



The Political Economy of Globalization

Globalization Defined

Globalization broadly refers to the expansion of global linkages, the organization of social life on a global scale, and the growth of a global consciousness, hence to the consolidation of world society...

Globalization Defined

...Such a definition captures much of what the term commonly means, but its meaning is disputed. It encompasses several large processes; definitions differ in what they emphasize.

Globalization Defined

...Globalization is historically complex; definitions vary in the particular driving force they identify. The meaning of the term is itself a topic in global discussion; it may refer to “real” processes, to ideas that justify them, or to a way of thinking about them...

Globalization Defined

**...The term is not neutral!
Definitions express different
assessments of global
change. Among critics of
capitalism and global
inequality, globalization now
has an especially pejorative
ring.**

Globalization Defined



Do you get it???

Globalization Defined

**How about an easier
definition...something
that makes sense that
I can understand...OK
then, let's try this....**

Globalization Defined

Question: What is
Globalization?

Answer: Princess Diana's
death.

Question: How come?

Answer:

**An English
princess...**

**...with an
Egyptian
boyfriend...**



**...crashes in a
French
tunnel...**

**...riding in a
German car...**

**...with a Dutch
engine...**

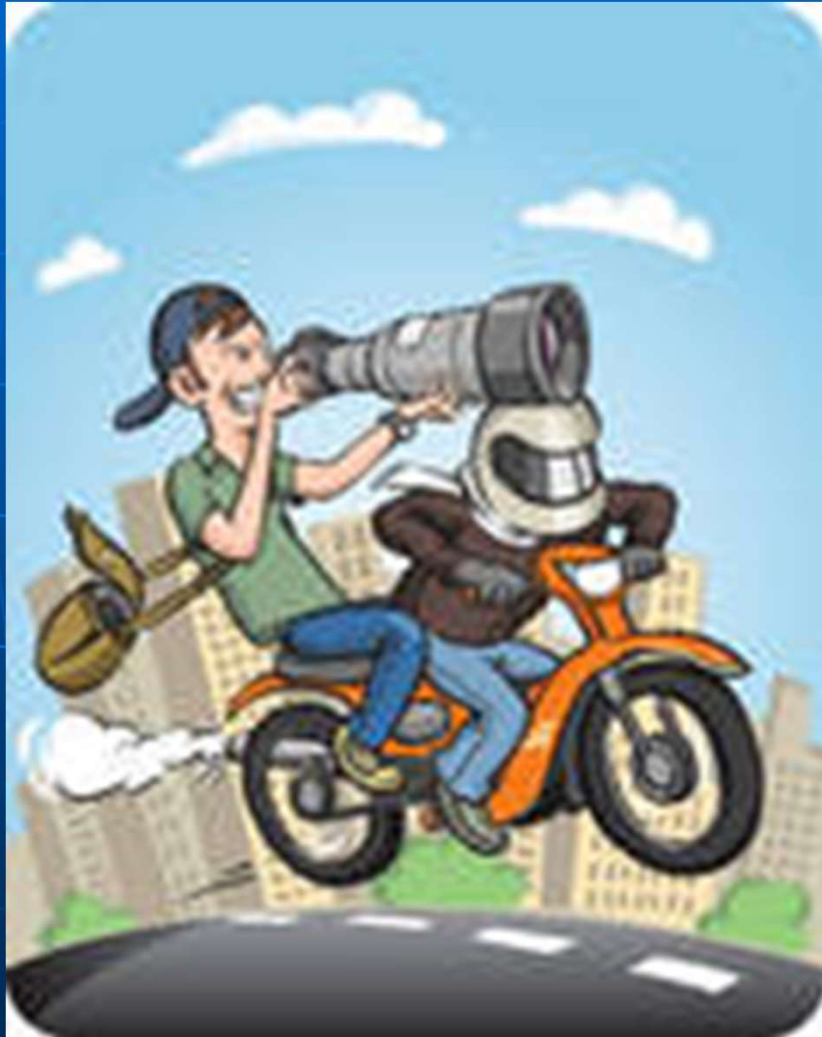




**...driven by a
Belgian
chauffeur...**



**...who was
drunk on
Scottish
whiskey...**



**...followed
closely by
Italian
paparazzi...
...on Japanese
motorcycles**

**...she was treated by an
American doctor...**

...using Brazilian medicines...



**...All this
interesting
information
has been
supplied to you
by a Brit...**

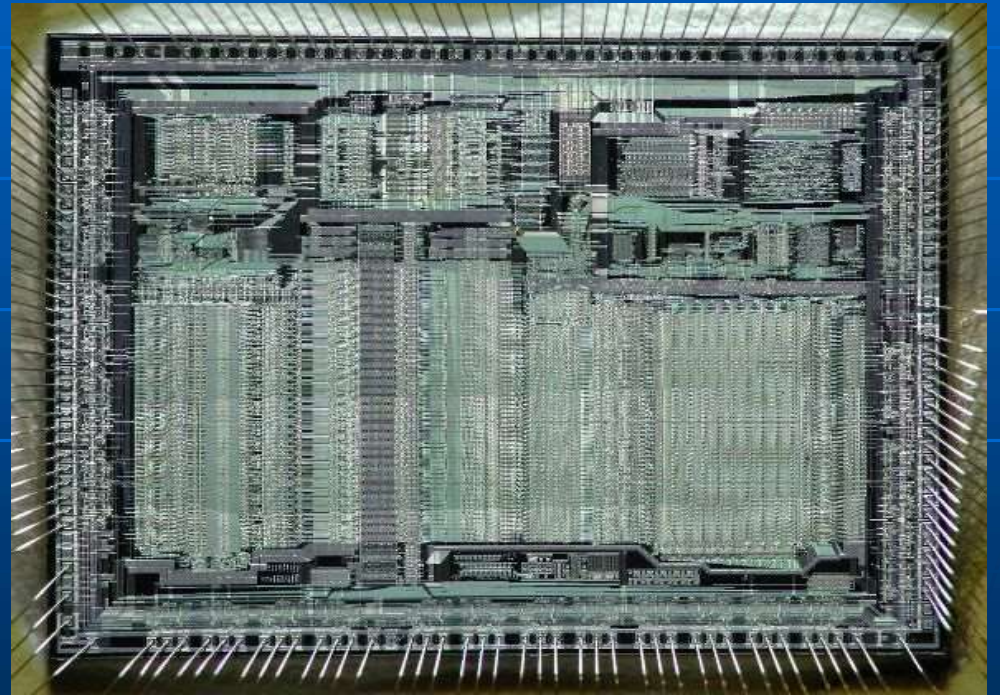
**...using
American
Apple
technology...**



**...And you're
probably
reading this
on a Chinese-
made
computer...**



**...that uses
Taiwanese
chips...**



**...and a
Korean
monitor...**



**...assembled
by
Bangladeshi
workers...**



...in a Singapore plant...



**...transported
by Filipino
sailors...**

**working on
Greek ships...**





**...hijacked by
Somali
pirates...**

...released by
French
mercenaries





**...then
unloaded by
Romanian
dock workers
in
Rotterdam...**



...and brought to your store by Bulgarian truck drivers...

**...where you
buy it from a
Polish sales
assistant...**



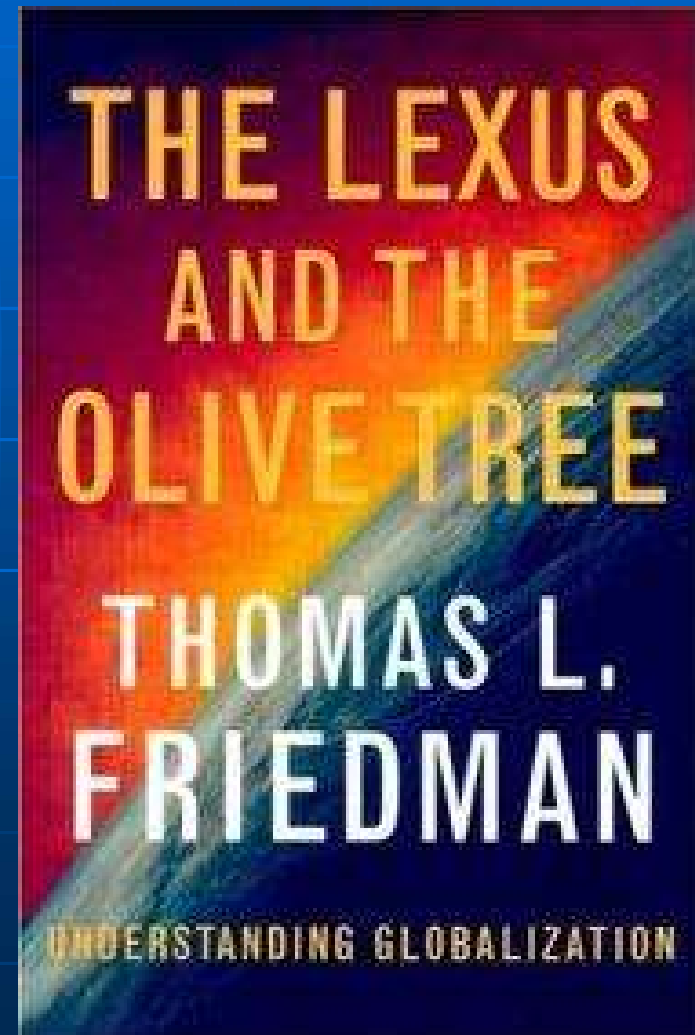
...and that, my
friends, is
Globalization!!!

But seriously....

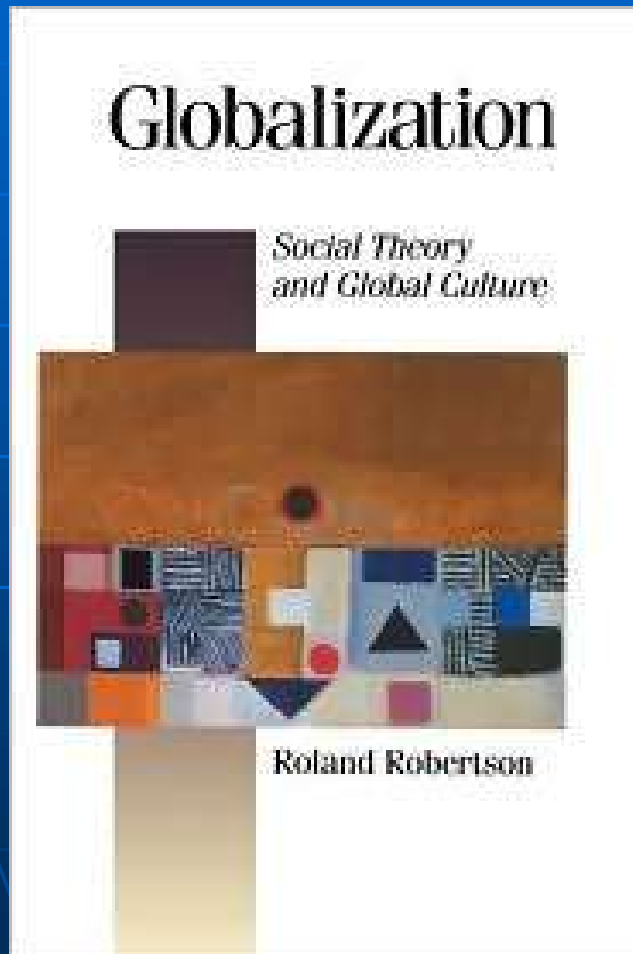
**The following definitions
represent currently
influential views from
academia:**

Friedman, *The Lexus and the Olive Tree*, 1999

“[T]he inexorable integration of markets, nation-states, and technologies to a degree never witnessed before in a way that is enabling individuals, corporations and nation-states to reach around the world farther, faster, deeper and cheaper than ever before...the spread of free-market capitalism to virtually every country in the world.”



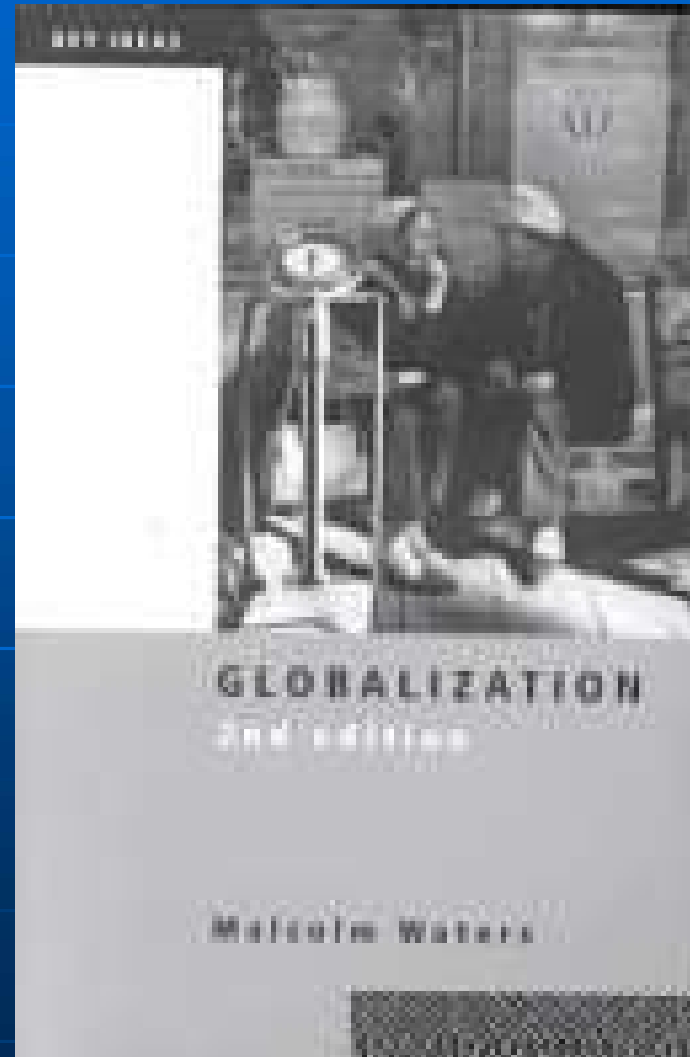
Robertson, *Globalization*, 1992



“The compression of the world and the intensification of consciousness of the world as a whole...concrete global interdependence and consciousness of the global whole in the twentieth century.”

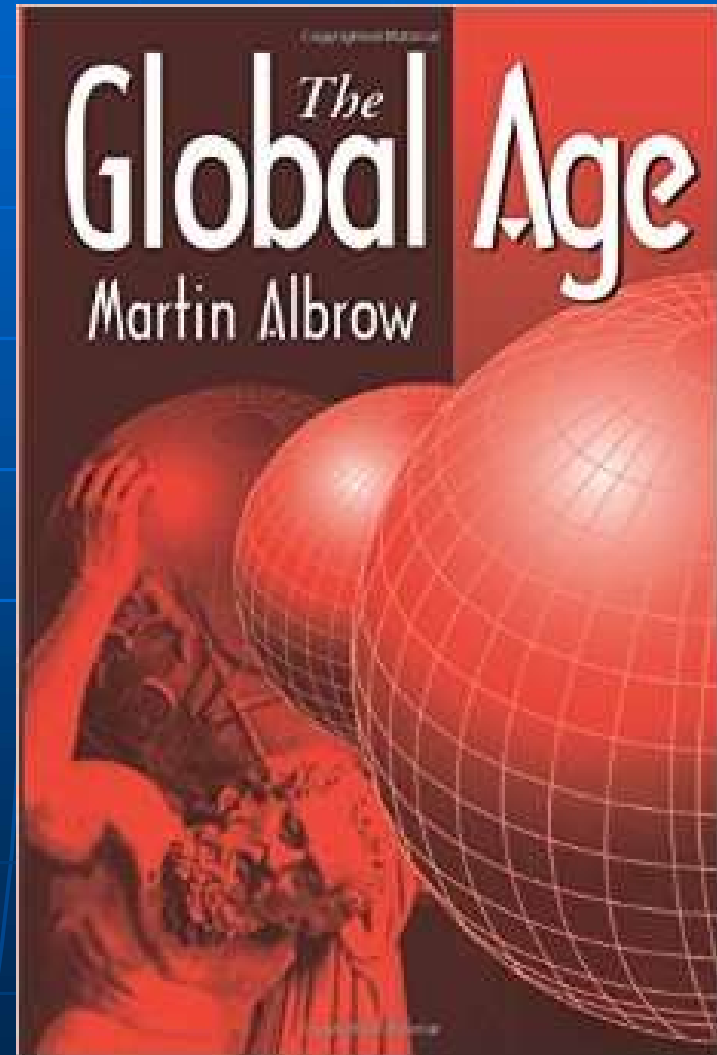
Waters, *Globalization*, 1995

“A social process in which the constraints of geography on social and cultural arrangements recede and in which people become increasingly aware that they are receding.”



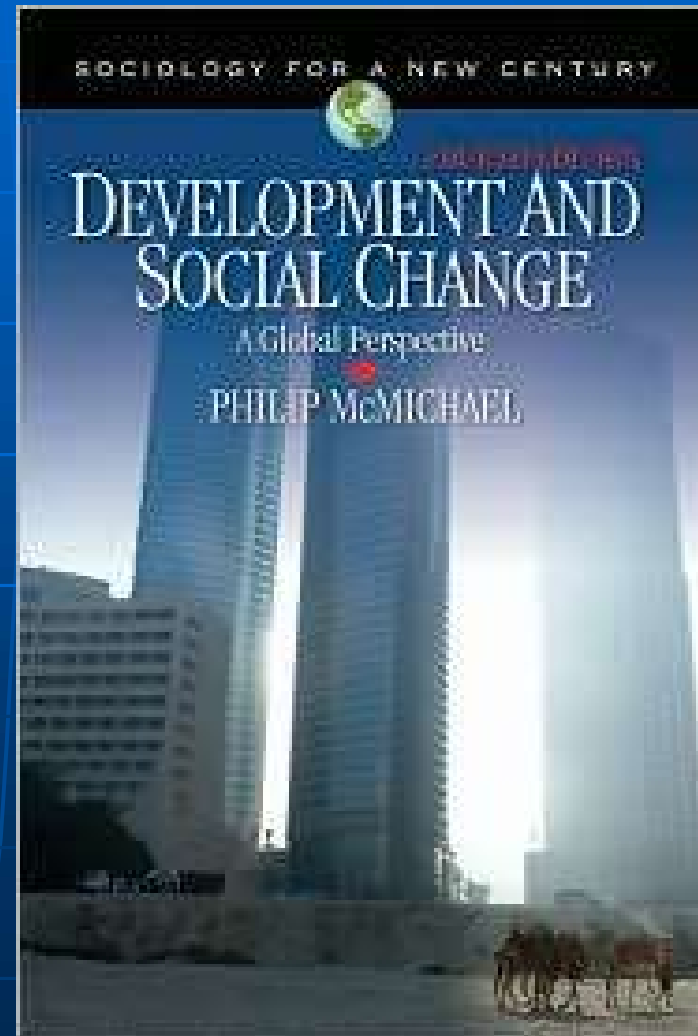
Albrow, *The Global Age*, 1996

“The historical transformation constituted by the sum of particular forms and instances of ...[m]aking or being made global (i) by the active dissemination of practices, values, technology and other human products throughout the globe (ii) when global practices and so on exercise an increasing influence over people’s lives (iii) when the globe serves as a focus for, or a premise in shaping human activities.”

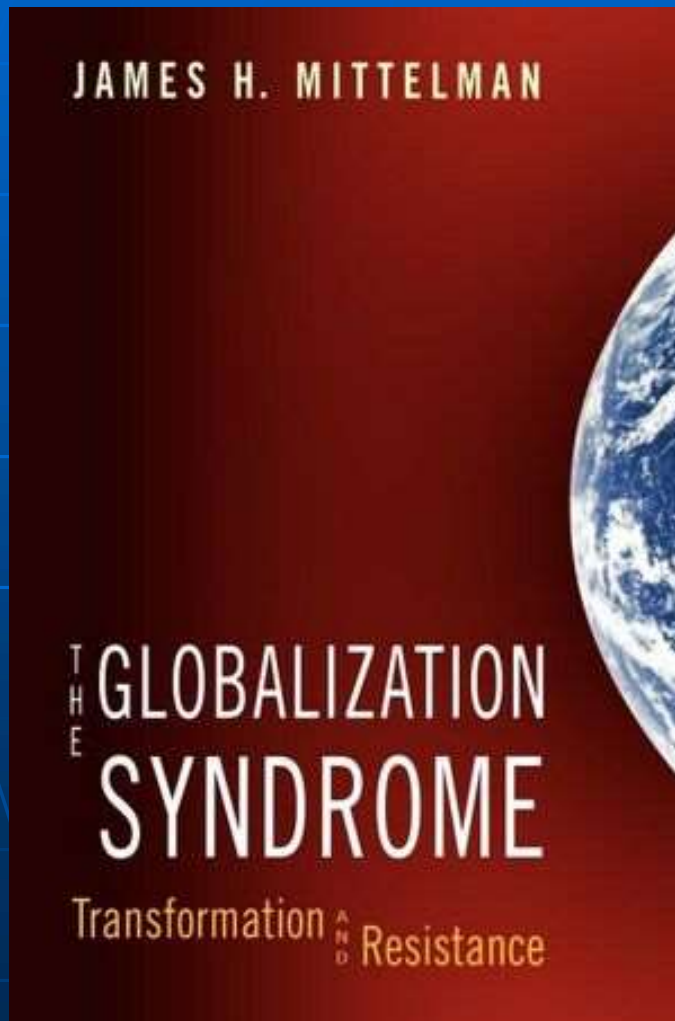


McMichael, *Development and Social Change*, 2000

“Integration on the basis of a project pursuing ‘market rule on a global scale’”.



Mittelman, *The Globalization Syndrome*, 2000



“As experienced from below, the dominant form of globalization means a historical transformation: in the economy, of livelihoods and modes of existence; in politics a loss in the degree of control exercised locally...and in culture, a devaluation of a collectivity’s achievements... Globalization is emerging as a political response to the expansion of market power... [I]t is a domain of knowledge.”

Globalization

The 4 Types of Globalization

4 Types of Globalization

1. Economic – involves long-distance flows of goods, services and capital, as well as the information and perceptions that accompany market exchange.



4 Types of Globalization

2. Military – refers to long-distance networks of interdependence in which force and the threat of promise of force, are employed (ex. Nuclear power).



4 Types of Globalization

3. Environmental – refers to long-distance transport of materials in the atmosphere or the oceans, or of biological substances such as pathogens or genetic materials, that affect human health and well-being.



4 Types of Globalization

4. Social and Cultural
– involves the movement of ideas, images, and people; religious and scientific knowledge; and the imitation of one society's practices and institutions by others – which sociologists refer to as "isomorphism."

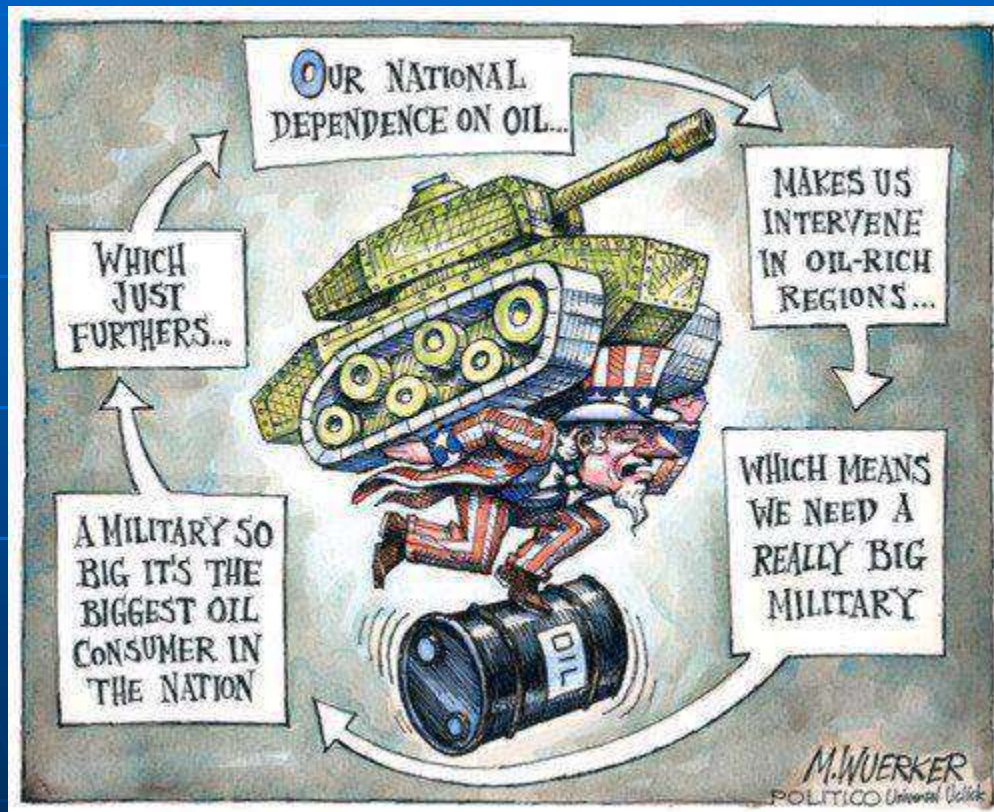


The Challenge Then...

Economic – will *economic* globalization contribute to, or serve to ameliorate, poverty and inequality? (The so-called “promise” of neoliberal globalization).



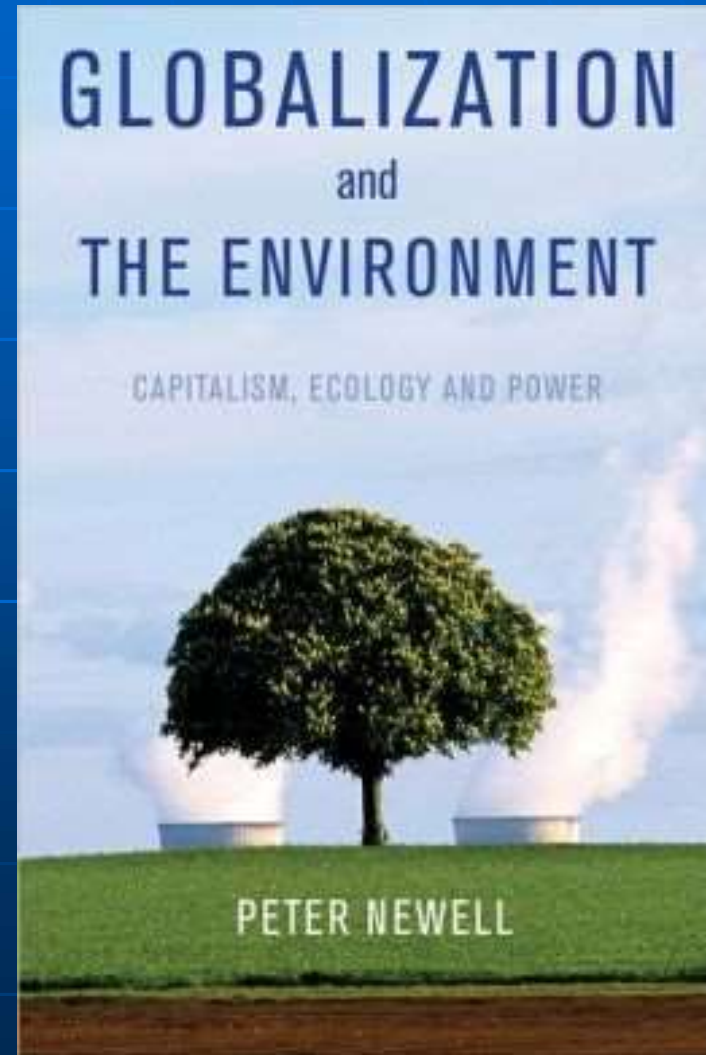
The Challenge Then...



Military – will *military* globalization increase or decrease fear and insecurity? (The peace-through-strength trope).

The Challenge Then...

Environmental – will *environmental* globalization improve or degrade global environmental conditions with regard to climate, air/water/soil pollution, and continued loss of biodiversity?



The Challenge Then...



Social / Cultural – will *socio-cultural* globalization work to bring diverse peoples together to solve global problems, or accentuate differences leading to more fundamentalism and more terrorism/violence?

Globalization and the North

Stage 1

Pre – 1492

The First
“Globalizers”

Globalization and the North

**Prior to Columbus,
most economic
activity was
local.**



Globalization and the North

Armies were the entities that covered vast distances in pursuit of conquest.



Globalization and the North

Vikings and Marco Polo are examples of pre-Colombian "globalizers" who brought with them exotic foods, spices, crafts, etc...



Globalization and the North

Chinese and Arab traders moved goods across Asia, the Middle East, and North Africa.



Globalization and the North

Stage 2

1492-1945

**Empire and a
Colonial Division of
Labor**

Globalization and the North

Beginning in the fifteenth century, European powers financed explorations to Africa, Asia, and the Western Hemisphere. Soon these explorations turned to conquest and a “colonial division of labor.”

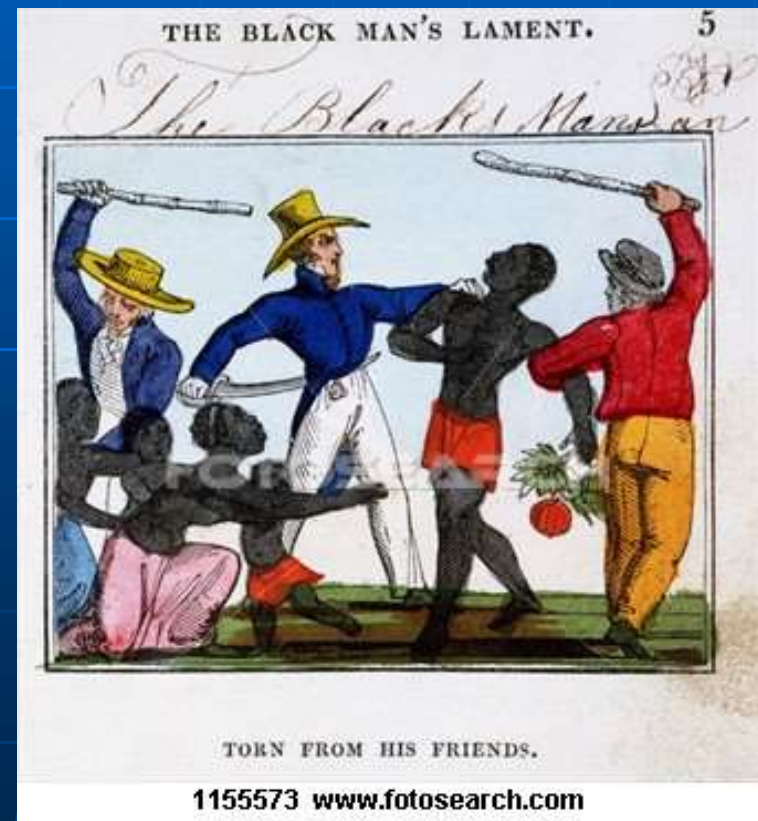
Globalization and the North



Foreign lands produce the raw materials and the “mother country” produces the manufactured products (a price scissors).

Globalization and the North

Slave trade
expands in North
America.



Globalization and the North

Stage 3

1945 – 2018

New Divisions

Globalization and the North

The pre-1945 divisions of labor have changed radically in the last few decades. While the richer countries of Europe and North America along with Japan still largely export industrial products, among the poorer nations, six groups have emerged:

Globalization and the North

1. Big Emerging Markets –

Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, South Africa, China, India, Indonesia, Korea, Turkey. These countries are still relatively poor.



Globalization and the North

2. Would-be BEMs – Colombia, Venezuela, Chile, Greece, Portugal, Thailand, and Malaysia. They have moved beyond clothing and electronics into more diversified industrial and service sectors.



Globalization and the North



3. OPEC Nations – these are the oil-exporting countries

Globalization and the North

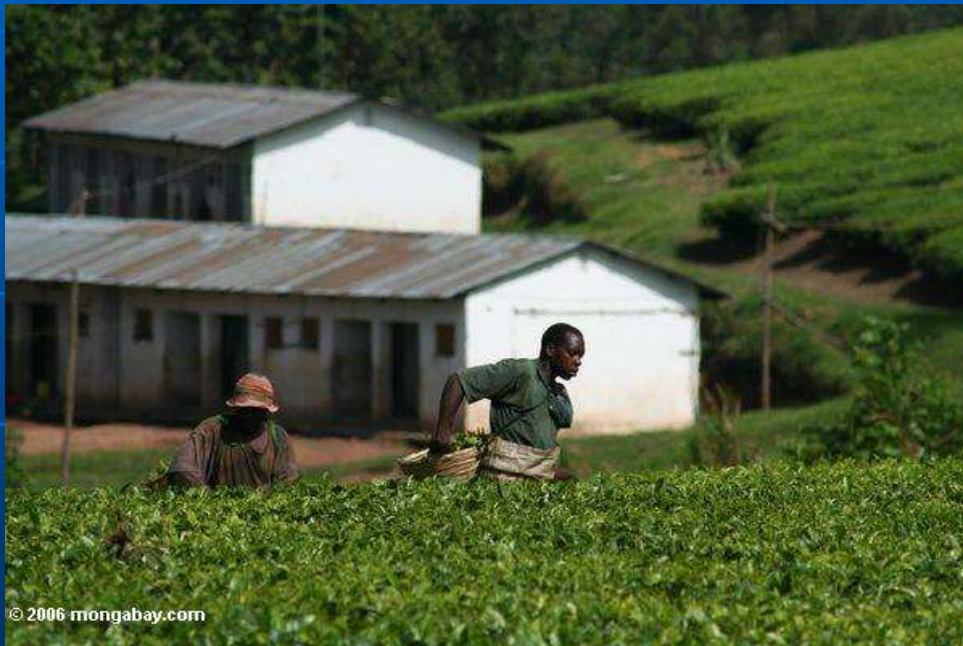
4. Former Communist Economies –

despite a relatively high state of industrialization, most of the 26 former Soviet Bloc nations are struggling and finding it difficult to compete.



Globalization and the North

5. Raw Materials Exporters and Light Manufacturers – about 40 countries have little heavy industry and are suppliers of raw materials.



Globalization and the North

6. Least Developed Countries – about 60 countries, mostly in Africa, are so poor that their economic connection with the rest of the world is limited to minimal trade and investment and dwindling foreign aid.

