

# A World More Equal

*An Internationalist Perspective on the Cold War*

**Sandrine Kott**

Translated by Arby Gharibian

The post-World War II period is typically seen as a time of stark division, an epochal global conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union. But beneath the surface, the postwar era witnessed a striking degree of international cooperation. The United Nations and its agencies, as well as regional organizations, international nongovernmental organizations, and private foundations brought together actors from conflicting worlds, fostering international collaboration across the geopolitical and ideological divisions of the Cold War.

Diving into the archives of these organizations and associations, Sandrine Kott provides a new account of the Cold War that foregrounds the rise of internationalism as both an ideology and a practice. She examines cooperation across boundaries in international spaces, emphasizing the role of mid-sized powers, including Eastern European and neutral countries. Kott highlights how the need to address global inequities became a central concern, as officials and experts argued that economic inequality imperiled the creation of a lasting peace. International organizations gave newly decolonized and “Third World” countries a platform to challenge the global distribution of power and wealth, and they encouraged transnational cooperation in causes such as human rights and women’s rights. Assessing the failure to achieve a new international economic order in the 1970s, Kott adds new perspective on the rise of neoliberalism. A truly global study of the Cold War through the lens of international organizations, *A World More Equal* also shows why the internationalism of this era offers resources for addressing social and global inequalities today.

**SANDRINE KOTT** is professor of modern European history at the University of Geneva and a visiting professor at New York University. Her books in English include *Communism Day-to-Day: State Enterprises in East German Society* (2014).

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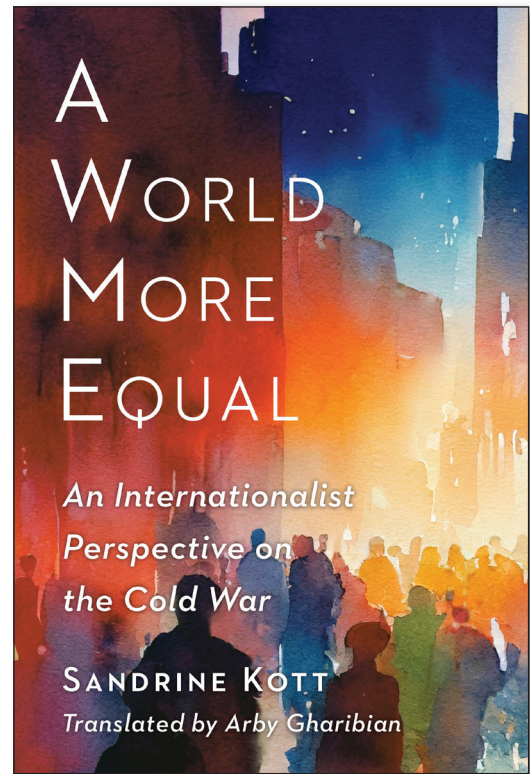
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“In this immensely stimulating study, Sandrine Kott delineates exciting new paths for twentieth-century international and global history. Using international organizations as sites to explore the shifting balance of social, economic, and political forces between the Western, Communist, and Third worlds, Kott shows that the Cold War was much more than simply a struggle between two superpowers.”

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