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**International relations in the context of world globalization**

Globalization, a process characterized by the increasing interconnectedness and interdependence of the world’s economies, societies, and cultures, has had a profound impact on international relations. In the context of globalization, the nature of diplomacy, state sovereignty, global governance, and power dynamics has undergone significant transformations. These changes have introduced both new opportunities and challenges, influencing global governance, economic cooperation, cultural exchange, and geopolitical dynamics. [1]

International economic integration is a crucial stage in the development of the global economy, helping address pressing economic issues on a global scale. This process involves not only the convergence of national economies but also joint efforts to solve critical problems. Integration occurs both bilaterally and on a regional or global basis, encompassing regions with the most developed economies, such as Western Europe, North America, Southeast Asia, and South America. The primary participants and organizers of this process include states, transnational corporations, political parties, public organizations, and individuals.

Regional integration helps countries overcome divisions that hinder the free movement of goods, services, capital, people, and ideas, which is particularly important for economic growth in developing countries. The World Bank actively supports this integration by assisting countries in developing shared infrastructure and creating institutional frameworks for cooperation. Successful integration requires collaboration among countries in areas such as trade, investment, regulation, the development of transport, communications, energy infrastructure, and macroeconomic policy.[2]

The globalization of international relations is characterized by increased interdependence and mutual influence across various spheres of public life. It encompasses economics, politics, ideology, social issues, culture, ecology, security, and lifestyle. This process involves numerous aspects of the global economy, such as international trade, the movement of production factors, and scientific, technical, and informational cooperation.

Globalization has reshaped traditional paradigms of international relations, leading to a shift from a state-centric system to a more complex and multilayered global order. This shift is evident in several key areas. For example, the concept of absolute state sovereignty has been challenged. The rise of supranational organizations, such as the United Nations, the European Union, and the World Trade Organization, has led to the transfer of certain powers from individual states to these global institutions. This has enabled more coordinated efforts to address global issues such as climate change, international trade, and human rights. However, this shift has also sparked debates about the erosion of national sovereignty and the ability of states to control their own affairs.

The development of global governance structures has become essential for managing the complex interdependencies between nations. Multilateralism, or the practice of coordinating policies and actions among several countries, has become a cornerstone of international relations in the era of globalization. Institutions such as the United Nations, the International Monetary Fund, and the World Health Organization play crucial roles in promoting cooperation, resolving conflicts, and addressing global challenges. However, the effectiveness of these institutions is often questioned, especially in the face of growing nationalism and unilateralism.

Globalization has significantly increased the level of interconnectedness between countries. Advances in transport, communications, and technology have facilitated the movement of goods, services, capital, information, and people across borders. This interconnectedness has created complex networks of economic, political, and social interactions that transcend national boundaries. Additionally, globalization has deepened economic integration between countries. The global economy has been transformed by trade liberalization, multinational corporations, and the expansion of global supply chains. International trade agreements such as those within the World Trade Organization, regional trade blocs, and free trade agreements have shaped the rules and norms of global economic interactions. Economic interdependence has become a defining feature of international relations, influencing diplomatic relations, cooperation, and conflict.

Changes in power dynamics in international relations are among the most significant consequences of globalization. Traditional powers, such as the United States and European countries, have faced challenges to their dominance from emerging economies like China, Russia, India, Brazil, and South Africa (BRICS). Power has shifted from being concentrated solely among a few states to being distributed among more diverse actors, such as transnational corporations, non-state entities, and international organizations. This shift in power dynamics has influenced diplomacy and global governance, leading to a more multipolar world order.

One of the most significant developments in international relations in the era of globalization has been the rise of non-state actors. These entities, including multinational corporations, international organizations, and transnational social movements, have gained increasing influence in shaping global affairs. Multinational corporations, with their vast resources and global reach, have become powerful economic actors capable of exerting significant pressure on governments. The increasing role of non-state actors is closely linked to the erosion of state sovereignty and the impact of globalization on domestic politics. This has resulted in the internationalization of domestic policy and the growing importance of subnational actors, leading to a more complex and often decentralized global order.[3]

Despite the significant advantages, globalization has also led to a number of negative consequences. A major challenge has been the widening gap between developed and developing countries. The economic benefits of globalization have often accrued disproportionately to wealthy nations, while poorer countries have struggled to keep up. This has led to increased inequality and social tension, as well as a growing sense of resentment and frustration. When international companies enter new markets, they often exploit local labor and natural resources, which can disrupt the ecological balance in developing countries. Additionally, the migration of skilled labor from developing countries to international firms creates a "brain drain," weakening human capital in the countries of origin. [4]

A significant issue also arises from trade deficits, which occur when a country imports more than it exports. This imbalance can lead to a shortage of funds, necessitating loans and compromise agreements with foreign investors, potentially jeopardizing national assets. Moreover, while free trade can boost a country’s economy, it also increases competition for local businesses. As consumer preferences shift, local companies face growing pressure from international competitors, making it harder for them to survive in a globalized market.

In conclusion, globalization has fundamentally transformed international relations, reshaping diplomacy, economic cooperation, cultural exchange, and power dynamics on a global scale. This interconnectedness offers significant opportunities, such as expanding markets, technological progress, and promoting peace through international cooperation. Countries and businesses have gained unprecedented access to global markets, fostering economic growth and innovation. Furthermore, the rise of global governance structures has enabled more coordinated efforts to address pressing global challenges, from climate change to human rights.

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