



Competition and cooperation in the use of solidarity history

The case of the Nordic support
to South Africa



Difficulties of global solidarity

- Western solidarity activists can only seldom portray themselves as directly affected victims of conflict or repression
- Western native country profits by value transfers from the third world
- No combined victories for the liberation- and solidarity moments have lead to fundamental global changes
- Success for the global solidarity movement might inflict higher living costs on people expected to be involved in protests
- Growing part of western populations are feeling embarrassed by the potential costs of solidarity
- Activists and researchers are often stuck in a tradition of nationalism or localism





Some AAM pillars of strenght

- **AAMs strengthened by a deepening concern about domestic racism**
- **AAMs was part of the liberation of Southern Africa**
- **Both broad domestic and international appeal**
- **Combinations of desk and street, of blockades and conferences**
- **Basic optimism of freedom struggle**



Articles in our forthcoming book

Melber & Stolten (eds.), *Nordic Solidarity Revisited...*

- Ian Liebenberg: Civil strife, diaspora and visions contending
- Håkan Thörn: Anti-apartheid as a global social movement
- Bjørn Møller: Civil society romanticism
- Mai Palmberg: Reflections on the history writing by the solidarity movement





... more articles

Melber & Stolten (eds.), *Nordic Solidarity Revisited...*

- Björn Beckman: On trade union solidarity
- Timo-Erkki Heino: Finland, a unique case
- Nina Drolsum Krogvold: Norwegian solidarity with Southern Africa
- Christopher Morgenstjerne: African freedom struggle – in Denmark



... and even more articles



Melber & Stolten (eds.), *Nordic Solidarity Revisited...*

- Steen Christensen: The Danish debate on support to the liberation movements
- Morten Nielsen: The anti-apartheid struggle in Denmark
- Reinhart Kössler: A situation where you could show some decency
- Tertit von Hanno Aasland: Review article

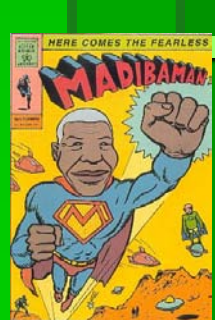


Developments after 1990



- Donor governments pointing out their own national merits of solidarity
- Linking to popular solidarity traditions by continued government to government transitional aid
- Mix of aid and business interests
- Deterioration of NGO political solidarity

From links to RDP's collective enthusiasm to GEAR's individualised demobilisation



Nordic transitional aid



- **Support of civil society organisations too vague and casual**
- **Poverty orientation should have been increased by development of earlier anti-apartheid funding policies for the organisation of marginalised groups**
- **Corporate sector business-to-business aid mainly helped Nordic companies**



Competition and cooperation in the use of solidarity history

The case of the Nordic support
to South Africa

