

Track no. 14: After NPM

When Christopher Hood coined the (critical) term New Public Management in 1991, it was based on what was taking place in the public sector during the 1980s. During the Reaganism and Thatcherism of the 1980s private corporations have become the model of governance and management, to be emulated by public administrations all over the world. New Zealand has become the Mecca of New Public Management, replacing in this role Canada and Scandinavia. By 2007, according to Hood, the NPM ceased to exist. Indeed, in the same year, the Danish NPM practitioners wrote in the media "Forgive us, because we did not know what we were doing", apologizing for various NPM measures. The question remains, if the new trend, "seeing trust", is as different from the NPM as the Danish politicians present it. In other Scandinavian countries, central and local public administration still contains many forms and practices that fit into definition of NPM. Undoubtedly, the practice, as usual, is more diverse than both researchers and politicians tend to think. The interesting question is, however, if it is possible to discern a new trend or trends that will replace NPM in the public sector. We invite researchers who have an answer to this question to our track.

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