

Sylos Labini

Underdevelopment

A Strategy for Reform

The process of globalization, evidenced by environmental change, migration, industrial relation and the extraordinary acceleration of industrial economic relations, has not led to increased convergence in the global economy. Rather, in some cases it has been accompanied by greater divergence between the fortunes of the world's richest and poorest nations. Professor Sylos Labini argues that mainstream economics provide limited help in considering these phenomena and instead adopts the perspectives of Adam Smith, David Ricardo and Malthus, who put economic growth at the centre of their analyses. In this short book he offers a fresh approach to the theory of economic growth and reminds us of the great variety of economic trajectories in developing countries. He further proposes a strategy of institutional reform to respond to the problem of underdevelopment. For Africa he recommends a strategy of organizational reforms, including a programme to eradicate illiteracy and to promote rural and industrial districts.



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