



## SPECIFICATIONS

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# Confronting Finance

## Mobilizing the 99% for economic and social progress

*Edited by Nicolas Pons-Vignon and Phumzile Ncube*

*“The Global Labour Column has become a valuable source of analysis of current economic trends that affect working people all over the world. This anthology brings together critical pieces on many issues (fiscal strategies, finance policies, social protection, strategies for job creation and much more), encompassing different regions and various perspectives.”*

– Jayati Ghosh, Professor of Economics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

*“The Global Labour Column offers a useful forum for analysing and exploring policy alternatives for a fair and inclusive globalization. From the perspective of the tripartite ILO, this anthology plays a valuable part in highlighting the role of trade unions and how they must equip themselves to help turn the tide in favour of a new era of social justice.”*

– Juan Somavia, Director-General, International Labour Office

The unfolding economic crisis has unequivocally proved that neoliberal policies were no better for growth than for social progress. The veil, which led some to believe that the sacrifices made by workers in the last 30 years were necessary for a healthy economy, has been torn. Or has it? As poverty and inequality are rising to alarming levels in Europe, the old continent seems at a loss to respond. Political leaders seem content to liquidate the social gains made by workers' struggles. A small minority, possibly even smaller than 1 per cent, associated with the financial sector, stands to benefit from a deepening of neoliberalism.

This new anthology of essays from the Global Labour Column explores Europe's turmoil and challenges the deep-rooted consequences of neoliberalism in the North

and the South. It sheds light on new movements and ideas which are emerging to defend and mobilize workers, and points to encouraging new policies and directions which could lay the foundations of a new order that would put decent work and life at its core. A number of these come from the South, from which the North may have much to learn.

*Also available in French and Spanish*

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