What is the Global South? Where is the Global North? And why do people use these terms? This talk focuses on the North-South divide as one of the binaries that – as meta categories – are used to make sense of global space. Following a brief overview of (the usage of) North-South terminology, we are set to engage with the implications of binary framings for the study and practice of international development. In light of the dominance of North-South references and similar binary constructs in development-related debates, we will also ask why these meta categories are difficult to overcome.