

PROFESSOR EMANUEL DE KADT

Former Deputy Director of the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), **Emanuel de Kadt**, passed away on the 6 March 2024 at the age of 90.

Emanuel was one of the first Professors to be appointed to IDS in 1969 and was a stalwart of the Institute for more than three decades. He served as the Deputy Director for a number of years.

Emanuel's research was directed to the sociology of religion with particular reference to the evangelicals in Latin America. He also conducted extensive research on the character and significance of what was then referred to as the tourist sector.

Emanuel's greatest and lasting contribution to the IDS was in the handling of the controversy over Study Seminar 15 during the early 1970s. IDS had proposed to run a Study Seminar on the economic role of the State Sector in post-colonial economies, addressing issues such as the size of the private sector and, controversially, how to limit the role to be played by foreign owned private enterprises. Should these colonial-era enterprises be nationalised and, if so, how could compensation be minimised? The then Department for International Development (DFID) was expected to fund this, as it did for all study seminars at the time.

Questions were asked in the House of Commons about DFID funding teaching activities at IDS that encouraged developing countries to nationalise British enterprises and, worse, to minimise compensation. This led to a fraught confrontation with DFID. Emanuel negotiated a resolution. IDS should teach what it believed were the real issues and proceed with the Study Seminar as planned. DFID would then decide whether or not to support the seminar with funding. This is still the arrangement today and everyone in IDS should be grateful for Emanuel's skilful work and his defence of academic freedom.

Throughout his period at the IDS Emanuel was a thoughtful and supportive colleague, mentor and supervisor. He was widely admired and will be greatly missed.

[Information provided by Nicola Davies, Marketing & Communications Manager, IDS]