

# Capitalism and imperialism: critical concepts for contemporary public health

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## Critical links between the health crisis and the workings of transnational capitalism and imperialism

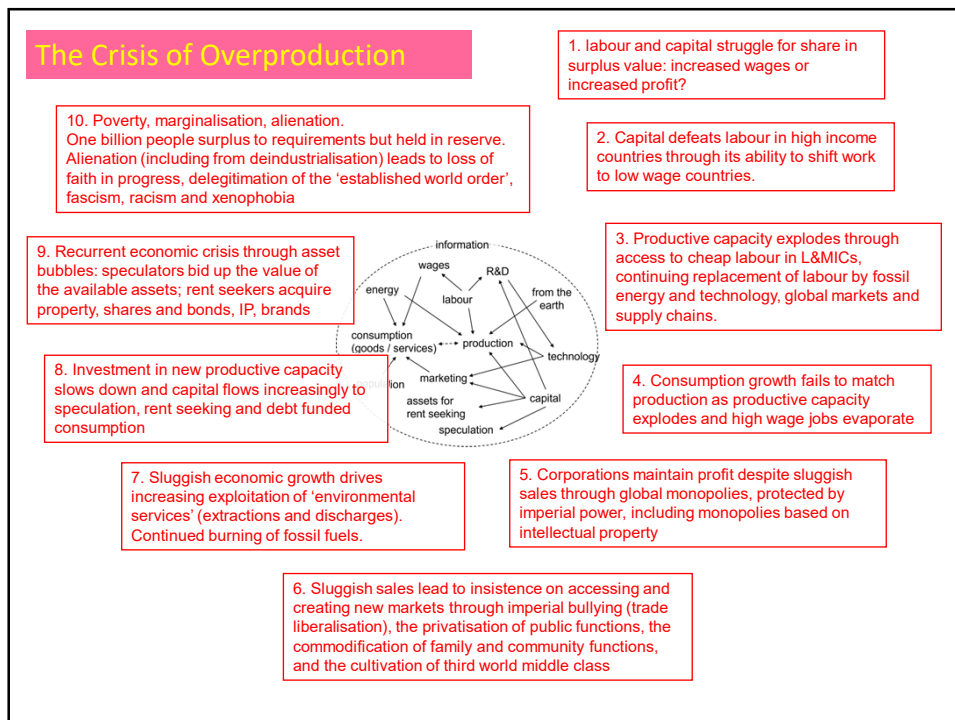
- deepening economic inequality
  - overproduction, deindustrialisation, financialisation, imperialism
- environmental degradation, including global warming and biodiversity loss
- food systems designed to maximise corporate profits
  - industrial (large scale, energy and chemical intense) food systems (at the cost of small farmers' livelihoods, environmental degradation and people's health)
  - global monopolist corporations sitting astride global supply chains, commodity speculation
  - trade rules to protect Northern agribusiness and force open Southern markets
- war and conflict, occupation and ethnic cleansing, forced migration, authoritarian regimes
- fiscal crisis, austerity, and privatisation (utilities, services, infrastructure)
- a global drive to privatise healthcare, impacting on quality, efficiency, and equity of access
- extreme intellectual property laws
  - impose price barriers to accessing healthcare products and focus innovation priorities on profitable markets, rather than people's needs

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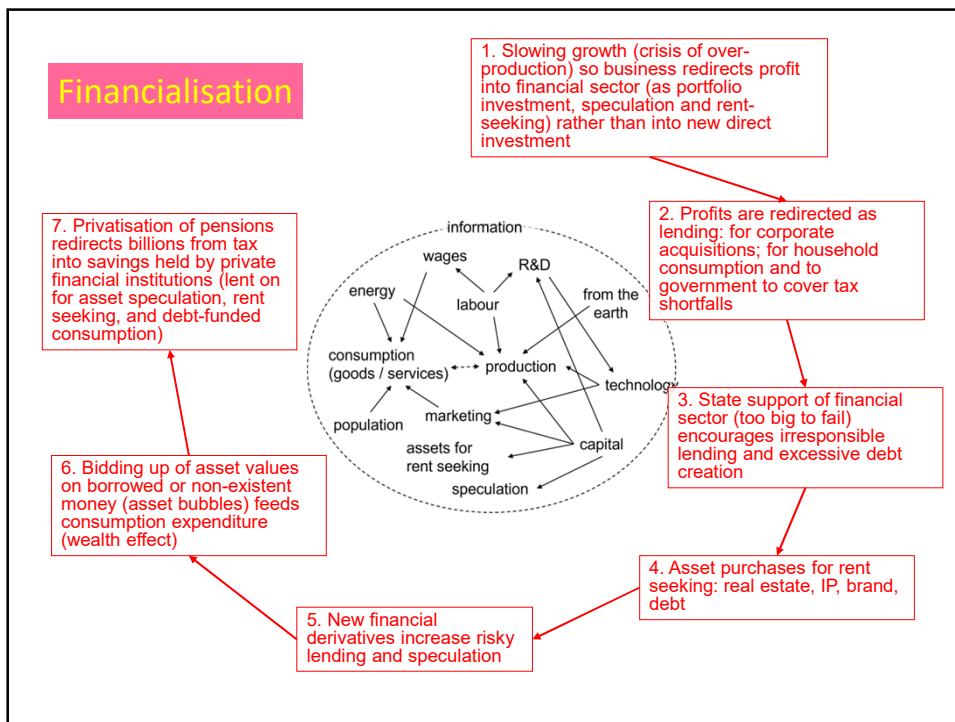
## How capitalism and imperialism shape people's health

- The crisis of transnational capitalism
  - Over-production (and under-consumption)
  - Financialisation
- Imperialism
  - Unequal power relations
  - Unequal economic exchange

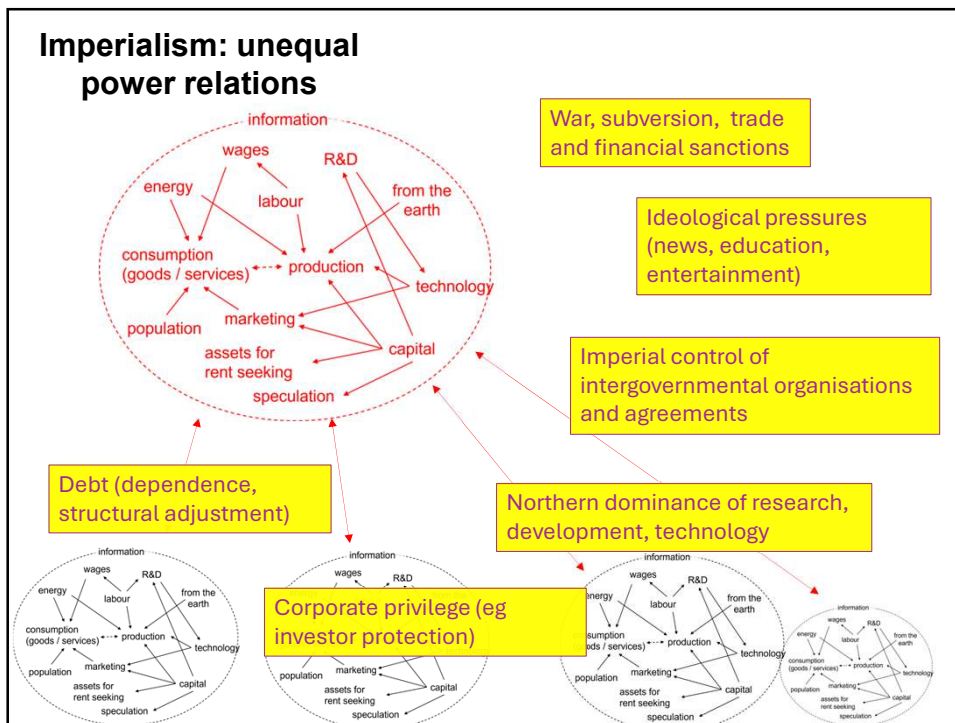
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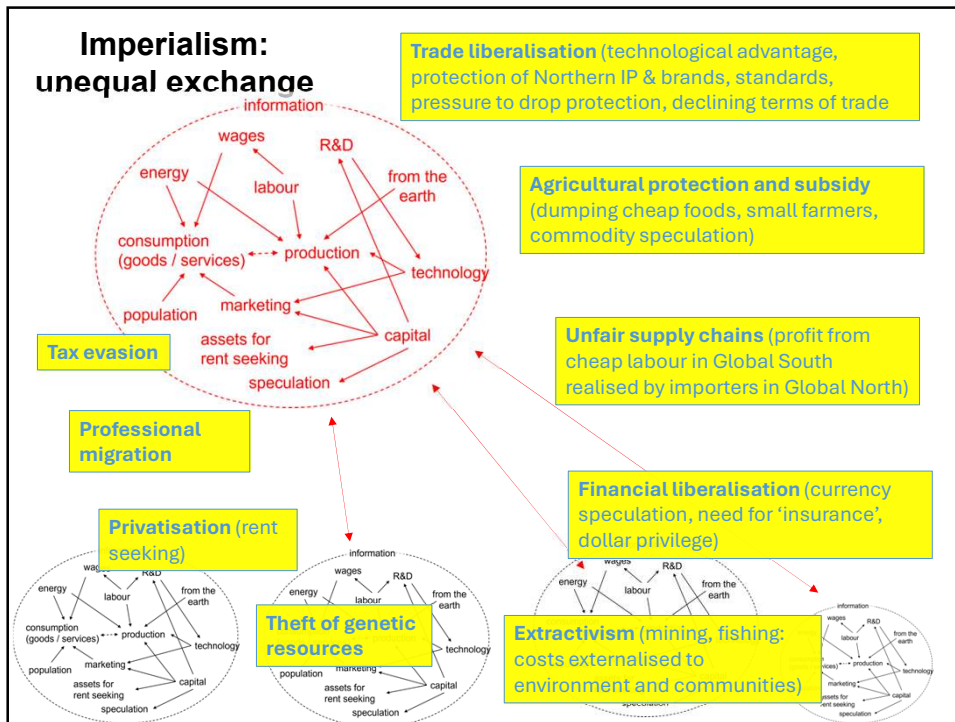
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