

THE EFFECT OF GLOBALIZATION ON NATIONAL SECURITY

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ABSTRACT

National security now-a-days is a much broader and comprehensive concept which apart from military security takes into account all dimensions affecting human security with inclusive consideration to all Elements of National Power of a Nation State. Similarly, globalization means interdependence, advancing integration, and homogenization of the world. Globalization has assumed profound power this century, which captures the opinion that happenings in one part of the globe will have significant influence on the regions and the world at large. This research article will explore several dimensions of notion of globalization, its linkages and effects on national security.

Key Words Globalization, National Security, Interdependence, Interconnectivity

I. Introduction

Globalization can be traced to 1980s onwards when it gained global prominence, it has generally been debated in terms of its effects on states. The most accepted understanding of the term globalization is that it is manifestation of an interconnected and interdependent world in terms of economic, business, culture and political interactions transcending national boundaries. More significantly, it has gained relevance in terms of economic globalization for movement of goods and services and financial transactions for wellbeing and prosperity of relevant countries and the regions. However, the critics of globalization argue that it has benefited only few individual and corporations and has thus created a class difference and monopoly at massive scale. While the negative effects of globalization have been felt across the developing countries as the income distribution have remained inequitable, therefore, the envisaged benefits of development and prosperity is far from realization. On account of national security, as globalization has transcended the national boundaries, it has been argued that national security and state sovereignty has been compromised.

II. Significance

This research article explores various definitions and terms used to describe the notion of globalization and national security. Thereafter, a comprehensive debate has been articulated to analyze their facets, dimensions and interrelationship to establish the context of globalization as it affects national security. The article concludes with optimism giving the positive effects of globalization with due cognizance to its negative side as well. This will help in capitalizing on the strengths for common development and prosperity of citizens and also means for ensuring national security by establishing a wider connection to the interdependent world.

III. Globalization and its Paradigms

Globalization is generally understood as the intimate integration of the people and the countries across the continents resulting into facilitation of trade and investment, reduction in the cost of shipping and eventually breaking the artificial barriers for smooth and efficient flow of goods, knowledge, services and capital including the people across traditional nation state borders. The introduction of term globalization appeared on the international scene during 1980s, highlighting innovations, technological advancements which paved the way for speedy financial flows and transactions. Globalization manifests in extension beyond national borders of nation states. According to Robertson, the globalization means “compression of the world and magnification of awareness of the world as a whole...both concrete worldwide interdependence and cognizance of the global whole in the twentieth century” (Robertson, 1992). Joseph Stiglitz the Nobel laureate describes phenomena of globalization as “the process of economic integration of countries, through the increasing flow of goods, services, capital and labour” (Stiglitz & Joseph, 2003). Anthony Giddens, outlines globalization as “the growing interdependence between different peoples, regions and countries in the world” (Giddens Anthony, 1990). The International Monetary Fund’s (IMF) perspective on globalization suggests that as the countries from different regions and of different size open up their markets to global economic forces, their countries eventually benefit. It also opines that as the countries globalize, their inhabitants benefit through unhindered access to variety of things, lower prices, more job market, improvement in health facilities and overall rise in the living standards. Additionally, it defines the phenomena of economic globalization “as a historical process, which is the outcome of human innovations and technological

advancements”. More specifically, it mentions to the intensified incorporation of economies throughout the globe by way of movement of goods and services and capital beyond traditional borders on nation states. As globalization is manifested in various forms, therefore, “in broader sense, it has political, cultural and environmental dimensions as well” (IMF Report, 2008). Another renowned scholar Attali opines about globalization that the world in which we all live and grow is paradoxical in its progress. More significantly, “it is concurrently dwindling and growing closer and farther apart, therefore, the borders of countries are becoming increasingly irrelevant. And yet globalism is by no means glorious” (Attali, 1991). Presently, there appears to be inconsistency felt between two dimensions often appearing contradictory to the assumption that globalization is in full swipe and the way that predominant techniques for universal administration needs adequate power and expertise to control and leads this process towards sustainable direction. Therefore, as a consequence, the process of globalization is generally unsettling and discriminatory in its manifestation and resultant outcome. It has also postured novel difficulties for prevailing establishments, while concurrently waning their support and independence. A renowned analyst Holm describes that the “globalization is the phenomenal shift towards a global economic system that is no longer based on sovereign national economies but on amalgamated international souk for manufacture, delivery, and ingestion” (Holm and Sorensen, 1995). Another connotation describes “distinctive state economies are incorporated and reshaped into the structure by fundamentally international procedures and transactions” (Hirst & Thompson, 1992). The principal mechanism for this progress has been the cumulative trans-nationalization of manufactured goods, produce and the consequential growth in inspiration of international initiatives, more significantly, the outburst in the size and latitude of transactions on global fiscal markets.

IV. Globalization and Challenges of Identity

The significant effect felt around the globe is waning identity of nation states and increasing role of multinational corporations, which are destined to take a lead role in driving the global events underpinning their business interests. Additionally, the enigmatic value of accelerating globalization is that it professes to create harmony in the society and the nation states, consequentially, it is resulting in enhanced awareness that is causing societal heterogeneity due to uneven distribution of its benefits across the countries, regions and the globe at large. Various segments of networks whose peculiarity and shared trait depends

on language, ethnicity, race and religion have step by step turned out to be vocal in voicing their discontent and disappointment enlisted by utilizing worldwide media. This current "ethnic revitalisation" to some extent was "unbridled" by the outcome of end of the Cold War. The past war was categorized as struggle among the states and adversary squares of East and West to safeguard the transcendence of national personality in any case, in the 1990's the state's customary sway to a great extent influenced by the globalization is far less viable in either convincing passive consent or absorbing national society. Hence, the minorities are currently ready to adequately reaffirm their peculiarity in light of authoritative social forces. These minority parts typically observe the state as "no longer the supporter and watchman of national interests, however rather a fellow with outside powers" (Scholte, 1997). Accordingly, after the end of cold war amid 1990's, it tends to be discussed that the main accentuation of contention may never again be built up "between and among states, yet between the state and subnational gatherings" (Gurr, 1994). The general results of these progressions have been the upsurge in the proliferation of social arrangement matters, both inside and over the fringes for all the fundamental on-screen characters in worldwide political field. Nationally if one observes, the human beings need a feeling of security and of distinctiveness. As all individuals have a basic ambition to learn, therefore, each requires unswerving answer from the situation without which knowledge is difficult to achieve. From their social framework, the people need both appreciation and esteemed associations or connection. And in-fact most importantly, "the people want a degree of flexibility to regulate their surroundings in order to ensure that their desires are satisfied"

V. Globalization and Inequality

While the paradoxical nature of globalization has been much appreciated and debated in the wider academic circles and business community, one thing aptly comes out as a result of analyses of evolving trends that the income distribution and poverty level has been uneven and unparalleled. As certain countries have embraced and adopted the tenants of globalization, they have eventually enjoyed the benefits in the form of substantial income intensifications and welfare of inhabitants in the form of high living standards and more job opportunities resulting in sharp increase in per capita income, while those countries who have demonstrated tepid response or have excluded themselves from globalization have been left behind by the rapid pace of progression. A similar phenomenon is at work

within the nation states where some people and corporations have been bigger beneficiaries while some have been excluded from wider economic benefits. Therefore, it is significant to make sure that the advantages and benefits from globalization are largely shared through wider spectrum of inhabitants. It is essentially, the responsibility of academia, think tanks and the respective national governments to educate people through policy transformations to support training and education that would assist and provide the workers with suitable abilities for positive contributions in developing the world-wide economy. Policies that expand and guarantee the provision of capitals to the poor would help in poverty alleviation and eventual lifting of their living standards at par with rising economic development. Correspondingly significant factor to consider is that the globalization should never be forbidden due to the fact that its impression has resulted into unemployment of some segments. The displacement may probably be an outcome of those factors which have diminutive concerns with globalization and more to do with unavoidable advancement in technology. It can, therefore, be assumed that the “number of people who lose under globalization is likely to be overshadowed by the number of people who eventually win”.

VI. Emerging Forms of New Threats

Globalization raises new threats and vulnerabilities to traditional and human security approaches. Varied examples of worldwide exchange, assembling and fund change into new connections which if not legitimately managed is probably going to additionally devastate the world's poor with horrible social costs, which is clear in the zone of network wellbeing. There is rising affirmation that the weakening dimensions of wellbeing and endemic sicknesses, for example, AIDS are pulverizing a few creating nations, modestly implanted in the components of the worldwide economy and remotely sanctioned authoritative troubling territorial sub-frameworks established by the sub-Saharan Africa. "Threats related to Cyber misuse, trafficking, relocation, fear mongering and multiplication of savagery are being distinguished as significant dangers" (Echevarria & Joseph, 2003). While there is mounting signs that transnational systematized violations (particularly in opiates, human dealing, and falsifying) worldwide fear mongering and cross-country movements have upsetting ramifications for the nations.

VII. Conclusion

The term national security comprehensively covers all facets of external and internal threats as well as all dimensions of human security. Globalization though has generally benefitted

the world; however, its impact is not uniform. The degree and direction of impact is directly related to a nation state's capacity to cope with various security threats, risks and vulnerabilities. Therefore, a hybrid approach considering both traditional and liberal approaches to security will be best suitable option taking into account comprehensive national power of a country. In the contemporary times, the globalization is perceived as an unrelenting occurrence. However, its impetus can be impacted by multiple factors like determination, political will and accessibility of infrastructure to name a few. Indeed, the world is considered to be on constant road to peace and affluence albeit on a roller coaster ride due to changing often conflicting geo- strategic and geo- political national interests of major powers. That brittleness of almost a century ago still occurs as the world is transiting through the aftershocks of 9/11. The current mayhem in financial markets postures distinct strain on the global economy because of aftershocks and economic slowdown of global economy. Credit market stresses have deepened across affluent classes and banks, triggering a fiscal tremor which has been branded as the gravest since the days of great depression of 1930s. These occurrences are recaps that are aimed at the interruption in the process of globalization would eventually manifest in slowing down of flow of capital, services, goods and the people which are certainly not encouraging for international economy and may result in adversarial consequences.

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