INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC JUSTICE
RESEARCH
POLICY
ADVOCACY

IFI Symposium

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Institute for Economic Justice

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1. BACKGROUND

- Research and advocacy work done by civil society organisations (AIDC, IEJ, Budget Justice Coalition, Climate Justice Coalition) and labour unions (COSATU & SAFTU) since 2022.
- Responding to concerns about South Africa's growing use of loans from International Financial Institutions (IFIs) since 2020.
- At the end, it is up to our parliamentarians to put up the appropriate legal framework.



AIDC
Alternative Information & Development Centre











1. BACKGROUND

- Developments:
  - In 2023 and 2025 the Standing Committee on Finance recommended that IFI loans must be tabled before Parliament to give members the opportunity to scrutinise and / or to approve the uptake of this debt.
  - In early 2026, the EFF published a draft bill for public comment on IFI loans and parliamentary approval.

2. PURPOSE OF THE SYMPOSIUM

1. For all to have an appreciation of the scale, purpose and impact of IFI lending in South Africa (**policy brief and research report**).
2. For all to assess the options available to deal with inadequate parliamentary supervision and the risk of undermining policy sovereignty (**party presentations**).
3. For all to resolve on the best solution to address IFI lending.

2. PURPOSE OF THE SYMPOSIUM

Guiding Question:

What legislative, regulatory, or institutional changes need to be put in place to ensure that Parliament is able to hold the National Treasury accountable for the taking of IFI loans?



The Institute for Economic Justice (IEJ) is a progressive economic policy think tank committed to advancing economic justice, systemic change, and the equitable distribution of resources to ensure rights realisation and planetary wellbeing.

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