



Media Invitation

Book Launch

Marriages of Inconvenience: The politics of coalitions in South Africa

Johannesburg | Monday, 05 July 2021

The **Mapungubwe Institute for Strategic Reflection (MISTRA)** would like to invite media to the launch of MISTRA's latest research publication entitled, *Marriages of Inconvenience: The politics of coalitions in South Africa* on the 8th July 2021.

For all the critique of interparty coalitions, they become inevitable – and essential instruments of governance – when absolute majorities are not realised in an election. Coalitions are, in a sense, a product of the people's will in that the electorate asserts a lack of overwhelming confidence in any single contestant in the polls.

Coalitions in various iterations have been a part of the South African polity since the attainment of democracy in 1994. At local government level, coalitions have been relatively commonplace in South Africa from the onset of democratically elected municipalities in 2000, with many situations where no single party attained an absolute majority. This gained prominence from 2016 when many metropolitan governments and some large towns became sites of coalition politics.

Marriages of Inconvenience: The politics of coalitions in South Africa identifies and explores critical questions about how to stabilise coalition governance in the South African setting.

The research-based volume collates and interprets lessons that South Africa should take to heart in managing interparty coalitions. It explores domestic experiences of coalition government as well as case studies from the rest of the African continent and instances further afield. It seeks to distil the factors that leverage successful coalitions, along with those that undermine them.

The volume is edited by MISTRA's Research Director, **Professor Susan Booyesen**, with contributions from fifteen top coalitions scholars, analysts and policy experts. The discussion will be introduced by the editor, along with **Professor Mcebisi Ndletyana, Dr Khabele Matlosa, Professor Pierre de Vos and Amuzweni Ngoma**.

The virtual launch will take place as follows:

Date: Thursday, 8th July 2021

Virtual Platform: Zoom

Time: 15h00 – 17h00

[Register here](#) to attend the virtual event



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Issued by the Mapungubwe Institute for Strategic Reflection (MISTRA)

