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“Neoliberalizing the Public Administration through New Public Management, Entrepreneurialism and Good Governance”

Abstract

The paper will discuss the growing influence of private-sector management in social policy as well as a series of models of deregulation of the wider public administration. Specifically, four models will be examined a) the New Public Management b) “entrepreneurial governance”, c) “good governance” and d) the standardization of modes of organizing the public sector through organizations such as the International Standardization Organization (“ISO-Governance”). In a technocratic language, these “efficiency” models seek to organize public administration with criteria of entrepreneurialism and marketization and they construct theoretical justifications of the deregulation of the welfare state. In the frame of “modernization”, these models understand politics as a managerial “mission/project” to be accomplished and they theorize transitions such as from the “citizen” to the “customer”, from the state as welfare provider to the “market friendly interventions”