



CRITICALLY
URGENT
SOCIETAL
PROBLEMS



Welcome to the 1st CUSP Lecture

BO ROTHSTEIN

presents his new book.

Friday, 4 June, at 3.15 - 4.30 p.m CEST

Controlling Corruption: The Social Contract Approach

Since the late 1990s, the detrimental effects of corruption on human well-being have become well established in research. This has resulted in a stark increase in anti-corruption programs launched by international and national development organizations. Despite these efforts, evaluations of the effects of these anti-corruption programs have been disappointing.

The argument in this book is that this huge policy failure can be explained by three factors. Firstly, the corruption problem has been poorly conceptualized. Secondly, the problem has been located in the wrong social spaces. It is neither a cultural nor a legal problem. Instead, it is for the most part located in what organization theory defines as the 'standard operating procedures' in social organizations. Thirdly, the general theory that has dominated anti-corruption efforts — the principal-agent theory — is based on serious misspecification of the basic nature of the problem. The book presents a reconceptualization of corruption and a new theory — drawing on the tradition of the social contract.

Bo Rothstein holds the August Röhss Chair in Political Science at the University of Gothenburg. For further information, please see [here](#).

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CUSP is an arena for addressing big societal challenges of our time: social, political, cultural, economic, environmental, and/or medical. In a collaborative effort to give voice to urgent societal problems, Swedish Collegium for Advanced Study (SCAS) and Institute for Futures Studies (IFFS) invite academics, policy-makers, artists, and other actors to publicly address such global concerns.