How financial markets profited from the pandemic: the case of Brazilian income relief policies and household debt

The coronavirus pandemic has accelerated structural shifts in how social policy and economic policy intersect. New forms of state intervention are reshaping patterns of social reproduction. Social policies like cash transfers and basic income schemes have become wrapped up with household debt management. Is post-pandemic recovery becoming all about restoring households’ capacity to take on more debt?

Lena Lavina (Professor of Welfare Economics, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro & Leverhulme Visiting Professor, SOAS, University of London)