

Globalisation: Definitions and Perspectives (Composed by Eric Beerkens, 2006)

Globalization refers to all those processes by which the peoples of the world are incorporated into a single world society, global society (p.9). Albrow 1990

Globality is supplanting modernity (p. 4) Albrow 1996

The world economy has become so highly interdependent as to make national independence an anachronism, especially in financial markets. The interdependence is driven by science, technology and economics - the forces of modernity.; and these forces, not governments, determined international relations. Thanks to this interdependence, war between modern nations is an impossibility. Angell 1911

The critical point is that both sides of the coin of global cultural process today are products of the infinitely varied mutual contest of sameness and difference on a stage characterised by radical disjunctures between different sorts of global flows and the uncertain landscapes created in and through these disjunctures.(p. 17) Appadurai 1990

What is taking place is a process of cultural mixing or hybridization across locations and identities Appadurai 1996

The emergent global order is locked in a major conflict between the consumerist 'McWorld' on the one hand and the identity politics of the 'Jihad' on the other. Barber 1996

Within the paradigm of the second modernity, however, globalization not only alters the interconnectedness of national societies but also the nature of politics. Whatever constitutes the principles of territoriality and frontier are precisely: the assumed congruence of economic and social ways of living and living no longer contained within the container of the state Beck 2000

Globalization - however the word is understood - implies the weakening of state sovereignty and state structures. (p.86) Beck 2000

The world-wide interconnectedness between nation-states becomes supplemented by globalisation as a process in which basic social arrangements (like power, culture, markets, politics, rights, values, norms, ideology, identity, citizenship, solidarity) become disembedded from their spatial context (mainly the nation-state) due to the acceleration of massification, flexibilisation, diffusion and expansion of transnational flows of people, products, finance, images and information (p.13). Beerkens 2004

What distinguishes the different views is the point of reference used. After all, if we regard globalisation as a process, there must be a 'past reality' that is or has been affected by this process. Classified according to the point of reference taken we can approach 'global' as a geographical concept, distinguishing it from the local; as a concept of authority and power, distinguishing it from territorial sovereignty; as a cultural concept, distinguishing it from isolation; and finally, as an institutional concept, distinguishing it from national (p.8).

Beerkens 2004

What is new is not so much that international trade is an important part of each nation's economy, but that a national economy works as a unit at the world level on real time. This gives a tremendous advantage to multinational firms, since they already have the knowledge required to produce and to market goods and services internationally. Nation-states remain important in organizing activities, yet their frame of reference for economic strategies can no longer be restricted to the national economy (p. 212).

Carnic 1995

Globalisation may indeed mean the end of the nation-state if the nation-state fails to redefine itself to meet the new conditions it faces in the global environment.

Carnoy 2001

The global economy is an economy with the capacity to work as a unit in real time on a planetary scale (p.92)

Castells 1996

The network society is, in its various institutional expressions, is (...) a capitalist society. But this brand of capitalism is profoundly different from its historical predecessors. It has two distinctive features: it is global and it is structured, to a large extent, around a network of financial flows.

Castells 1996

The rise of [global] informationalism in this end of millenium is intertwined with rising inequality and social exclusion throughout the world.(...) Moreover, the process of social exclusion in the network society concerns both people and territories. So that, under certain conditions, entire countries, regions, cities and neighbourhoods become excluded, embracing in this exclusion most, or all, of their populations. This is different from the traditional process of spatial segregation.

Castells 1998

The state as a 'competition state' plays a fundamental role in promoting globalization. However, this does not mean that, once the genie is out of the bottle, globalization is reversible.

Cerny 1999

At the end of the twentieth century, the analysis of globalization of capital must start with finance. The financial sphere is the one in which the internationalization of markets is most advanced; the one in which the operations of capital have reached the highest degree of mobility.

Chesnais 1997

The happy ending of the globalisation narrative is one in which both nations and companies become faster and more agile in developing responses to new forms of competition. In relation to the public sector, this narrative of globalisation as a double purchase. Not only must states enable business to become more competitive (by reducing the iron hand of regulations and excessive taxation), it must also become more lean and agile itself. Both imply a reduction in the size and cost of the public sector and 'being business-like' is presented as the means of achieving these objectives.

Clarke & Newman 1997

The characteristics of the globalization trend include the internationalizing of production, the new international division of labor, new migratory movements from South to North, the new competitive environment that generates these processes, and the internationalizing of the state ... making states into agencies of the globalizing world.

Cox 1994

Globalisation can be defined as a material set of practises drawn from the world of business combined with a neo-liberal market ideology

Curry & Newson 1998

Internationalization processes involve the simple extension of economic activities across national boundaries. It is essentially a quantitative process which leads to a more extensive geographical pattern of economic activity. Globalization processes are qualitatively different from internationalisation processes. They involve not merely the geographical extension of economic activity across national boundaries but also - and more importantly - the functional integration of such internationally dispersed activities.

Dicken 1998

Because the discourse of enterprise presupposes that no organisational context is immune for the effects of globalisation, it therefore assumes that ostensibly different organisations - schools, charities, banks, government departments and so on - will have to adopt similar norms and techniques of conduct for without so doing they will lack the capacity to pursue their preferred projects... The urgency with which such claims are deployed gives the impression that "There is no alternative". (p. 137)

du Gay 1994

The process of globalization suggests simultaneously two images. The first image entails the extension outwards of a particular culture to its limit, the globe. Heterogeneous cultures become incorporated and integrated into a dominant culture which eventually covers the whole world. The second image points to the compression of cultures. Things formerly held apart are now brought into contact and juxtaposition.

Featherstone 1995

If the defining perspective of the Cold War world was "division," the defining perspective of globalization is "integration." The symbol of the Cold War system was a wall, which divided everyone. The symbol of the globalization system is a World Wide Web, which unites everyone. The defining document of the Cold War system was "The Treaty." The defining document of the globalization system is "The Deal."

Friedman 1999

Business is going to change more in the next ten years than in the last fifty. These changes will occur because of a disarmingly simple idea: the flow of digital information.

Gates 1999

The process of globalization was not just an acceleration along a continuum of European expansion but a new ordering of relations of domination and subordination among all regions of the world.

Geyer and Bright 1995

One can not conclude that if globalization has not occurred then it is not a process. It may simply be that globalization is proceeding in a very uneven fashion and that trends which can be readily discerned in financial systems and to some extent in research and

Gibbons 1998

development, particularly in the electronics industry, ought not to be presumed to apply to the same degree in every sector. (p.70)

Globalization can be defined as the intensification of worldwide social relations which link distant localities in such a way that local happenings are shaped by events occurring many miles away and vice versa.

Giddens 1990

Globalisation is political, technical and cultural, as well as economic. It is 'new' and 'revolutionary' and is mainly due to the 'massive increase' in financial foreign exchange transactions. This has been facilitated by dramatic improvement in communications technology, especially electronic interchange facilitated by personal computers. (p.10)

Giddens 1999

The world needs a global framework of law, policy and institutions that will create a more balanced global economy with sustainable impacts on the environment and natural resources, and that will benefit all people in a fairer, more equitable way.

Greenpeace 1999

Globalization involves states that are leaner but they are also more active, and in some areas assume greater responsibilities.

Griffin & Kahn 1992

While the world economy operates largely uncoupled from any political frame, national governments are restricted to fostering the modernisation of their national economies. As a consequence, they have to adapt national welfare systems to what is called the capacity for international competition. (p. 292)

Habermas 1996

Democracy for the new millennium must allow cosmopolitan citizens to gain access to, mediate between and render accountable the social, economic and political processes and flows that cut across and transform their traditional community boundaries. The core of this project involves reconceiving legitimate political authority in a manner that disconnects it from its traditional anchor in fixed borders and delimited territories and, instead, articulates it as an attribute of basic democratic arrangements or basic democratic law which can, in principle, be entrenched and drawn upon in diverse self-regulating associations – from cities and subnational regions to nation-states, regions and wider global networks. It is clear that the process of disconnection has already begun as political authority and legitimate forms of governance are diffused 'below', 'above' and 'along-side' the nation-state.

Held 2000

In its simplest sense globalization refers to the widening, deepening and speeding up of global interconnectedness

Held et al. 1999

Globalization can be thought of as a process (or set of processes) which embodies a transformation in the spatial organisation of social relations and transactions - assessed in terms of their extensity, intensity, velocity and impact - generating transcontinental or interregional flows, and networks of activity, interaction, and the exercise of power

Held et al. 1999

The following dimensions determine globalisation; extensity, that is the spatial/geographical reach; intensity, that is the number and quantity of flows; velocity, that is the speed of movement of flows across space; and impact, that is the overall effects on society and the economy.

Held et al. 1999

As globalization intensifies it generates pressures towards a re-territorialization of socio-economic activity in the form of subnational, regional and supranational economic zones (e.g. the EU, NAFTA), mechanisms of governance (e.g. the WTO) and cultural complexes (e.g. the Asian ... may also promote the 'localization' of societies. Acculturation involves a complex re-territorialization and re-territorialization and economic power. In this re-territorialization is first described as being a territorialization.

Held et al. 2001

The universal acceptance of popular culture indicates that a widely felt need and demand are being met, and its global reach makes for a greater connectedness and linkage among people and the emergence of some kind of global culture

Herman & McChesney 1997

Globalisation is not a new phenomenon since (i) Large inter-national flows of trade, portfolio and direct investment, as well as, migration flows are nothing new. (ii) The beginning of this century saw a similar, if not higher, intensity of transactions across borders. Multinational companies are not borderless institutions. They are well embedded in their own home nation-state in terms of share of overall activities. (iii) Most international flows are confined within well-defined regions rather than spread across the globe. (iv) Capital mobility is confined within the developed countries and does not produce massive shifts from developed to developing countries. Its globaloney!

Hirst & Thompson 1996

Globalization has rearranged the architecture of world order. Economic, social and power relations have been recast to resemble not a pyramid but a three tier structure of concentric circles. All three circles cut across national and regional boundaries. In the core circle we find the elites of all continents and nations, albeit in different proportions in relation to their respective geographic hinterlands. We may count in this core some 20 percent of the world population who are 'bankable'. They are encircled by a fluid, larger social layer of between 20 and 30 percent of the world population (workers and their families) who labour in insecure forms of employment, thrown into cut-throat competition in the global market. (...) The third and largest concentric circle comprises those who are already effectively excluded from the global system. Performing neither a productive function, nor presenting a potential consumer market in the present stage of high-tech information-driven capitalism (...).

Hoogvelt 1998

We are presently experiencing a clash of civilizations.

Huntington 1996

In essence, globalisation is seen as economic integration, achieved in particular through the establishment of a global marketplace marked by free trade and a minimum of regulation. In contrast, internationalisation refers to the promotion of global peace and well-being through the development and application of international structure, primarily but not solely of an inter-governmental kind.(...) the essentially pro-democratic logic of internationalism stands in sharp contrast to the logic of globalisation (p. 127).

Jones 1998

The nation-state too easy to get

Kindleberger 1969

Globalization should be reduced to trade, investment and financial statistics. These constitute 'objective' or 'real' globalization, and all the rest is myth or fantasy

Krugman 1996

Globalization is really advanced capitalist globalization, since a hegemonic role is played by the North Atlantic Rim countries and Japan in the development of these non-national transnational practices (p.280) (...) the Westphalian model of democracy, that the world consists of and is divided into sovereign states with no superior authority, is becoming outmoded and may e replaced by a model of cosmopolitan democracy.

Lash & Urry 1994

The environmental movement itself has employed the most insightfull motto: to 'think globally, act locally'. Minimally the motto indicates two processes: first, that many environmental problems at the local level have global origins (...) and second, many such large problems require for their solution localized, decentralized actions from a vast number of people, many of whom will not actually benefit from such change.. The consequence of the first is that there are immense problems of producing appropriate collaboration between individual governments since each may have good reasons to try to free-ride (...). The second process raises major problems, that is in ensuring the necessary actions from large numbers of people within localized settings. This can be seen in the classic account of 'the tragedy of the commons'. (p. 127-128)

Lash & Urry 1994

Global programmes, even like Dallas, are read differently in different countries and places.

Lash & Urry 1994

At the global level, there is need to question the current governance structures, i.e. the United Nations agencies, the Bretton Woods Institutions and WTO. The old structures, including the United Nations, were and often still are seen as large, reactive, rigid and slow. They have played their role well in the past, but at present seem to be left behind with the pace of the change. New players, such as the World Economic Forum, the G-8, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and media, have emerged to the field and shifted power away from the old structures. Newcomers seem to be faster, more proactive, leaner and more flexible.

Lopes (UNDP) 2000

From the present time forth, in the post-Columbian age, we shall again have to deal with a closed political system, and none the less that it will be one of world-wide scope. Every explosion of social forces, instead of being dissipated in a surrounding circuit of unknown space will be sharply re-echoed from the far side of the globe. (p.422)

MacKinder 1904

Today, we live in a global society. It is not a unitary society, nor is it an ideological community or state, but it is a single power network.

Mann 1993

Globalisation refers to the growing impact of world systems of finance and economic life, transport, communications and media, language and symbols. It is as much about the cross-global movement of people and ideas as about markets and money, and more about networks than about patterns off comodity trade or off-shore production(p. 47)

Marginson & Considine 2000

In place of the old local and national seclusion and self-sufficiency, we have intercourse in every direction, universal interdependence of nations. And as in material, so also in

intellectual production. The intellectual creations of individual nations become common property. National one-sidedness and narrow-mindedness become more and more impossible, and from the numerous national and local literatures, there arises a world literature (quoted in Beck, 2000)

Marx & Engels 1848

Globalization refers to the multiplicity of linkages and interconnections between the states and societies that make up the present world system. It describes the process by which events, decisions, and activities in one part of the world come to have significant consequences for individuals and communities in quite distant parts of the globe. Globalization has two distinct phenomena: scope (or stretching) and intensity (or deepening). On the one hand, it defines a set of processes which embrace most of the globe or which operate world-wide; the concept therefore has a spatial connotation...it also implies an intensification of the levels of interaction, interconnectedness or interdependence between the states and societies which constitute the world community. Accordingly, alongside the stretching goes a deepening of global processes.

McGre 1992

The enormous expansion of nation-state structures, bureaucracies, agendas, revenues, and regulatory capacities since World War II indicates that something is very wrong with analyses asserting that globalization diminishes the "sovereignty" of the nation-state. (...) The modern state may have less autonomy than earlier but it clearly has more to do than earlier as well, and most states are capable of doing more now than they ever have been before.

Meyer et al. 1997

Globalisation is dominated by transnational firms and financial institutions, operating independently of national boundaries or domestic economic considerations.

Milberg 1998

The process by which a number of historical world societies were brought together onto one global system might be referred to as globalization. (...) At the opening of the period of globalization, at about 1000 AD, the nearest approximation to a worldwide political order was the Moslem world.

Modelski 1972

Globalisation is associated with a restructuring of the nation state in terms of the deregulation of financial controls, the opening of markets, and notions of efficiency, and redefining the core business of the state. (p.245)

Moja & Cloete 2001

To an increasing degree, the life of the individual anywhere is affected by events and processes everywhere. (p.481)

Moore 1966

The global economy in which American business now operates is like a corporate olympics - a series of games played all over the world with international as well as domestic competitors. The tests determine who wins but wicl nation wins over compete and w on individual e: (p. 18-19)

Moss Kanter 1989

Globalization is a long-term historical process of growing world-wide interconnectedness

Nederveen Pieterse 1995

Economic, political, cultural and social dynamics are not simply different facets of a single 'globalization', but each of the social sciences has its own conceptualization of globalization

Nederveen
Pieterse 1995

Globalization means the onset of the borderless world (1992)

Ohmae 1992

Nation-states are no longer meaningful units in which to think about economic activity. In a borderless economy, the units that do make sense are what I call region-states that is geographical units. Germany; San Diego, California; Growth Triangle of Singapore and outlying areas, which are together. They may, or may not, fall within the same economy - not the least of which is the ability and the determination to put global logic first.

Ohmae 1995

Globalisation is the growth, or more precisely the accelerated growth, of economic activity across national and regional political boundaries. It finds expression in the increased movement of tangible and intangible goods and services, including ownership rights, via trade and investment, and often people, via migration. It can and often is facilitated by a lowering of government impediments to that movement, and/or by technological progress, notably in transportation and communications. The action of individual economic actors, firms, banks, people, drive it, usually in the pursuit of profit, often spurred by the pressures of competition. Globalisation is thus a centrifugal process, a process of economic outreach, and a microeconomic phenomenon." (p.5)

Oman 1996

Growing global interdependence and interconnectedness lead to increasing cultural standardization and uniformity, as in the global sweep of consumerism, media and advertising, summarized in the word 'McDonaldization'

Ritzer 1993

Globalisation is a process that comprises two simultaneous processes: global compression of the world and the intensification of consciousness of the world as a whole. Globalization does not simply refer to the objective process of increasing interconnectedness. It also refers to conscious and subjective matters (namely the scope and density of the consciousness of the world as a single place.

Robertson 1992

The nation-state is no longer the organizing principle of capitalism and the 'institutional' container of class development and social life. (p. 17)

Robison&Harris 2000

Transnational class formation is therefore a key-aspect of the globalization process. (...) Dominant groups, especially the transnational capitalist class, have sought transnationalisation as a means of resolving problems of accumulation.

Robison&Harris 2000

Will globalization be a starting point for a more coherent vision of global problems and a more equitable use of what we all produce or consume or will it be the epitome of the globalized laissez-faire flow of capital, goods, entertainment and information?

Sadlak 1998

Recent financial transformations have served to produce an urban system, of London-New York-Tokyo, which is global. (...) what contributed to growth in the network of global cities may not produce growth within the separate countries. Moreover, these connections, although permitted by governments through derestriction and deregulation, are essentially private. Governments participate only to a limited degree in these transactions and hence these cities contain global economic spaces for the operation for both domestic and foreign companies equally.

Sassen 1991

Two notions underlie much of the current discussion about globalization. One is the zero-sum game: whatever the global economy gains, the national state loses and vice versa. The other is that if an event takes place in a national territory it is a national event, whether a busi-ness transaction or a judiciary decision. (p. 372-373)

Sassen 2000

A number of commentators on globalization have recently speculated that the logic of modern economic development is making the state redundant. The argument is hardly new. Early in the twentieth century both Leninists and certain liberal internationalists forecast the demise of the state. A third and more innovative construction-generating the meaning of the term which informs the present article-highlights a trend whereby social relations become less tied to territorial frameworks. From this perspective borders are not so much crossed or opened as transcended. Here 'global' phenomena are those which extend across widely dispersed locations simultaneously and can move between places anywhere on the earth pretty much instantaneously.

Scholte 1997

Notions of 'globalization' can-when developed with care, precision, consistency and suitable qualifications-be more than intellectual gimmick

Scholte 1997

There are five possible meanings for the word 'globalisation': internationalisation, liberalisation, universalisation, westernisation/ modernisation and deterritorialisation. 'Globalisation' has been used to describe each and all of these phenomena. Each of the first four possible meanings is declared 'redundant' as the basis of an adequate definition. Only the last - 'deterritorialization' - can provide that basis. For, according to Scholte, it alone identifies something which is historically new, which has a real causal significance that is irreducible to the others, and which therefore merits the use of a new term.

Scholte 1999

Globalization can not be reduced to the impact of round-the-clock round-the-globe, of leading edge information technologies, of integrated world markets. (...) But globalization can be given a much wider meaning - one that emphasizes the impact of global environment changes, the threat of social and political conflicts that can not be walled off by tough immigration or asylum policies or policed by superpowers, and the growth of hybrid world cultures created by the mingling of global-brand culture and indigenous tradition.

Scott 1998

Globalization can not be regarded simply as a higher form of internationalization. Instead of their relationship being seen as linear or cumulative, it may actually be dialectical. In a sense the new globalization may be the rival of the old internationalization. (p.124)

Scott 1998

The new privatised, outsourced professional state is no longer clearly above or outside the market, but is now itself a 'market-type institution'.

Scott 2000

Globalization is destroying everything that is valuable in our civilization Shiva 2001

Today's emerging global culture is tied to no place or period. It is context-less, a true melange of disparate components drawn from everywhere and nowhere, born upon the modern chariots of modern telecommunication systems. (177) Smith 1990

For political geographers, global concerns are by no means a new theme. The heritage of the various geopolitics and the continuing study of the world political map will make any political geographer wary of the recent 'discovery' of the global scale in both the popular perception and modern social science. (p.3) Taylor 1989

It is undeniable that there is a world culture, sustained by global communication, that provides a historically delimited repertoire of institutions and policies which nation-states tend to emulate, resulting in an impressive 'isomorphism' of, for example, con-stitutions, educational systems and public policy orientations. (p.156) Therborn 2000

Globalization' is both an historical fact and a political football. Toulmin 1999

Globalization could be viewed as the replacing of one region, the bounded nation-state society of the 'west', with another, that of global economy and culture. (...) Globalization could also be viewed not as one larger region replacing the smaller region of each society, but as involving alternative metaphors of *network* and *fluid*. (p.191) Urry 2000

The world economy is more inter-national than global. In the bigger national economies, more than eighty percent of production is for domestic consumption and more than eighty percent of investment by domestic investors. (p. 61; Wade provides a range of other arguments on page 86 to assert that national economic borders still define the boundaries of systems of capital accumulation) Wade 1996

A world-economy is the entity nased upon the capitalist mode of production. The criterion for production is profitability and the basic drive of the system is accumulation of the surplus of capital. There is no overarching political structure so that the basic rule is accumulate or perish. As it expanded it eliminated all remaining mini-systems and world-empires to become truly global about 1900. Wallerstein 1974

Personally I think it [*globalizayion*] is meaningless as an analytcal concept and serves primarily as a term of political exhortation (p.28) Wallerstein 2000

This discourse [*globalization*] is in fact a gigantic misreading of current reality – a deception imposed upon us by powerful groups and an even worse one that we have

imposed upon ourselves, often despairingly. It is a discourse that leads us to ignore the real issues before us, and to misunderstand the historical crisis within which we find ourselves. We do indeed stand at a moment of transformation. But this is not that of an already established, newly globalized world with clear rules. Rather we are located in age of transition, transition not merely of a few backward countries who need to catch up with the spirit of globalization, but a transition in which the entire capitalist world-system will be transformed into something else. The future, far from being inevitable and one to which there is no alternative, is being determined in this transition that has an extremely uncertain outcome. (p. 250)

Wallerste 2000

Globalization is A social process in which the constraints of geography on social and cultural arrangements recede and in which people are increasingly aware that they are receding

Waters 1995

Our common ft.

WCED 1987

The dispute between globalists and sceptics is *not* about the *reality* of change; it is about the nature and significance of the changes under way as well as the driving forces behind them. (p. 59)

Weiss 1999

Globalization has by and large become synonymous with *state power erosion* . This zero-sum logic drives the reasoning process to the irresistible conclusion that global and national are antinomies rather than interdependent , competing rather than complementary. (p. 64)

Weiss 1999

Tremendous advances have been made by large segments of the world population in this age of globalization. Yet, there is a fear that globalization is exacerbating inequality, and perhaps even worsening the lot of the poor by eroding their incomes, increasing their vulnerability, and adding to their disempowerment. This fear may not be universal, but it does play a role in the public perception that cannot be ignored.

World Bank 2000