of colonialism, fragmentation, poverty and inequality.

### The purpose of the conference will be to:

Present new and original research, and help identify the elements of a state reform agenda in South Africa, focusing on public institutions and on public administration

The conference will be followed by a series of technical commissions, where experts, civil society activists, government officials and politicians develop sound practical proposals for reform in the areas identified above.

## The road to developing a programme for state reform in South Africa

- 1**  
**Phase one:** Build support through stakeholder engagement  
**When?** February to September 2018  
**Who?** Existing civil society initiatives, religious organisations, unions, political parties, academics, analysts, government, global south organisations  
**How?** Face-to-face engagements, sectoral roundtables  
**Outputs:** draft reports to be used for discussion at the State Capture and its Aftermath conference
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**Phase two:** State Capture and its Aftermath Conference  
**When?** 22-24 October 2018  
**Who?** Bringing together scholars and practitioners from SA and around the world, to discuss and share their experiences of state reform initiatives in countries struggling with the legacies of colonialism, fragmentation, poverty and inequality.  
**How?** Three-day conference  
**Outputs:** a series of technical commissions set up to explore thematic areas emanating from the conference
- 3**  
**Phase three:** Technical commissions  
**When?** November to March 2018  
**How?** Series of technical working team meetings per theme, a set of issues that need to be considered by political parties in order to reform the state  
**Outputs:**
- 4**  
**Phase four:** Engagement with political parties  
**When?** Run-up to 2019 national and provincial elections  
**Who?** All political parties  
**How?** Face-to-face meetings  
**Outputs:** state reform issues to be dealt with in political parties' manifestos