

LECTURE / DISCUSSION / DEBATE  
INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY  
GLOBALIZATION AND THE NORTH

**Terms and concepts to know:**

Globalization	Economic globalization
Military globalization	Environmental globalization
Social/Cultural globalization	Isomorphism
“Price scissors”	BEMs
LDCs	Bretton Woods
World Bank / IMF	GATT / WTO
MNCs	

**Study and discussion questions:**

1. What is the purpose and significance of such international economic organizations as the IMF, World Bank, and WTO, and international political organizations as the United Nations? What was the American role in creating those institutions?
2. The article “*Globalization: Positive or Negative?*” briefly outlines the arguments for or against globalization. In your opinion, can something as complex a concept of globalization be understood as an “either-or” proposition? Why or why not?
3. What are the advantages and disadvantages of interdependence?
4. Explain which of Keohane and Nye’s “globalizations” is the most significant.
4. Discuss the pro’s (greater efficiency, lower costs) and con’s (protection of domestic industry) of “free trade.”
5. Which of the following three should prevail in world trade: (1) free trade ideals; (2) national laws protecting the environment, food safety, and labor standards; or (3) powerful corporations and industries demanding protection from foreign dumping, import barriers, and subsidies to their industries? Support your answer.
6. Please respond with your thoughts on the film we have been watching, *Globalization at the Crossroads*, which takes a traditional, mainstream view on the process of globalization. What would critics say are some of the weaknesses in De Soto’s arguments? Did this film expand your understanding of the concept (positively or negatively)?

**Readings:**

WEB – Readings from the “Conventional Perspectives” links.

**Video:**

*Globalization at the Crossroads*.